

Votes

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 27 APRIL, 1897.

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 thirty-first day of March, 1897.

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. }
“ (J.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 sixth day of April proximo: 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-seventh day of April 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-seventh day of April 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 thirty-first day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, and in the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

“ By His Excellency's Command,

“ JAMES N. BRUNKER.

“ GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!”

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

“ MR. SPEAKER,—

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

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

The House resumed pursuant to adjournment.

3. 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.) City of Sydney Municipal Loan Bill :—

By Deputation from His Excellency.

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 1.

A Bill, intituled “ *An Act to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to raise by debentures the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand pounds for the purposes of the City of Sydney Municipal Loan Act of 1893, and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*”—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, 16th November, 1896.

(2.)

27th April, 1897.

(2.) Patents Law Amendment Bill:—

By Deputation from His Excellency.

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 2.*

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to further amend the law relating to Patents for Inventions and Improvements in Arts or Manufactures,*"—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, 16th November, 1896.*

(3.) Appropriation Bill:—

By Deputation from His Excellency.

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, 1896, to the 30th day of June, 1897, inclusive of both dates, and for the period from the 1st day of July, 1895, to the 30th day of June, 1896, inclusive of both dates, and for previous years; and for purposes connected with and incidental to the above objects,*"—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, 16th November, 1896.*

(4.) Loan Bill:—

By Deputation from His Excellency.

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 4.*

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

*Government House,**Sydney, 16th November, 1896.*

(5.) Hay Irrigation (Amendment) Bill:—

By Deputation from His Excellency.

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 5.*

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Hay Irrigation Act and to repeal the Hay Irrigation Act Amendment Act, 1895,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,**Sydney, 13th November, 1896.*

(6.) Tamworth to Manilla Railway Bill:—

By Deputation from His Excellency.

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 6.*

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Tamworth to Manilla; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of Railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced if the compensation to be paid for the land required to be resumed is estimated to exceed the sum of two thousand pounds, unless there has been paid to the Constructing Authority a sum equal to or greater than the amount estimated in excess of that sum; and for other purposes,*"—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, 13th November, 1896.*

27th April, 1897.

(7.) Bankruptcy Acts Amendment Bill:—

By Deputation from His Excellency.

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 7.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Bankruptcy Act, 1887, and the Bankruptcy Act Amendment Act, 1888, and to amend the Law relating to Bankruptcy and Bills of Sale,*"—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, 13th November, 1896.*

(8.) Factories and Shops Bill:—

By Deputation from His Excellency.

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 8.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to make provision for the supervision and regulation of Factories, Bakehouses, Lavndries, Dye-works, and Shops; for the limitation in certain cases of the hours of working therein; to extend the liability of employers for injuries suffered by employees in certain cases; and for other purposes,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 16th November, 1896.*

(9.) Public Health Bill:—

By Deputation from His Excellency.

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 9.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to promote the Public Health,*"—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, 16th November, 1896.*

(10.) Land and Income Tax (Amendment) Bill:—

By Deputation from His Excellency.

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 10.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to extend the period for the payment of the Land Tax for the year 1896,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 16th November, 1896.*

(11.) Navigation Acts Amendment Bill:—

By Deputation from His Excellency.

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 11.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the 'Navigation Acts, 1871-1881,'*"—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, 16th November, 1896.*

FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR,—

(12.) Mining Laws Amendment Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 12.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend and extend the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894, and to amend the Mining Act, 1874, and the Mining Act of 1889; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 10th December, 1896.*

27th April, 1897.

4. COLOURED RACES RESTRICTION AND REGULATION BILL:—Mr. Speaker acquainted the House that during the recess he had received the following Message from His Excellency the Governor:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 13.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to apply and extend certain provisions of the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888 to other Coloured Races; to repeal section 15 of that Act; and for other purposes incidental to or consequent upon the beforementioned objects,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has reserved the said Bill for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure thereon.

The proper measures will be forthwith adopted for obtaining the Queen's decision accordingly, and in the meantime the Bill has been transmitted to the Legislative Council, to await Her Majesty's pleasure.

Government House,

Sydney, 23rd November, 1896.

5. ORDNANCE LANDS TRANSFER BILL:—Mr. Reid presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill for confirming the transfer to the Secretary at War in England from the Principal Officers of Ordnance there of certain lands in New South Wales, and for amending the Ordnance Land Act of Council, 1840,*"—which was read a first time *pro forma*.
6. 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,—

Acting in harmony with the decision of the other Governments of Australasia, the Prime Minister of this country has accepted an invitation from the Imperial Government to take part in a commemoration in London, in June next, of the sixty years of Her Majesty's reign.

2. Ministers fully appreciate the constitutional objections which can be urged against the absence of the Prime Minister, especially during part of a Parliamentary Session, but the unprecedented nature of the invitation and of the event, coupled with what is understood to be a general desire that New South Wales should join equally with other parts of Australia in the approaching celebration, will, it is believed, be deemed sufficient to warrant departure from ordinary rules.

3. The cause of Australian union has been, I trust, advanced towards a final stage by the Adelaide Convention, consisting of representatives of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania, and Western Australia. In accordance with the provisions contained in the Enabling Act of 1895, the Federal Constitution drafted by the Convention will be at once submitted for your consideration.

4. It was the earnest desire of my Advisers that the present Session should be distinguished by the passage of a comprehensive measure of Law Reform. Inquiries, however, in adjacent colonies and in Great Britain, show that important changes will shortly be made in the more modern systems prevailing in those countries, and that it is desirable to await the result. In order that this and other pressing reforms demanded by the public, may be fully met, Ministers propose to convene a short Session next year, before the expiration of this Parliament.

5. The lands known as the Church and School Estates, on portions of which a large number of industrious colonists are settled, will also form the subject of a measure you will be asked to place on the Statute-book during this Session.

6. Bills dealing with the Rabbit plague and noxious weeds will be submitted.

7. A Bill to regulate the Fisheries of the Colony will also be introduced.

8. The Bill to consolidate the Land Laws, laid before Parliament last year, will be proceeded with. Other measures, aiming at a complete consolidation of the statute law, are being prepared.

9. A Bill to amend the Law of Libel, in the direction of relieving defendants from hardship, without relaxing any of the safeguards against malicious or reckless defamation, will also be submitted.

10. Important proposals, extending the area of Local Government, relieving existing Municipalities from serious defects in the law, and providing for Municipal Loans, under guarantee of the State, will be placed before you.

11. You will also be invited to pass Bills to amend the law relating to Friendly Societies, to amend the law relating to Fire Brigades, the Mining Act of 1874, the Reformatory and Industrial Schools Acts, and to make further provision for poor and destitute persons.

12. A number of the unfinished Bills of last Session, including the Bill to amalgamate the Savings Banks, the Crown Lands Application Bill, the Public Roads Bill, the Medical Bill, the Pharmacy Bill, the Truck Bill, and other measures, will be restored to the business paper, with a view to their final consideration.

GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

13. The Estimates for the financial year commencing 1st July will be submitted to you in due course. A full statement of the public finances will be laid before you without delay.

HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

14. The steps necessary to give due effect to some of the salutary and important measures of last Session are proceeding. I particularly refer to the Coal Mines Regulation Act, the Water Rights Act, the Health Act, the Mining on Private Lands Amendment Act, and the Act to regulate Factories and Workshops.

15.

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27th April, 1897.

15. In order to obviate objections raised during last Session, the Referendum Bill, which recently passed the Legislative Assembly, will this Session be introduced in the Legislative Council.

16. The policy of extending light lines of railway into agricultural and pastoral districts, and of pushing on public works of undoubted utility, will be vigorously maintained. Several important proposals in that direction will shortly be submitted.

17. I am sure you will join with me in deploring the prevalence of drought in many parts of the interior. The extent and variety of the resources of New South Wales are shown by the fact that, in such untoward circumstances, signs of an improvement in trade continue, whilst the spread of agricultural enterprise is proceeding at a rapid rate.

18. 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. Dugald Thomson then moved, and Mr. Millen 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. Gillies, Dr. Graham, Mr. Lee, Mr. Millard, Mr. Millen, Mr. Neild, Mr. A. B. Piddington, and the Mover.

Question put and passed.

And the Committee retired to prepare the Address.

And Mr. Thomson 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 cordially approve of the acceptance by the Prime Minister of the invitation to take part in the approaching commemoration of Her Majesty's Reign.

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

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

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

Debate ensued.

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

Question put and passed.

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

The House adjourned, on motion of Mr. Carruthers, at twenty-nine minutes after Ten o'clock, until To-morrow, at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 2.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 28 APRIL, 1897.

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

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

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

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

“ Charles Bull, Esquire,
“ Hugh Macdonald, Esquire,
“ James Alexander Kenneth Mackay, Esquire,
“ Edward Davis Millen, Esquire,
“ Samuel Wilkinson Moore, Esquire,

“ John Perry, Esquire,
“ Andrew Ross, Esquire, M.D.
“ John See, Esquire,
“ Dugald Thomson, 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-eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred
“ and ninety-seven.

“ J. P. ABBOTT,
“ Speaker.”

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

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

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

3. 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, 1896, 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 amounts from two heads of Service to supplement the Vote for another Service in connection with the Treasury Department.
(b) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote “to meet adjustments of salaries “on revision by Public Service Board,” to supplement the Vote for “Auditor-General.”
(c) Authorising the transfer of certain salaries from the Government Statistician’s Office to the Registrar-General’s Department as a temporary arrangement.
(d) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote for “Gold and Escort” to supplement the Vote “to meet unforeseen expenses to be hereafter accounted for” (two Minutes).
(e) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote for “Salaries—Audit Department,” to supplement the Vote for “Reorganisation of the Public Service.”—transmitted to the Legislative Assembly under directions contained in the 18th section of the Audit Act of 1870.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4.

28th April, 1897.

4. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Mr. F. O. Byrnes and Mr. W. B. Wakely, late of the Post and Telegraph Department:—Mr Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with the refusal by the Public Service Board to grant a pension to Mr. F. O. Byrnes, late of the Post and Telegraph Department, retired after thirty-four years service, without any charge, hearing, or right of appeal?

(2.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with the pension granted by the Public Service Board to Mr. W. B. Wakely, late Post and Telegraph Master at Raymond Terrace?

(3.) Will he kindly state how many years Mr. Wakely had been in the Public Service?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1 and 2.) There is no objection to lay the papers upon the Table, showing the real position of matters, if moved for in the regular way.

(3.) Mr. J. B. Wakely had been in the Public Service twenty-four years.

(2.) License Fees and Royalties on Timber:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Mines,—When does he intend to introduce the Bill (promised last Session) necessary to enable him to reduce timber-cutters' license fees and royalties on timber?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—It is proposed to introduce a Bill to regulate Forestry matters at an early date.

(3.) Reserve Rifle Corps:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it the intention of the Government to provide funds for the re-establishment of Reserve Rifle Corps throughout the Colony; if not, why?

Mr. Reid answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—The Reserve Rifle Corps were disbanded in 1893, and replaced by civilian rifle clubs throughout the Colony, certain members of which are enrolled as Reservists under the Volunteer Reserve Regulations of 29th July, 1896. The re-establishment of Reserve Rifle Corps is, therefore, not considered necessary.

(4.) Destruction of Flying Foxes:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is he aware that orchardists in the coastal districts have from time to time suffered great loss from the depredations of flying foxes?

(2.) Referring to Mr. Wheeler's letter of 9th January, 1897, drawing attention to an article in the *Daily Telegraph* of 11th December, 1896, reporting that Captain Hufnagel had nearly eradicated the flying foxes in Samoa by the introduction among them of the cholera bacillus, and thereby preserved the fruit crops of that island, will he state what steps have been taken to ascertain the accuracy of the report, or to extirpate the flying foxes in the fruit-growing districts of this Colony?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Before anything is done towards introducing this bacillus, it is desirable that inquiry should be made as to whether it is likely to be destructive to other bird or animal life, and Her Majesty's Consul at Apia has been asked to make inquiry as to the effect of the experiments in Samoa. When the result of this inquiry comes to hand the matter will be further dealt with. It is always advisable to tolerate a pest that is well known rather than to incur danger by introducing one which, even though effective in its action, may occasion a great deal more damage in other directions.

(5.) Broken Hill Water Supply Act:—Mr. Cann asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has he received the legal opinion from the Crown Law Office *re* his powers in connection with the Broken Hill Water Supply Act?

(2.) Will he state what he proposes to inform the company that they should do?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The company have been informed that the water must be purified by a proper system of filtration, and they have been requested to state definitely what action has been taken to ensure mechanical filtration being carried out quickly. If their reply is not considered satisfactory, I shall be prepared to formulate the action thought necessary by my professional advisers, and to insist on that action being taken in a reasonable time, under the penalty provided by the Act.

(6.) Trespassers on Property of the Crown at Gore Hill:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it a fact that a number of persons have been fined for trespass upon lands alleged to be the property of the Crown, at Gore Hill?

(2.) How many persons were so fined, and have some of those who were unable to pay the fine been imprisoned; and, if so, how many?

(3.) How many of those fined have removed from the land, and what promise did the Minister make in regard to these?

(4.) Is it a fact that in some of the cases a dismissal was granted on the grounds of a disputed title; and what steps have been taken in regard to the persons who were dismissed on that plea?

(5.) Is it proposed to send to prison any other persons who have not yet paid the fine; if so, will he prevent such a course, and take steps to refund fines to those who have removed from the land in deference to the alleged title of the Crown?

(6.) What claim (if any) has the Crown to the land; and is it a fact that there are several claimants to same?

(7.)

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28th April, 1897.

(7.) What is the area of the land claimed by the Crown; and is it a fact that a deed of grant of the whole, or portion of it, was made by the Lands Department to the Municipal Council of Willoughby?

(8.) Will he take steps to prevent any further action in this matter until the report of the Select Committee on the Gore and Artarmon Estates is dealt with by the House?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—A considerable number of persons have recently been trespassing on some very valuable Crown land which abuts on the St. Leonards Railway Station. It became necessary for the Crown to vindicate its title, which was being assailed, and to protect the public estate. Legal proceedings were instituted against one offender in the Court of Equity with success, and thereupon the other trespassers were repeatedly warned to remove from the land, but, as many refused to do so, the matter was placed in the hands of the proper Officer of the Crown to take the necessary action to remove the trespassers. I have not yet received any report as to the proceedings taken, but instructions have been given that no undue hardship is inflicted on any person. The land is vested in the Crown absolutely, and the area is 140 acres. The land is very valuable, and the responsibility rests with me to see that it is not illegally occupied. Under such circumstances I cannot promise to defer what I consider to be the mere performance of my public duty.

(7.) Travelling Allowances to Conditional Purchases Inspectors:—*Mr. Fegan*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the protracted drought in the Central and Western Divisions of the Colony, and the consequent high price of fodder and grain, will he be prepared to increase, temporarily, the travelling allowances provided for C.P. Inspectors and other officers of the several public departments who are compelled to provide their own means of conveyance from place to place?

Mr. Reid answered,—This matter will receive consideration.

(8.) Rates due on Unclaimed Land:—*Mr. Fegan*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he take steps to provide for placing under the direct control of municipalities lands for which owners cannot be discovered, and on which rates are due?

Mr. Reid answered,—This matter is one which deserves consideration.

(9.) Otford Reserve:—*Mr. Chapman*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) What amount of money has been spent on Otford Reserve for planting trees, &c.?
- (2.) The cost of splitting, drawing, and selling timber from above reserve?
- (3.) What did the sale of all timbers sold from Otford Reserve realise?
- (4.) How much timber is there lying on the reserve split, and the different kinds of timber?
- (5.) Is there any timber from the reserve lying at Otford Station or other people's land, and the quantity?
- (6.) What royalty did Messrs. Rowe and Smith pay for timber they had cut on the reserve?
- (7.) What did it cost to collect such royalty from Messrs. Rowe and Smith?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This information will be prepared and forwarded to the Honorable Member at an early date.

(10.) Amendment of the Income Tax Act:—*Mr. Lee*, for Mr. Rigg, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the income tax, as at present administered, is causing much loss and inconvenience to the public, thereby creating dissatisfaction and uncasiness which might be avoided?
- (2.) Does not this arise through the taxpayers being charged twice on their income for the year 1896, instead of for the years 1895 and 1896 respectively, thus—

	£	s.	d.
Brown's income for 1895 is taxable at £80	2	0	0
" for 1896 " £250	6	5	0
Total for two years	8	5	0
He is charged for 1895	2	0	0
" for 1896	6	5	0
And for arrears (so-called) for 1895	4	5	0
Total	12	10	0

£4 5s. more than he is entitled to pay.

(3.) If the Income Tax Act of 1895 allows this to be done, will he have it amended, so that refunds may be made to those who have paid taxes under such circumstances?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) No uncasiness or inconvenience is occasioned to the taxpayer which can possibly be avoided.
- (2.) The action of the Commissioners in adjusting the assessments for the year 1896 was only taken after legal advice had been obtained, showing that the action was authorised by the Act, and that there was no alternative but to carry out the law.
- (3.) I am advised that it is deemed impracticable to amend the Act so as to give it a retrospective effect. We cannot recover the refunds already made, but the Act will be amended prior to the issue of the next annual assessment.

(11.) The Agent-General:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has the Government any intention of recalling the Agent-General, and appointing someone else in his place?

Mr. Reid answered,—No.

(12.)

28th April, 1897.

(12.) Amendment of the Licensing Act:—Mr. Frank Farnell asked the Minister of Justice,—Is it his intention to introduce during the present Session a Bill to amend the Licensing Act, as promised the Honorable Member for Queanbeyan last Session?

Mr. Gould answered,—A Bill to amend the Licensing Act has been drafted, and is now under consideration.

(13.) Travelling Expenses of Delegates to Fruit Conference in Brisbane:—Mr. Frank Farnell asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has any provision been made on the Estimates for 1897–98 to cover the cost of the railway travelling expenses of the delegates attending the Australasian Conference on fruit and allied industries, to be held in June next in Brisbane?

(2.) Will the necessary arrangements be made for the free passage of all delegates pending the passage of the Estimates?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Before committing the country to the expenditure, it is deemed desirable that the Department should ascertain what the cost is likely to be, more especially as the delegates from all the southern Colonies and New Zealand, as well as those from our own Colony, will have to pass over our lines. The Queensland Department has been communicated with on the subject, and when the number of accredited delegates to be allowed to each Colony is decided the question of free travelling over our lines will be considered.

(14.) The Agent-General:—Mr. Frank Farnell asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has the Government received any communication from Sir Saul Samuel, asking to be relieved of the position of Agent-General?

(2.) Is it intended to make any provision for a gratuity to Sir Saul Samuel in the event of his being voluntarily relieved?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) This officer not having elected to discontinue his contributions to the Superannuation Fund will be entitled to a pension on retirement.

(15.) Registration at the Goulburn Labour Bureau:—Mr. Chapman, for Mr. Rose, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Registrar of the Goulburn Labour Bureau has informed applicants by letter for registration that they must register on personal application?

(2.) Will he instruct the local Registrar to receive applications from country residents by letter?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes, where practicable and under proper conditions.

(16.) Royal Commission on Sugar-growing Industry:—Mr. McFarlane, for Mr. See, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it his intention to appoint a Royal Commission to inquire into the sugar-growing industry in terms of the Petition presented to him by the Clarence farmers on the 10th November last?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am not in a position to comply with their request.

(17.) Payment of the Income Tax:—Mr. Chapman, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it his intention to at once introduce legislation to protect persons who have paid the income tax on the basis of the year 1895 from being called upon to supplement the said payments from income derived for the year 1896?

Mr. Reid answered,—This important matter is now engaging my attention.

(18.) Expenses of Election under Australasian Federation Enabling Act:—Mr. McLaughlin asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the amount paid by the Government up to date as expenses of the election recently held under the Federal Enabling Act?

Mr. Reid answered,—The net amount paid to date is £17,427 5s. 5d.

5. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Parkes presented a Petition from John Sulman, of Sydney, representing that the City and North Sydney Railway Bill, which was 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 read a second time on Tuesday, 11th May.

6. SYDNEY AND NORTH SYDNEY BRIDGE AND TRAMWAY BILL:—

(1.) Mr. E. M. Clark presented a Petition from William Kenwood, of Sydney, Civil Engineer, and a Member of the Engineering Association of New South Wales, representing that the Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill, which was introduced into this House during the last Session of Parliament, and passed through several stages, was interrupted by the close of the Session, and praying that leave may be given to proceed with the said Bill during the present Session.

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

Petition received.

(2.) Ordered that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 11th May.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th April, 1897.

7. BOROUGH OF CUDGEGONG CATTLE SALE-YARDS BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Robert Jones presented a Petition from the Council of the Borough of Cudgegong, representing that the Borough of Cudgegong Cattle Sale-yards Bill, which was introduced into this House during last Session of Parliament, and passed through several stages, was interrupted by the close of the Session, and praying that leave may be given to proceed with the said Bill during the present Session.

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

Petition received.

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

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

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

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

Petition received.

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

9. TRUCK BILL:—Mr. Young presented a Petition from certain residents in the Manning Electorate, praying for the introduction and the passing into law of a Bill which will stop the practice of mill-owners paying their labourers in goods instead of money.

Petition received.

10. PAPERS:—Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Regulations under the Mining Laws Amendment Act of 1896.

(2.) Notification of Settlement Lease proposed to be validated, under the 44th section of the Act, 58 Victoria No. 18.

(3.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act, 48 Victoria No 18.

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

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

(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.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

(1.) Country Towns Water and Sewerage Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 14.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1887, and the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes.

Government House,

Sydney, 28th April, 1897.

(2.) Cook's River Improvements Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 15.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to sanction the construction of certain works for the improvement of Cook's River, near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters.

Government House,

Sydney, 28th April, 1897.

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

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 16.

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

Government House,

Sydney, 28th April, 1897.

28th April, 1897.

12. PUBLIC ROADS BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Carruthers, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 17.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th Section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to the opening, closing, and survey of roads; to make provision for the disposal of unnecessary roads, and of lands resumed or withdrawn but not required for roads, and of certain other lands; for the prevention of the obstruction and injury of roads; for the alignment and the alteration of the alignment of streets in municipalities; for granting leave to place public gates in certain cases; and for other purposes of a like nature; and for that purpose to amend the Act 4 Wm. IV. No. 11, the Public Gates Act of 1875, and the Crown Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889.

Government House,

Sydney, 28th April, 1897.

13. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Ewing, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plans, relating to the proposed Railway from Condobolin to Broken Hill.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
14. MINISTERIAL ELECTION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Hogue moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Ministerial Election Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 25th May.
15. PUBLIC WORKS ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Cann moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Public Works Act Further Amendment Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 11th May.
16. 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. Dugald Thomson, 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 cordially approve of the acceptance by the Prime Minister of the invitation to take
"part in the approaching commemoration of Her Majesty's Reign.
"We desire to assure your Excellency that the utmost consideration will be given to the
"various important measures that will be submitted to us.
"We join your Excellency in the hope that under the guidance of Divine Providence our
"labours may be so directed as to advance the best interests of the Colony."
And the Question being again proposed,—
The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.
Question 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 at half-past Four o'clock To-morrow.
17. 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.
18. 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.
19. BUSINESS DAYS (*Sessional Order*):—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.
Mr. Lyne moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.
20. PRECEDENCE OF BUSINESS (*Sessional Order*):—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That, during the present Session, unless otherwise ordered, General Business shall take precedence of Government Business on Tuesdays, and Government Business shall take precedence of General Business on Wednesdays and Thursdays.
(2.) That General Notices of Motions and General Orders of the Day shall take precedence respectively on each alternate Tuesday.
Question put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th April, 1897.

21. **STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (Sessional Order)**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Standing Orders Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Speaker, Mr. McCourt, Mr. Lyne, Mr. 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.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
22. **LIBRARY COMMITTEE (Sessional Order)**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Library Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Neild, Mr. Hogue, Mr. O'Sullivan, 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.
23. **REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE (Sessional Order)**:—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. Levien, 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.
24. **PRINTING COMMITTEE (Sessional Order)**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to notice,—
(1.) That all papers laid upon the Table, except such as the Standing Orders direct shall be printed, be referred to a Printing Committee.
(2.) That the Printing Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Gormly, Mr. Watson, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Dugald Thomson, Mr. Millen, Mr. Schey, Mr. Price, Mr. Dick, Mr. Archibald Campbell, and the Mover, to whom shall be referred all papers (except Reports from Select Committees on Private Bills, Estimates of Expenditure, and Estimates of Ways and Means) 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.
(3.) That the Clerk of the House shall cause to be printed, as a matter of course, all reports from the Printing Committee.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 29.

Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Lee,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Wheeler.
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Perry,	
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. McLaughlin,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Wood,	Mr. Hawthorne.
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Watson,	
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Dick,	

Noes, 8.

Mr. Edden,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Affleck.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Sleath.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

25. **CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES**:—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.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 29 APRIL, 1897 A.M.

26. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
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.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 29 APRIL, 1897.

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,—

I have to offer to you an expression of my thanks for your Address-in-Reply to my Speech, delivered on the 27th instant, which, I note with pleasure, contains an assurance of your continued and unfeigned attachment to Our Most Gracious Sovereign's Throne and Person.

I trust that the result of your labours during the ensuing Session will be found to benefit all classes of the community which you represent.

Government House,
Sydney, 29th April, 1897.

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

2. VOTE OF CREDIT:—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 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, 1898, together with provision for the advance to the Colonial Treasurer; an urgent service of the current year; and for services to be hereafter provided for by Loan.

Government House,
Sydney, 28th April, 1897.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of Supply.

3. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Proposed Railway Route from Guyra to Coff's Harbour or South Grafton:—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. McLaughlin, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Referring to the promise made by him to a deputation of Honorable Members, in September last, that he would direct a trial survey to be made of the proposed railway route from Guyra to Coff's Harbour or South Grafton at the same time as the survey he promised another deputation of the Glen Innes to Grafton route, did he during the recess order another survey of the latter?

(2.) Has he authorised or directed a survey of the Guyra to Coff's Harbour or South Grafton route?

(3.) If not, will he carry out his promise to the deputation referred to, and also made to this House on the 8th October last?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) No; and I made no promise in the terms stated by the Honorable Member.

(2.) No.

(3.) We have all the required information short of actual survey, which at present is not considered necessary.

(2.)

29th April, 1897.

(2.) Revenue and Expenditure from 1st July, 1896, to 31st March, 1897:—Mr. See asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What has been the income from all sources from the 1st July, 1896, to 31st March, 1897?
- (2.) What has been the expenditure from Consolidated Revenue for the like period?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Answers to these Questions have not been supplied to me, but the figures can be seen and must have been seen by the honorable gentleman in the public accounts of the Colony. Every penny of the amounts referred to has been published in the accounts which have been printed in the *Government Gazette*.

(3.) Contracts under the Public Works Department:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that there is a condition in all contracts that the Department will pay from such contract money all persons supplying the contractor with goods?
- (2.) If such a condition exists, does it apply only to goods actually used in the completion of the work, or does it also include all goods, both materials and rations?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the Department has refused to pay the whole amount due, even when an order from the contractor has been presented, and there is sufficient money in hand to pay the full amount?
- (4.) Has the Department informed the person presenting the order that it will only pay for materials used in the work, although no distinction was made in the order for payment?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1 and 2.) Upon complaint that the contractor has failed to pay his tradesmen, there is a condition under which claims for materials actually used in the work may be paid out of the moneys due on the contract, upon proof to the satisfaction of the Minister of their *bond fides*.
- (3.) I am not aware of any such case, but if the Honorable Member will give further particulars inquiry will be made.
- (4.) See Answer to No. 3.

(4.) Notices issued by the Taxation Commissioners:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the Taxation Commissioners are issuing notices of taxation on sums decided on by themselves, irrespective of the returns sent in, without in any manner giving an explanation to the persons taxed as to how they arrive at such amounts?
- (2.) If not, will he inquire, and, if such is done, have this form of notice altered, to prevent appeals, if possible?
- (3.) Is it a fact that if a person borrows £20,000, and in a month after he lends that at £20,100, the Commissioners charge a tax on £20,100 income less the exemption?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes, the assessment is made by the Commissioners, but if any explanation is desired on the part of taxpayers it will be furnished upon application to the Department.
- (2.) The question of issuing explanatory notes with the notices of assessment is receiving consideration.
- (3.) Certainly not.

(5.) The Superannuation Fund:—Mr. Hurley asked the Colonial Treasurer,—On resigning, are Civil Servants entitled to demand the amount paid by them to the Superannuation Fund?

Mr. Reid answered,—Yes, if they come within the terms of section 62 of the Public Service Act.

(6.) Point Hut Road, near Queanbeyan:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that Surveyor Halliday has reported in favour of opening the Point Hut Road, near Queanbeyan?
- (2.) If so, when does he propose to act upon the recommendation of that report?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—Mr. Surveyor Halliday has furnished a report, which has been sent to the Works Department for consideration of the route suggested and as to the cost which would have to be incurred in making the route fit for traffic.

(7.) The Road Vote:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What was the amount of the Road Vote, inclusive of special grants, voted for 1895-96?
- (2.) What was the actual amount of the abovementioned Vote expended for 1895-96?
- (3.) What amount has been taken from the Road Vote for 1896-97 to pay for obligations incurred during 1895-96?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) £450,000.
- (2.) £387,207 0s. 8d.
- (3.) Obligations to the extent of £92,190 16s. 3d. were paid from the Votes for 1896-7, but a very large proportion of the work represented by this sum was not carried out until after the 30th June, 1895, and it is, therefore, not correct to say that it was taken from the Road Vote for 1896-7 to pay for work done prior to that date.

(8.) Landowners under the Land Tax:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What is the total number of landowners who have forwarded returns to the Taxation Commissioners?
- (2.) What is the number who are exempt under the exemption clause of £240?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) 124,000.
- (2.) 88,000.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th April, 1897.

(9.) Charitable Institutions :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he see that some steps are taken to inquire (by Royal Commission) into the condition and management of the Charitable Institutions of the Colony, so that legislation, based on the report of such Commissioners, may be taken to place our Charitable Institutions on a more sound and satisfactory condition, and to save them from being abused by persons able to pay for services rendered?

Mr. Reid answered,—A Bill to meet this object is now under consideration.

(10.) The Navigation Laws :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Did he, during the last Session of Parliament, promise to introduce a comprehensive Bill to reform the Navigation laws this Session?

(2.) Is it proposed to submit such a Bill to the House without delay?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) I promised to introduce a Navigation Bill this Session.

(2.) Not until my return to Sydney.

4. BOROUGH OF LITHGOW VALIDATING BILL :—

(1.) Mr. Bavister presented a Petition from the Municipal Council of the Borough of Lithgow, representing that the Borough of Lithgow Validating 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 Tuesday, 25th May.

5. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS :—Mr. Ewing, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plans, relating to the proposed construction of a Deepwater Harbour at Port Kembla.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. PAPERS :—

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Regulations in connection with the Dredge Service.

(2.) By-laws respecting the Homebush Creek and Iron Cove Creek Extension Storm-water Channels, under the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894; Amended By-laws respecting the Willoughby Falls Creek, Careening Cove Drain, Iron Cove Creek, Ashfield, Burwood, Enfield, and Canterbury Drain, under the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894; and Regulations and Forms, under the Water Rights Act of 1896.

(3.) Reports respecting the appointments of Mr. E. J. Seivers, Mr. A. F. Evans, and Mr. A. D. Craig, in the Department of Public Works.

(4.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Middlehope, county of Durham, for an Approach to Bridge over the Hunter River at Morpeth.

(5.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Alexandria, county of Cumberland, for the Extension of Canal at Shea's Creek.

(6.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Hunter's Hill, county of Cumberland, for an Approach to Punt on the Parramatta River, at Ryde.

(7.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Valley Valley, county of Raleigh, for Approaches to Bridge over Deep Creek.

(8.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Wyalong, county of Gipps, for a Post and Telegraph Office at West Wyalong.

(9.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Buckley, county of Blaxland, for construction of the Middle Billabong Weir.

(10.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Bindogandri, county of Ashburnham, for the Water Supply for the Town of Parkes.

(11.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of St. Matthew, county of Cumberland, for Bridge over South Creek.

(12.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parishes of Bourke and Pera, counties of Cowper and Ganderbooks, for a Lock and Weir on the River Darling at or near Bourke.

(13.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Kahibah, county of Northumberland, for the Extension of Water Mains to Sulphide Works, Cockle Creek.

(14.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Picton, county of Camden, for Bridge over Stonequarry Creek at Picton.

(15.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of East Casino, county of Richmond, for Wharf at Greenridge, Richmond River.

(16.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Borambil, county of Buckland, for Bridge over Borambil Creek at Quiriadi.

(17.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Kempsey, county of Macquarie, for Bridge over Macleay River at Kempsey.

(18.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Bindogandri, county of Ashburnham, for the Water Supply for the Town of Parkes.

(19.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Perry, county of Menindie, for an Approach to Ferry at Menindie.

(20.) Return to an Order, made on 22nd September, 1896,—“Contract for Bridge over Buffalo Creek, Field of Mars.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee

Mr.

29th April, 1897.

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Additional Regulation, No. 319A, under the Crown Lands Acts.
- (2.) Amended Regulation, No. 72, and Amended Forms Nos. 20, 46, and 83, under the Crown Lands Acts.
- (3.) Amended Regulations, Nos. 53, 56, 152, and 156, under the Crown Lands Acts.
- (4.) Amended Forms Nos. 7 and 50, under the Crown Lands Acts.
- (5.) Regulations and Form for Transfer of Purchases under the Newcastle Pasturage Acts Amendment Act of 1895.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Minutes of the late Under Secretary of Justice, dated 5th June, 1896, and present Under Secretary of Justice, dated 31st August, 1896, respecting the Administration of the Prisons Department.
- (2.) Return (*in part*) to an Order made on 17th March, 1892,—“Convictions under the Licensing Act.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

7. PUBLIC ROADS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Public Roads 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 11th November, 1896, a.m., in reference to certain amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Public Roads 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.

8. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Hunter District Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill, forwarded to the Legislative Council during last Session, not having been finally dealt with because of the Prorogation of the Legislature, the following Message be sent to the Council:—Mr. President,—A Bill, intituled “An Act to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892, the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894, and the Hunter District Water Supply (Partial Duplication) Act, 1895; and for other purposes,”—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.

Question put and passed.

Message to the Legislative Council sent accordingly.

9. COUNTRY TOWNS WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Bill, forwarded to the Legislative Council during last Session, not having been finally dealt with because of the Prorogation of the Legislature, the following Message be sent to the Council:—Mr. President,—A Bill, intituled “An Act to amend the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880; the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1887; and the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes,”—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.

Question put and passed.

Message to the Legislative Council sent accordingly.

10. COOK’S RIVER IMPROVEMENTS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice,—That the Cook’s River Improvements 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 certain works for the improvement of Cook’s River, near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters,”—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.

Question put and passed.

Message to the Legislative Council sent accordingly.

11. BUSINESS DAYS (*Sessional Order*):—The Order of the Day having been read for the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Reid, “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.”

And the Question being again proposed,—

The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.

Mr. McGowen moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the word “Four” and inserting the word “Two” instead thereof.

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

Debate continued.

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

The

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th April, 1897.

The House divided.

Ayes, 60.

Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Wright,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Morgau,	Mr. Parkes,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. T. R. Smith,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Russell Jones,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. FitzGerald,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Millard,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Sec,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Millen,	Mr. Morton,
Mr. McMillan,	Mr. Ewing.
Mr. Storey,	
Mr. Price,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. Molesworth.

Noes, 23.

Mr. Newman,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Ailleck,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Gormly.

*Tellers,*Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Griffith.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.
Original Question put and passed.

12. 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. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.
13. PAPER:—Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Account of Estimated Revenue and Expenditure for the year 1896-1897.
Ordered to be printed.
14. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the House to go into the Committee of Ways and Means postponed until Wednesday next.
15. PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD—CASES OF MR. F. O. BYRNES AND MR. W. B. WAKELY:—Mr. Perry moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with the refusal by the Public Service Board to grant a pension to Mr. F. O. Byrnes, late of the Post and Telegraph Department, retired after thirty-four years service; also all papers in connection with the pension granted by the Public Service Board to Mr. W. B. Wakely, late Post and Telegraph Master at Raymond Terrace.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned, at twenty-eight minutes after Ten 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. 4.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 4 MAY, 1897.

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

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 thirtieth April, 1897, 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 thirtieth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand
“ eight hundred and ninety-seven, and in the sixtieth year of the Reign of Her Majesty
“ Queen Victoria.

“ HAMPDEN.

“ By His Excellency's Command,

“ JAMES N. BRUNKER.”

2. QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Cost of Wheat-growing :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Will he state the estimated or approximate estimated cost of growing wheat in the Colony of New South Wales, viz., average cost per acre, including cost of land, clearing land, fencing, ploughing, sowing seed, labour, and marketing, &c.; and will he cause a return to be prepared of the same?

(2.) Also the number of farmers or persons engaged in growing wheat in the Colony?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) The cost of raising wheat depends entirely upon local conditions, such as the size of the holding, description of seed, cost of clearing land, machinery available, cost of carriage, &c. In 1894 an estimate was made by the Government Statistician as to the cost of growing wheat, leaving out of consideration rent, interest, bags, and carriage, and including expenses for seed, preparation of land, sowing, harvesting, and depreciation of plant and stock. (The figures are as follows, viz. :—On large farms, 15s. 6d. per acre; on moderate-sized farms, 20s. per acre; on small farms, 27s. per acre.

(2.) I cannot at present state the number of persons engaged exclusively on wheat-growing in New South Wales. The last returns available, however, show that seed-wheat is grown on 13,271 holdings.

(2.)

4th May, 1897.

- (2.) Accident at South Broken Hill Mine:—Mr. Ferguson asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is he aware of the fact that the accident at the South Broken Hill Mine, where nine men lost their lives, was mainly owing to the fact of there being only one outlet from the stopes?
 - (2.) Will he cause the Inspector at Broken Hill to prevent, as far as practicable, stopes being worked when there is only one outlet?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Not so far as I am aware. The verdict of the Jury was that the accident was unprecedented and no one was to blame. The Inspectors of Mines have general instructions that wherever practicable more than one outlet should be provided from any mining operations, both for the safety of the men and ventilation.

- (3.) Junction Mine at Broken Hill:—Mr. Ferguson asked the Secretary for Mines,—Has his attention been called to the collapse of the stopes in the Junction Mine at Broken Hill; and will he lay upon the Table of this House the Inspector of Mines' report as to the cause of such collapse?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Yes; and I will presently lay copies of correspondence upon the Table of this House.

- (4.) Chief Inspector of Coal Mines:—Mr. Edden asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) How many applications were received in the Colony for the position of Chief Inspector of Coal Mines?
 - (2.) Were the applications received examined; if so, by whom?
 - (3.) Will he give the names of the applicants?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) Eleven.
- (2.) Yes; all the applications were carefully examined, and considered by me.
- (3.) T. L. Bates, F.G.S.; John Dixon, F.G.S.; A. Gardiner; J. Hayes, F.S.Sc. (N.Z.); W. Humble, F.G.S.; R. Hunter (Q.); W. H. Martin; W. Mason; Jonathan May; D. A. W. Robertson; J. H. Ronaldson.

- (5.) Retirements in the Public Service:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) How many public servants have retired under the 62nd section of 58 Victoria No. 25, of their own accord, to take advantage of the refund with interest and gratuity?
 - (2.) How many of these are to get the gratuity in addition to the refund and interest?
 - (3.) If all are not to get the gratuity in addition to the refund and interest, what is the reason; and if any are to get it, why not all?
 - (4.) What is the approximate total amount to be refunded with interest, with the gratuity added, up to present date?
 - (5.) The same Question as last, excluding the gratuity?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Honorable Member appears to be under a misapprehension in this matter. The 62nd section of the Public Service Act provides that any officer may, within twelve months from the date of the commencement of the Act, elect to discontinue contributing to the Superannuation Fund, in which event he shall be entitled, on retiring from the Service from any other cause than an offence, to receive a refund of the amount paid by him to the fund, together with interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum from the date of his so electing to discontinue. Officers who voluntarily retire from the Service, and who have elected to discontinue to contribute to the Fund in accordance with the section referred to, are not entitled to any gratuity, and can only receive the refund and interest therein provided, gratuities being only paid to those whose services are dispensed with by the Board, otherwise than for an offence, under the terms of section 60. If the Honorable Member desires to have a list of the officers who have retired of their own accord, and have received a refund of their contributions, I will have the information prepared if moved for in the usual way.

- (6.) Road from Eugowra to Cookamidgery Railway Station:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) When is the clearing of the road from the town of Eugowra to Cookamidgery Railway Station likely to be completed?
 - (2.) Why is the work being so long delayed?
 - (3.) Will he see that steps are taken to have the work pushed forward without delay, to enable the settlers to get their produce to market?

Mr. Young answered,—As far as I am aware, this work is in hand, instructions having been given by me for the expenditure of the grants for all authorised works. I will, however, have special inquiries made in this case.

- (7.) Coast Hospital, Little Bay:—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is the Coast Hospital, Little Bay, a Government Institution: if so, under what governing body is it placed?
 - (2.) How many beds are there at this hospital, and how many are generally occupied?
 - (3.) How many nurses are employed there, what are their classes, and what rate of pay does each class receive?
 - (4.) What is the average number of beds to which a nurse has to attend by day and night respectively?
 - (5.) What are the hours of duty of the nurses by day, and what by night?
 - (6.) How many days a week do the nurses work?
 - (7.) Is the scrubbing of the wards done by the nurses?
 - (8.) What holidays do they get?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th May, 1897.

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following answers have been furnished by the Chief Medical Officer:—

- (1.) Yes; the Chief Medical Officer of the Government (Chief Secretary).
 - (2.) 251; daily average number occupied, 204.
 - (3.) Thirty; one head nurse, £105 per annum, less allowances; five senior nurses, £100 per annum, less allowances; eight nurses, £85 per annum, less allowances; sixteen probationers, £75 per annum, less allowances.
 - (4.) By day, eight; by night, thirty-five.
 - (5.) By day, nine and three-quarters; by night, eleven and a-half.
 - (6.) Seven.
 - (7.) Excepting the floors, yes.
 - (8.) Leave is granted under Regulation.
- (8.) Train Accidents at Redfern Railway Yard:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a serious collision took place on 1st February, 1897, between two passenger trains in Redfern Railway Station yard?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that on 15th March, 1897, an empty passenger train travelled from Redfern to Eveleigh on the up line instead of the down line, thus incurring great risk of meeting an approaching train?
 - (3.) If so, is it a fact that the proper signals were exhibited for the empty train to go on the down line?
 - (4.) Are the points and signals properly interlocked in the Redfern tunnel signal-box?
 - (5.) Will he cause an investigation into these accidents, as provided for in Part III of the Government Railways Act, 1888?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that such an occurrence took place, in consequence of the driver of a train leaving the platform whilst the signal worked from the station-box was at danger against him.
 - (2.) A train of empty cars travelled a distance of about 380 yards from the points worked from Redfern tunnel signal-box, on the up slow line, before the driver discovered he was on the wrong road.
 - (3 and 4.) The points and signals for the running lines are properly interlocked. The train of empty cars which ran on the wrong line was dispatched improperly from a siding which is only provided for storing vehicles, and signalled for shunting purposes only.
 - (5.) The matters referred to have received thorough and careful investigation, and as the facts relating thereto have been elicited, no further investigation is considered necessary.
3. CONDITIONAL PURCHASE OF JOHN ROCHE ARDILL:—Dr. Ross presented a Petition from John Roche Ardill, representing that he had conditionally purchased 40 acres of land, in the Land District of Molong, which was subsequently forfeited; that he further applied for a conditional lease in the same Land District, which application was refused; and that Petitioner felt aggrieved by the manner in which the Land Laws had been administered in these cases; and praying the House to take the premises into consideration with a view to relief being granted.
Petition received.
4. NARANDERA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TRUSTEES ENABLING BILL:—
- (1.) Mr. Gormly presented a Petition from Peter Sullivan, of Narandera, stationer, George Jerrom, of Narandera, draper, and John Patrick McIntyre, of Narandera, innkeeper, trustees for the time being of certain lands situated in East and Twynam Streets, Narandera, representing that the Narandera Roman Catholic Church Trustees Enabling Bill, which was introduced into this House during 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 Tuesday, 8th June.

5. PAPERS:—

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) By-law of the Borough of Bombala.
- (2.) By-laws of the Borough of Bathurst.
- (3.) By-laws of the Borough of Narrabri.
- (4.) By-laws of the Borough of WallSEND.
- (5.) By-laws of the Borough of East Maitland.
- (6.) By-law of the Municipal District of Nowra.
- (7.) By-law of the Municipal District of Dungog.
- (8.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Cooma.
- (9.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Lambton.
- (10.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Wellington.
- (11.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Wilcannia.
- (12.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Marsfield.
- (13.) Amended Regulation under the Volunteer Force Regulation Act of 1867.
- (14.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Hillston, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
- (15.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Raymond Terrace, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
- (16.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Wellington, under the Municipalities Act of 1867, and Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
- (17.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Warren, under the Municipalities Act of 1867, and Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.

(18.)

4th May, 1897.

- (18.) By-laws of the Borough of North Sydney, under the Municipal Wharves Act of 1893.
- (19.) By-laws of the Borough of Hunter's Hill, under the Municipalities Act of 1867, and Municipal Wharves Act of 1893.
- (20.) By-law under the Sydney Hospital Act of 1881.
- (21.) Regulations and Amended Regulations under the Australasian Federation Enabling Act, 1895.
- (22.) Regulations under the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act Amendment Act, 1896.
- (23.) General Abstracts of Banking, Land, Building, and Investment Companies Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 30th September, 1896.
- (24.) Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of the Corporation of the City of Sydney for the year 1896.
- (25.) Report of Board for the Protection of the Aborigines for the year 1896.
- (26.) Report of Police Department for the year 1896.
- (27.) Report of the State Children's Relief Board for the year ended 5th April, 1896.
- (28.) Eleventh Annual Report of the Goulburn Fire Brigades Board, under the Fire Brigades Act, 1884.
- (29.) First Annual Report of the Moss Vale Fire Brigades Board under the Fire Brigades Act, 1884.
- (30.) Return to an Order made on 20th October, 1896,—“Gordon Railway Station.”
- (31.) Report of Royal Commission respecting the contracts of Messrs. Carter, Gummow, and Company, together with Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence, Appendices, and Plans.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Report of the Proceedings of a Conference respecting the Noxious Weeds Pest, held in Sydney, March, 1897.
- (2.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Canally Leasehold Area for Settlement by other holdings.
- (3.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Ulumbarella Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other holdings.
- (4.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the West Mandamah Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other holdings.
- (5.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Derribong Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other holdings.
- (6.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Burburgate Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other holdings.
- (7.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Bartley's Creek Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other holdings.
- (8.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Gunningbland Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other holdings.
- (9.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Bygaloree Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other holdings.
- (10.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Deniliquin Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other holdings.
- (11.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Goobang Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other holdings.
- (12.) Report of the Proceedings of a Conference respecting the Rabbit Pest in New South Wales, held in Sydney, March, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—Report on the Creep in the Junction Mine, Broken Hill, by Inspector Hebbard.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Report of the University of Sydney for the year 1896.
- (2.) By-laws of the Murrumburrah Free Public Library.
- (3.) Report of the Trustees of the Public Library for the year 1896.
- (4.) Report of the Trustees of the National Art Gallery for the year 1896.
- (5.) Notifications of resumptions, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land for Public School Purposes, at Beaufort, Brobenah, Buraneer Bay, Cranbury, Derrain, Lockwood, and Muddy Creek.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Foster, county of Gloucester, for Public Wharf at Bungwall.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Cook laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Amended Regulations and Rates under the Electric Telegraph Act.
- (2.) Further papers respecting the Renewal of Contracts for the Australian Mail Service.
- (3.) Report of the Delegates to the Intercolonial Conference, held in Sydney, November, 1896.
- (4.) Statement of Accounts of the Government Savings Bank for the year 1896.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Additional Regulations under the Patents Law Amendment Act, 1887.
- (2.) Bankruptcy Rules of 1896 under the Bankruptcy Act, 1887.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Draft of Bill to constitute the Commonwealth of Australia, approved by the Australasian Federal Convention at Adelaide, 1897.

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4th May, 1897.

- (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Micketymulga, county of Lincoln, for improvement of Grades and Curves on the Railway between Maryvale and Geurie.
- (3.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Minto, county of Cumberland, for maintaining the Railway traffic between Liverpool and Campbelltown.
- (4.) Amended Regulation under the Public Service Act of 1895.
- (5.) Amended Regulation No. 19, under the Public Service Act of 1895.
- (6.) Regulation under the Public Service Act of 1895, respecting Visiting Justices to Country Gaols.
- (7.) Regulations under the Public Service Act of 1895 for Public School Teachers.
- (8.) Regulations under the Public Service Act of 1895, allowing Chamber Magistrates to make a charge for attending gaols after office hours to consider applications for bail.
- (9.) Amended Regulation under the Public Service Act of 1895, No. 21.
- (10.) Regulations under the Public Service Act of 1895, for Competitive Examinations.
- (11.) Regulations under the Public Service Act of 1895, in connection with the Government Printing Office.
- (12.) Amended Regulation, No. 35, under the Public Service Act of 1895.
- (13.) Amended Regulation under the Public Service Act of 1895 (Travelling Expenses).
- (14.) Regulation under the Public Service Act of 1895, Employment of Inspectors, Overseers of Works, and other Officers.
- (15.) Regulation under the Public Service Act of 1895, Annual Increments to the Junior Staff of the Postal and Telegraph Department.
- (16.) Regulations under the Public Service Act of 1895, for Competitive Examinations.
- (17.) Amended Regulation, under the Public Service Act of 1895, No. 13.
- (18.) Regulation, under the Public Service Act of 1895,—Employment of Telegraph Messengers, &c., in the Postal and Electric Telegraph Department.
- (19.) Substituted Regulation No. 21, under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895.
- (20.) Amended Regulations under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895.
- (21.) Substituted Regulation under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895, No. 56.
- (22.) Statement of Trust Moneys Deposit Account from 1st April, 1896, to 31st March, 1897.
- (23.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Colo, county of Camden, for maintaining the Railway traffic between Colo Vale and Braemar.
- (24.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Cumberlandine, county of Camden, for maintenance of Railway Traffic between Hill Top and Colo Vale.
- (25.) Report of the Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for quarter ended December, 1896.
- (26.) Report of the Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for quarter ended 31st March, 1897.
- (27.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Central Illawarra under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
- (28.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for October, 1896.
- (29.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for November, 1896.
- (30.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for December, 1896.
- (31.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for January, 1897.
- (32.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for February, 1897.
- (33.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for March, 1897.
- (34.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land for Additions and Alterations of Buildings in Redfern Railway Station yard.
- (35.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Marulan, county of Argyle, for improvement of Grades, &c., at Marulan.
- (36.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Jereldery, county of Denison, for Additional Station Accommodation at Berrigan.
- (37.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Clwydd, county of Cook, for Deviation of Railway near Clarence Siding.
- (38.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Cumberlandine, county of Camden, for Deviation of Railway from Hill Top to Colo Vale.
- (39.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Hartley, county of Cook, for improvement of Grades and Curves on the Railway between Sydney and Mount Victoria, at Blackheath.
- (40.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Towrang, county of Argyle, for maintaining the Traffic on the Railway between Sydney and Albury.
- (41.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Hartley, county of Cook, for improvement of Grades and Curves on Railway near Blackheath and Mount Victoria.
- (42.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Colo, county of Camden, for Deviation on the Railway between Braemar and Mittagong.
- (43.) Regulation, under the Public Service Act of 1895, in connection with the Government Printing Office.
- (44.) Substituted Regulation No. 36, made by the Board of Health, in connection with the Public Abattoir, Glebe Island.
- (45.) Regulations under the Noxious Trades and Cattle Slaughtering Act, 1894.
- (46.) Amended Regulations under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895.
- (47.) Regulation under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895,—Tables for Calculation of Values.
- (48.) By-law of the Municipal District of Junee under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

4th May, 1897.

7. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS**:—Mr. Ewing, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Moree to Inverell. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
8. **LIENS ON WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON STOCK AND STATIONS BILL (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Lyne moved, pursuant to notice, That the Liens on Wool and Mortgages on Stock and Stations Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 25th May.
9. **MUNICIPALITIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to notice, That the Municipalities Act Amendment Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 8th June.
10. **FRANCHISE EXTENSION BILL (Formal Motion)**:—
(1.) Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893 by extending the franchise to certain persons disqualified from voting thereunder.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Neild then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893 by extending the franchise to certain persons disqualified from voting thereunder*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 6th July.
11. **LAW PRACTITIONERS BILL (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Law Practitioners Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 20th July.
12. **NOXIOUS WEEDS BILL (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Carruthers 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 deal with noxious weeds, and for purposes incidental thereto.
Question put and passed.
13. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Borough of Cudgegong Cattle Sale-yards Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 8th June.
(2.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 22nd June.
14. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Sydney-Fitzroy Division, Mr. McElhone, 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 great evil caused to the public by the increase of 'Tote and Betting Shops.'" And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. McElhone moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
15. **PRINTING COMMITTEE**:—Mr. Speaker reported the receipt of, and read to the House, the following letter from the Chairman of the Printing Committee:—
Sir,
No. 3 Committee Room, Legislative Assembly, 4th May, 1897.
I have the honor, as Chairman, to communicate to you the following resolution passed this day by the Printing Committee, viz.:—
"That the Chairman communicate with Mr. Speaker, asking him to intimate in the House that the Printing Committee are willing to hear from any Honorable Member, on whose motion papers have been laid upon the Table of the House, if he desire to attend before them at the next ensuing meeting of the Committee, reasons why such papers, or portions thereof, should be printed."
"I have the honor to be,
" Sir,
" Your obedient servant,
" JAMES GORMLY,
" Chairman.
- " The Honorable
" The Speaker of the
" Legislative Assembly."

16. **OLD AGE PENSIONS**:—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, "That" the Report from the Select Committee on "Old Age Pensions," brought up on 16th September, 1896, be now adopted. Mr. Neild moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the first word "That" and inserting the words "the Government be requested to give early consideration to the question of granting Old Age Pensions, or out-door relief, and abolishing, as far as may prove practical, the existing asylum system," instead thereof.

Question

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th May, 1897.

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

Debate ensued.

Proposed amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Neild (*by consent*) substituted the following amendment:—

That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the first word "That" and inserting the words "this House, recognising the valuable evidence collected by the Select Committee, requests the Government to give early consideration to the question of granting Old Age Pensions," instead thereof.

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

Debate continued.

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

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question then,—That this House, recognising the valuable evidence collected by the Select Committee, requests the Government to give early consideration to the question of granting Old Age Pensions,—put and passed.

17. CLAIM OF RICHARDSON, TURNER, & Co.:—Mr. Sleath moved, pursuant to notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Claim of Richardson, Turner, & Co.," brought up on 12th November, 1896, be now adopted.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

18. APPLICATION OF MR. J. F. CONNELLY TO MINE IN THE PARISH OF CURRAJONG:—Mr. Nield moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Application of Mr. J. F. Connelly to mine in the parish of Currajong," brought up on 18th December, 1895, be now adopted.

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

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday, 20th July.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 5.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 5 MAY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

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

- (1.) How many persons are contributing to the Income Tax?
- (2.) What is the smallest amount collected under the Income Tax?
- (3.) What is the smallest amount collected under the Land Tax?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Approximately, 20,000.
- (2.) Sixpence.
- (3.) Sixpence.

(2.) Conversion of Conditional Purchases into Homestead Leases :—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that holders of conditional purchases under the 1861 Act have no right to convert into homestead leases?
- (2.) If yes, will he introduce a short Bill enabling them to come under the provisions of the 1896 Act?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—No. Section 6 of the Act, 60 Vic. No. 2—Conditional Purchasers' Relief Act—clearly provides for the conversion of any conditional purchase or conditional lease, not liable to be declared forfeited, into a homestead selection.

(3.) Public Accounts :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the total amount paid during the present financial year in liquidation of debts incurred for the financial year 1895-6?

Mr. Reid answered,—It is impossible to give this information, as no separate account is kept of such payments; the provisions of the "Audit Act Amendment Act" requiring that payments made subsequently to 30th June should be charged to the Appropriations for the current year.

(4.) Record of Treatment of Mineral Ores :—Mr. Hurley asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he bring in a Bill making it compulsory for all companies who treat mineral ore for the extraction of gold, silver, lead, copper, tin, antimony, zinc, bismuth, and all other metals, no matter by what process, in New South Wales, to keep books, and at the end of each year make a statutory declaration to the correctness of such books, showing the number of tons of ore treated, how treated, description of mine, name (if any), name of owner or occupier, depth of mine, depth of level for each parcel of ore treated; that a copy of such books be supplied to the public by the Mines Department twelve months after each statutory declaration, with a view to enable and encourage investors to take up and work old and abandoned mines?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This will be considered when the Government is dealing with the consolidation and amendment of the mining laws.

(5.) Resumption of Land for Railway Purposes at Moree :—Mr. Perry asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What valuation was placed upon the portion of land resumed for railway purposes, the property of Miss M. G. Brand, situate in the town of Moree?
- (2.) Who was the valuer appointed on behalf of the Government?
- (3.) Was the Government valuer's estimate accepted?
- (4.) What charge in connection therewith was made by the valuer in question?
- (5.) Was the amount charged, or any portion thereof paid by the said Miss M. G. Brand?
- (6.) Is it usual for the owners of property resumed under similar conditions to pay the charges levied by the Government valuer?

Mr.

5th May, 1897.

Mr. Young answered.—

- (1.) £429.
- (2.) Mr. E. J. Sievers, Government Valuer.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4 and 5.) No charge was made.
- (6.) No.

(6.) Assessment Book under the Land Tax:—Mr. Ashton asked the Colonial Treasurer:—

- (1.) Upon completion of the land assessments under the Land and Income Tax Act, will the assessment book be open to public inspection?
- (2.) If not, why not?

Mr. Reid answered,—No; the assessment books contain certain information which should not be made available for general inspection. At the earliest opportunity the Commissioners will arrange for the valuation books to be available, so that the public may obtain information as to values and ownership.

(7.) Reappraisal of Pastoral Leases:—Mr. Ashton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to the answer made to a deputation by the Minister for Lands, to the effect that the advantages to pastoral lessees of the reappraisal clause of the Land Act of 1895 would be made to date from 1st January, 1897, subject to the approval of the Colonial Treasurer, would he kindly state whether he has approved of his colleague's recommendation?

Mr. Reid answered,—In view of the satisfactory state of the finances I approve of the recommendations made, although it will involve a refund of revenue to the amount of between £25,000 and £30,000.

(8.) Payment of Income Tax:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Did any Minister of the Crown neglect to pay the Income Tax assessed upon him last year within the stipulated time for payment?
- (2.) If so, what was his name?
- (3.) Is it a fact that a fine was notified to such Minister for non-payment?
- (4.) If so, has such fine been paid; and on what date?
- (5.) If not, why has the fine in question been remitted, and by what authority?

Mr. Reid answered,—I have no knowledge on the subject of these Questions, and if I had I should decline to divulge the affairs of any income taxpayer for the benefit of illicit curiosity. Surely the Honorable Member knows that officers of that Department are compelled to take an oath of secrecy.

(9.) Officers of the Stock Branch, Mines Department:—Mr. Neild asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Has the Attorney-General given any opinion as to the right of the Public Service Board to deal with and dismiss officers employed in the Stock Branch?
- (2.) If so, was such opinion unfavourable to control by the Public Service Board?
- (3.) Have any officers of the Stock Branch been dismissed contrary to the Attorney-General's opinion?
- (4.) If any officers have been illegally dismissed, will steps be taken to reinstate or compensate them?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered.—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Unfavourable.
- (3.) I am not aware that such is the case. When the Public Service Board dealt with the Stock Branch they approved of a proposal, made some time previously, that probationary inspectors should be appointed at Sydney for six months, and an Acting Inspector was dispensed with at the termination of that period. He was afterwards appointed Acting Inspector of Stock at Moama, which position was subsequently abolished owing to an alteration in the regulations regarding sheep crossing the border. Another officer was retired at his own request, and was paid the usual retiring allowance. Another officer, whose services were dispensed with, failed to pass a second examination ordered by the Board. He has, however, since been reappointed to the same position by virtue of passing the first examination.
- (4.) I am not aware that any officers have been illegally dismissed.

(10.) Extension of Time for Posting Letters to England:—Mr. Neild asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that when the Melbourne express left Sydney at 5.15 p.m. ordinary letters for England could be posted until 3.30 p.m., or to within one and three-quarter hours of the train's departure?
- (2.) Is it a fact that the express now leaves at 7.15 p.m., and that ordinary letters for England have now to be posted by 4.30 p.m., or two and three-quarter hours prior to the departure of the train?
- (3.) Will he cause the time for posting ordinary letters for England to be extended until 5.30, viz., to within one and three-quarter hours of the departure of the express as heretofore?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) No. The mail referred to closed at 3 p.m.; foreign mails, at 2.30 p.m.
- (2.) Yes; but now the whole of the mails, British and foreign, close at 4.30 p.m.
- (3.) If in future working it be found that more time can be given it will be so arranged.

(11.) Illicit Stills:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Haynes, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has his attention been called to the continued discovery of illicit stills, and to the statements in the Press that increasing quantities of illicitly-distilled spirits are being sold in New South Wales?
- (2.) Is he aware that comparatively a vastly smaller sum is now realised from the spirit duties at 14s. than when they were 8s. per gallon?
- (3.) Will he state whether, in the interests of the public health, and for the purpose of discouraging evasions of the law, he can see his way to making any reduction in the duties?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am aware of the circumstances and the statements referred to.
- (2.) It is possible the revenue from this source is proportionately less since the duties were increased, but that result has been attributed to more causes than one.
- (3.) I think the spirit duties excessive, and will take the first favourable opportunity of reducing them.

- (12.) Drainage of Country near Moree:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Hassall*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—In view of the completion of the survey of the watercourse country near Moree, and the promise made some months ago by the Prime Minister that the drainage of the said area should be proceeded with at once, will he arrange for the work being carried out while the conditions are favourable, labour being plentiful, and the season propitious?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—I have been in consultation with the Secretary for Public Works on this matter during the past few days, and a plan is now, I understand, being prepared in the Works Department, in order that a scheme of drainage may be referred to the Local Land Board in accordance with the requirements of the Water Rights Act.

- (13.) Civil Servants retiring from the Superannuation Fund:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In consideration of the Answer given to *Mr. Affleck's* Question No. 5, on Tuesday, 4th May, will he place a sum on the Estimates to pay the gratuities promised by him to those retiring voluntarily from the Superannuation Fund, under the promise he made when introducing the Bill, 5S Vic. No. 25?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am not aware that I ever gave such a promise. It would, in my opinion, be utterly unjustifiable to pay gratuities to persons leaving the service of their own accord.

- (14.) Road Vote for 1895-6:—*Mr. Wood* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What amount of the Road Vote for year 1895-6 was written off at the close of the financial year?
- (2.) What was the total amount of liabilities incurred for works undertaken in the year 1895-6, but charged to the financial year of 1896-7?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) If the Honorable Member will refer to the terms of the Audit Act Amendment Act of 1895 he will find that no amounts are written off at the close of the financial year. They lapse by operation of law.
- (2.) I would suggest this Question be addressed to the Honorable the Minister for Works.

- (15.) Income Tax Returns:—*Mr. Wood* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Have taxpayers, when sending in their income returns, to make a declaration that the return is correct?
- (2.) If this is so, when the Taxation Commissioners make a second demand on the grounds of incorrect returns, claiming a greater amount of tax than that shown in return by the taxpayer, do they intend enforcing section 62 of the Act, and prosecuting for perjury?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) So far the Commissioners have attributed the inaccuracies in returns of taxpayers to inexperience rather than any intention to defraud the revenue. Any case of proved wilful misrepresentation will be dealt with under the provisions of section 62 of the Act.

- (16.) Railway connection between Sydney and North Sydney:—*Mr. Dugald Thomson* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has the Government yet decided, in view of the fact that the proposed connection by bridge or tunnel with North Shore will form a link between two Government tramway, and, possibly, two Government railway systems, whether it will itself construct such connection?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Government have decided that they are not justified in constructing the bridge or tunnel at the present time.

- (17.) Mining Reserves on the Victorian Border:—*Mr. Wood* asked the Secretary for Mines,—How does he propose to deal with certain lands on the Victorian Border, now reserved under the 26th section of the Mining Act, 1874, from mining occupation, and upon which the Government prospecting party have recently discovered gold?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I called for a report from *Mr. Geological Surveyor Carne* upon this matter, which I received to-day, and decided to cancel that part of the reserve between the coast and the western boundary of the Parish of Currawong, but the land must be only open under the Mining Board Regulations for the present.

2. NORTH SHORE BRIDGE BILL:—

- (1.) *Mr. Morton* presented a Petition from *Benjamin Crispin Simpson*, of Sydney, a Member of the Institute of Civil Engineers, representing that the North Shore Bridge Bill, which was introduced into this House during last Session of Parliament, and passed through several stages, was interrupted by the prorogation of Parliament, and praying that leave may be given to proceed with the said Bill during the present Session.

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

Petition received.

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

5th May, 1897.

3. MAITLAND GASLIGHT ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Gillies presented a Petition from the Maitland Gaslight Company (Limited), representing that the Maitland Gaslight Act Amendment Bill, which was introduced into this House during last Session of Parliament, and passed through several stages, was interrupted by the prorogation of Parliament; and praying that leave may be given to proceed with the said Bill during the present Session,—

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

Petition received.

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

4. PAPERS:—

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Annual Returns under the 103rd section of the District Courts Act of 1858.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Copies of *Gazette* Notices, setting forth the mode in which it is proposed to deal with the Dedication of certain Lands, in accordance with the provisions of the 105th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18, and the 41st section of the Act, 53 Victoria No. 21.

(2.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act, 48 Victoria No. 18.

(3.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Religious Purposes, in accordance with the 5th section of the Act, 25 Victoria No. 1.

(4.) Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of the Hay Irrigation Trust for the year 1896.

(5.) Abstract of Site for Cemetery at Moss Vale, resumed under the 6th section of the Act, 44 Victoria No. 16.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. HOMESTEAD LEASES IN NAMES OF W. BRADY, SENIOR, ANN E. MORRIS, AND W. BRADY, JUNIOR, WILCANNIA DISTRICT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Sleath, for Mr. Copeland, moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with the surrender and the withdrawal of surrender of homestead leases 886, 887, and 888, Wilcannia district, in the names of W. Brady, sen., Ann E. Morris, and W. Brady, jun., respectively. Question put and passed.

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

(1.) Tonnage Rates Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 19.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th Section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend the law relating to Wharfrage and Tonnage rates.

Government House,

Sydney, 3rd May, 1897.

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

(2.) Customs (Sugar Drawbacks) Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 20.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to provide for a drawback of Customs Duties on Sugar and Glucose.

Government House,

Sydney, 4th May, 1897.

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

7. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Balmain South, Mr. Law, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.:—"The inequitable administration of the laws relating to Art Unions and Lotteries, and the necessity of amending the same."

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

8. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read, on motion of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

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

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 6

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 6 MAY, 1897.

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

COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS:—

- (1.) *Maturity of Warrant reported*:—Mr. Speaker reported that his Warrant, appointing the Committee of Elections and Qualifications for the present Session, laid upon the Table on Wednesday, 28th April, 1897, 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*:—Charles Bull, Esquire, Samuel Wilkinson Moore, Esquire, John Perry, Esquire, and Andrew Ross, Esquire, M.D., came to the Table, and were sworn by the Clerk as Members of the Committee.

2. QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) *Proposed Resumption of Waldron's Selection*:—Mr. Perry asked the Secretary for Mines,—Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of this House all correspondence received from the Yalgogrin Progress Committee and the Yalgogrin public on the subject of the proposed resumption of Waldron's selection for mining purposes?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I have no objection if moved for in the usual way.

- (2.) *Weir Contract at Hillston*:—Mr. Sleath, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has his attention been called to the following paragraph appearing in a recent issue of a Sydney weekly paper:—"Editor *Bulletin*,—Sir,—We wish to direct your attention to the deplorable state of things at the weir contract, Hillston, where fifty men have been left by the contractor without wages for the last five weeks. A great portion of us have wives and families dependent on us. We are starving, as we have no money to buy food. The boarding-houses are unable to keep open any longer, as we cannot pay them. We are here in the middle of a plain, and, being destitute, cannot get away to where there is a chance of employment. Government has helped us here on to the contract; now we cannot get paid. Our wives have to part with our furniture bit by bit to procure the necessaries of life. We are indebted to the kindness of others for existence, and we hope that the Government will take steps to see us paid at once or provide transit for us to where we can get a living without depending on charity.—Yours truly, John Ryall, H. Hartridge, D. Shine, P. Stephenson, F. T. Denver (on behalf of men). The Weir, Hillston, 14th April, 1897"?

- (2.) Will he have the matter investigated without delay?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) I had not seen the paragraph before.

(2.) The contract has been cancelled and the work will now be completed by day labour under the supervision of the officers of the Department, and instructions have been given to take on as many of the contractor's men as are suitable and can be profitably employed.

- (3.) *Maintenance Men*:—Mr. Perry asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it a fact that a number of maintenance men in the country have been paid off, and have been informed that they would be reinstated when funds are available?

Mr. Young answered,—I am not aware if any such action has been taken. Some few men may have been dispensed with, because their services were not at present required, but, if suitable, they will be re-employed when the necessity arises for taking on additional hands.

(4.)

6th May, 1897.

- (4.) Long-service Medals to the Volunteer Force:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for *Mr. Wright*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has any satisfactory reply been yet received to the repeated letters of the Agent-General, on the subject of the issue of the long-service medals, promised to the Volunteer Force some years back?
 - (2.) If it appears that there is no intention on the part of the British Government to issue these medals to those whose claims the Colonial Military Authorities have recognised, will he cause a Colonial long-service medal to be issued locally?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—The Regulations proposed to govern the issue of these medals were sent to England in January, 1895, and returned in November, 1896, for certain amendments. The amendments were made, and the Regulations as amended again sent to the Secretary of State by His Excellency the Governor, on 15th December, 1896, for approval. The approval has not yet been received, but is expected shortly.
- (5.) Bursaries gained by Pupils at the Public Schools:—*Mr. Molesworth* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that bursaries gained by pupils of the Public Schools, entitling them to proceed to the University, are only available there for what is known as the "Arts" course; and that if the holders of such bursaries desire to take up a course of science they are compelled to pay full fees at the University?
 - (2.) If this is so, will he endeavour to make such arrangements between his Department and the University as will enable bursars to take up whichever course of study they may prefer?
- Mr. Garrard* answered,—
- (1.) Yes. The usual Bursary allowance is made by this Department, however, for three years to all schools within the University.
 - (2.) Application was made to the Senate, who were unable to agree to such a proposal; further representation will be made.
- (6.) Refund of Salary to Stock Inspectors:—*Mr. Fegan*, for *Mr. Chanter*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) In view of the opinion given by the Attorney-General that the Public Service Board had no jurisdiction in reference to Inspectors of Stock, does he intend refunding the amount of salary to Stock Inspectors of which they have been deprived?
 - (2.) Will the salaries for next year be based on amounts fixed previous to the reductions made by the Public Service Board?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—This matter is now under consideration.
- (7.) Crown Lands situated between the Murrumbidgee and Lachlan Rivers:—*Mr. Gormly* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that a large area of Crown lands, situated between the Murrumbidgee and Lachlan Rivers, more particularly near Yalgogrin, Rankin's Springs, Cudgellico, Hillston, and Gunbar, has become covered with scrub and overrun with wild dogs and rabbits, and is, therefore, now unfit for profitable pastoral occupation, but is known to be suitable for agricultural and grazing settlement combined?
 - (2.) Will he confer with the Secretary for Public Works and the Minister for Lands, with a view of deciding if it is desirable to extend a railway line through the districts indicated, so that the lands may be brought under profitable occupation?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—
- (1.) I am not aware.
 - (2.) I commend this matter to the attention of my honorable colleagues, the Ministers named.
- (8.) Noxious Pest Bill:—*Mr. Carroll* asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it his intention to reintroduce the Noxious Pest Bill dealing with orchards?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—Yes, at the first convenient opportunity.
- (9.) Factories and Workshops Act:—*Mr. Sleath*, for *Mr. Smailes*, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it his intention to introduce during the present Session a Bill to amend the present Factories and Workshops Act?
 - (2.) If so, will he make provision for the early closing of shops, and the granting of a half-holiday to shop employees?
- Mr. Garrard* answered,—
- (1.) No.
 - (2.) A Bill is being prepared dealing with this Question.
- (10.) Equity Suit—*Hill, Clark, & Co. v. Perrott*:—*Mr. Sleath* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Has his attention been called to an Equity suit—*Hill, Clark, & Co. v. Perrott*?
 - (2.) Is he aware that over 200,000 acres of Crown lands, alleged to be dummied, are in dispute?
 - (3.) When the matter comes before the Court, will he take action to safeguard the public interest?
- Mr. Carruthers* answered,—
- (1.) Yes; by a subpoena.
 - (2.) I have no knowledge of the matter in dispute.
 - (3.) The law will not permit of my interference in litigation between private parties, but the case will be watched if the public interest is found to be involved.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th May, 1897.

(11.) Money Voted for Reproductive Works:—*Mr. Nicholson*, for *Mr. McGowen*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) The total amount of money voted during last Session for works of a reproductive nature?
- (2.) The amount that has been expended up to date?
- (3.) Is the balance being utilised for the purposes voted?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) The total amount voted for permanent and reproductive works out of Loan Funds was £1,997,453.
- (2.) £303,636 12s. 9d.
- (3.) The balance will be utilised if required for the purposes voted.

(12.) Liabilities incurred for Works undertaken during 1895-6:—*Mr. Wood* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—What was the total amount of liabilities incurred for works undertaken in the year 1895-6, but charged to the financial year 1896-7?

Mr. Young answered,—This information will be prepared in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.

(13.) Road Vote for 1895-6:—*Mr. Wood* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What amount of the Road Vote for the year 1895-6 lapsed at the close of that financial year?

Mr. Brunker answered,—£62,792 19s. 4d.

(14.) Greendale Reserve, Wolumla:—*Mr. Wood* asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it the intention of the Mines Department to withdraw certain lands known as the Greendale Reserve, Wolumla, now vested in trustees as a temporary common, from the provisions of the Commons Amendment Act of 1895?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The commoners strongly object to any interference with this part of the common, but as it is mainly access to the water which is required by teamsters, inquiry will be made as to whether this can be arranged by the removal of a portion of the fence now enclosing the land.

3. LICENSING LAWS:—*Mr. Russell Jones* presented a Petition from certain residents of the District of Petersham, stating that intemperance is a great and growing evil; that increased facilities for obtaining alcoholic beverages tend to increase drunkenness; that the true observance of the Sabbath, which forbids unnecessary trading on that day, is essential to national prosperity and greatness; and praying the House—(1) not to extend the hours of closing; (2) that no traffic, other than that already provided for, be allowed on Sundays; (3) that the present duty on spirits be not reduced; (4) that the restrictions now in force in respect to refreshment to travellers be retained.

Petition received.

4. PAPERS:—

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of the Royal Commission, appointed on 28th July, 1896, to inquire into the cause of the dangers to which vessels carrying coal are said to be peculiarly liable, and as to the best means that can be adopted for removing or lessening the same; together with Appendix and Minutes of Evidence.

(2.) Twelfth 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.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Hay.

(4.) By-laws of the Borough of Willoughby.

(5.) By-law of the Sydney Hospital.

(6.) Regulation under the Oyster Fisheries Act of 1884.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order made on 30th September, 1896,—“Country “ Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Act.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

6. CASE OF RACHEL DAWSON, TRIED AT DUBBO FOR SHOOTING AT FREDERICK ATCHESON (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. Haynes* moved, pursuant to Notice, That an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and evidence in the case of one Rachel Dawson, tried and sentenced at Dubbo for shooting at one Frederick Atcheson.

Question put and passed.

7. JUVENILE SMOKING SUPPRESSION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—*Dr. Ross* moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 6th July.

8. ADJOURNMENT:—*Mr. Speaker* stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Mudgee, *Mr. Robert Jones*, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.:—“The report “ issued by the Public Service Board, as the result of an inquiry asked for by him into certain “ Contracts at the Mudgee Gaol and Court-house.”

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

6th May, 1897.

9. CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS BILL:—Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to vest the Church and School Lands in Her Majesty free from all trusts and provisions affecting the same; to validate certain dealings with those lands, and to provide for the appropriation of moneys at credit of the Public Instruction Endowment Account; to make better provision for dealing with the said lands and with the money derived therefrom; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.
Question put and passed.
10. PUBLIC TRUSTS BILL:—Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate trusts of land for public purposes; to amend the law with respect to the reservation and dedication of Crown lands, and the resumption and exchange of land so reserved or dedicated; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.
Question put and passed.
11. RABBIT BILL:—Mr. Carruthers 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 deal with the Rabbit pest, and for purposes incidental thereto.
Question put and passed.
12. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (NEWCASTLE TECHNICAL COLLEGE) BILL:—
(1.) Mr. Garrard moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to vest certain lands at Newcastle in the Minister of Public Instruction on behalf of Her Majesty.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Garrard then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to vest certain lands at Newcastle in the Minister of Public Instruction on behalf of Her Majesty*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
13. COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS:—Hugh Macdonald, Esquire, and James Alexander Kenneth Mackay, Esquire, came to the Table, and were sworn by the Clerk as Members of the Committee of Elections and Qualifications.
14. CONGRATULATORY ADDRESS TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN ON THE COMPLETION OF THE SIXTIETH YEAR OF HER REIGN:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House agrees to the annexed Address to the Queen, conveying the congratulations of Parliament to Her Majesty on the auspicious event of the completion of the sixtieth year of her reign, and authorises Mr. Speaker to sign such Address, on behalf of the Legislative Assembly, in conjunction with the President of the Legislative Council, on behalf of the Legislative Council:—

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please your Majesty,—

We, the Members of the Legislative Council, and of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled, desire to approach your Majesty, and to offer our loyal and heartfelt congratulations on the completion of the sixtieth year of your Majesty's beneficent reign. We humbly trust that your life may long be preserved; and we dutifully assure your Most Gracious Majesty that in no portion of your vast dominions are the sentiments of loyalty and love for your Throne and Person more warmly cherished than by the inhabitants of New South Wales.

On behalf and in the name of the Legislative Assembly,—

Speaker.

And the Motion having been supported by Mr. Lync,—
Question put and carried unanimously.

15. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 7 MAY, 1897, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again. The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Suspension of Standing Orders:—Mr. Reid moved, without Notice, That it is a case of urgent and pressing necessity that a Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1897-8, a Service of the current year, and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan, should be passed through all its stages on this day, and that such Standing Orders be suspended as would 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 are come to by the said Committees respectively.
Question put.

The

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th May, 1897.

The House divided.

Ayes, 53.			Noes, 18.
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Smailes,	Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. McGowen,	Dr. Ross,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Price,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Millen,	Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,	Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Ball,	Mr. Bull,	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Schey,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Russell Jones,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Bavister,		Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Jessop,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Harris,		Mr. Miller.
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Millard,		<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,		Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Morton,	Mr. Rigg,		Mr. Hoys.
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Lee,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Reid moved, without Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of a Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1897-8, a Service 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 are come to by the said Committees respectively.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report from the Committee of Supply be now received.

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

(1.) *Resolved*,—That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding £2,079,600, being £1,516,500, 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, 1898, to be expended at the rates which have been sanctioned for the financial year ending 30th June, 1897, subject to the rate of any reduction that may hereafter be made in the expenditure of the year 1897-98; £1,000 for expenses of the visit to London of the Prime Minister in connection with the Record Reign celebrations; £300,000 for the construction and maintenance of Roads and Bridges generally, pending the passing of the Appropriation Act for 1897-8; £50,000 for Treasurer's Advance Account. And in anticipation of Loan Votes—For Wollongong Harbour Trust, £12,100, for cost of Works taken over by the Government—further sum; For Railways—£100,000 for Additions to Railway Lines, Stations, and Buildings, for Rolling Stock, and for other purposes, including Safety Appliances; £90,000 towards the improvement of Grades and Curves; and for tramways £10,000 for Additions to Workshops and Buildings; and for other purposes.

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

16. **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 Committee 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 1896-7 and 1897-8 the sum of £2,079,600 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

Whereupon Mr. Reid moved, That the resolution be now read a second time.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 54.			Noes, 17.
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Nicholson,	Dr. Ross,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Millen,	Mr. Schey,
Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Ball,	Mr. Morton,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Bull,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Lee,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Travers Jones,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Harris,		Mr. Carroll.
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Wheeler,	<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Anderson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Russell Jones,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Bavister,		Mr. Waddell.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Resolution read a second time and agreed to.

6th May, 1897.

17. 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 1897-8; a Service 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 1897-8; a Service 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 1897-8; a Service 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 1897-8; a Service 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, 7 May, 1897, a.m.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,

Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 7.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 11 MAY, 1897.

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

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

- (1.) Australasian Federation (Representatives' Allowance) Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 21.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to authorise the payment of allowances to the Representatives of New South Wales at the Federal Convention.

Government House,
Sydney, 5th May, 1897.

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

- (2.) Stamp Duties (Amendment) Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 22.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th Section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend the Stamp Duties Acts, 1880-1894.

Government House,
Sydney, 11th May, 1897.

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

2. QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Mining Board Regulations administered by Mr. Warden Clarke:—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it a fact that he has instructed Mr. Warden Clarke, of Wyalong, to administer the Mining Board Regulations in accordance with instructions from the Department of Mines?

(2.) Is he aware of the fact that thirteen appeal cases came before Acting Judge Harris, at Wyalong, against the decisions of Mr. Warden Clarke, and that twelve of the thirteen were upheld; that, notwithstanding this fact, Mr. Warden Clarke ignores the decisions of Acting Judge Harris, and acts upon the instructions of the Department?

(3.) If such instructions were given to Warden Clarke by the Department, were such instructions given before or after the comments of the Judges of the Supreme Court *re* the Department issuing instructions to Mr. Warden Lane, late Warden at Bathurst?

(4.) Is he aware that, in consequence of the conflicting decisions given, the miners are placed in a dilemma?

(5.) Will he obtain the opinion of the Crown Law Officers for the guidance of the miners?

Mr.

11th May, 1897.

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) No; but, as it was found that most of the Wardens adopted a different course in dealing with certain of the Mining Board Regulations in regard to abandoned tenements, a circular was sent to Wardens suggesting that a uniform practice be adopted in regard to those particular regulations, and which, the Attorney-General advises, is in accordance with the Act.

(2.) No.

(3.) The circular referred to was sent on the 25th March, 1897. No such instructions were given to Mr. Warden Lane at Bathurst.

(4 and 5.) As these regulations are binding both on the Wardens and the miners, until declared invalid by a competent Court, it is not necessary to obtain a further opinion from the Crown Law Officers.

(2.) The United Service Institution:—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. Wright, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Referring to Mr. Wright's previous Questions on the subject, and to the Colonial Secretary's reply of the 3rd of November, 1896,—“That the United Service Institution are using their best efforts to effect something of this kind by setting apart one of their rooms as a reading-room for non-commissioned officers and petty officers, with access to the Military Library belonging to the Institution”; as also to the following paragraph of the Annual Report of the 21st of January, 1897:—“With the view of further increasing the usefulness of the Institution, the Council has suggested the setting apart of one of the rooms of the Institution for the use of warrant and non-commissioned officers of the Naval and Military Forces, with access to the books and magazines of the Institution Library, free of charge; and this suggestion has been placed in the hands of a sub-committee to carry out”;—will he be so good as to state the cause of delay in carrying out this beneficial suggestion?

(2.) Will he kindly expedite the action?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

1 and 2. I am informed by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces that the room is now ready, and that the Commanding Officers were informed to that effect on the 6th instant. The delay was caused by alterations to the building, which were necessary.

(3.) Coal Mines Regulation Act:—*Mr. Watkins* asked the Secretary for Mines,—In view of the conflicting opinions given as to the interpretation of clause 38 of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, will he initiate proceedings in one case so as to have the opinion of the Judges upon the matter?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—In view of the advice given by the Attorney-General as to the interpretation of the clause referred to, the Department cannot initiate proceedings in the way suggested. The importance of the question raised, however, is such that I have no objection to give my consent, in terms of section 65 of the Act, for the matter to be tested by any person who may wish to take action, and who has suffered any loss through the alleged illegality.

(4.) Leases of Wharfs at Circular Quay:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) When do the various leases of wharfs at Circular Quay, occupied or used by ferry companies, expire?

(2.) In view of the largely-increasing traffic by these companies, and the monopoly of same by the exclusive use of these wharfs, is it proposed to take any steps to increase the present rentals on a further extension of leases?

(3.) Is it a fact that, in addition to the right of advertising, the leases of the various companies carry also the right to erect book-stalls, refreshment rooms, &c., from which a considerable revenue is derived, to the detriment of the rentals paid to the Government?

(4.) Is it a fact that, on some of the wharfs through turnstiles, the provisions for access and egress are inadequate, and will he request the Marine Board to take steps to remedy same?

(5.) What steps (if any) does the Board take to prevent the overcrowding of steamers?

(6.) Is it a fact, as reported, that considerable overcrowding does take place on these steamers on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays; and, if so, has any case been reported to the Board?

(7.) Is it a fact that during the late holidays uncertificated masters and engineers were permitted to take charge of steamers, and was this fact reported to the officers of the Marine Board; and, if so, what steps were taken?

(8.) Is it a fact that at times, owing to the swinging round of large steamers entering and leaving the Circular Quay, this part of the traffic is blocked and delayed; if so, cannot some steps be taken to prevent same?

(9.) What number of officers (if any) are employed by the Marine Board in the control of the harbour passenger traffic?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) The leases of wharfs used for ferry purposes at the Circular Quay will expire as follows:—No. 1 Jetty, 31st October, 1897; No. 2 Jetty, 30th September, 1898; No. 4 Jetty, 13th July, 1898.

(2.) In dealing with this matter the interests of the public will be conserved.

(3.) The North Shore Ferry Company applied for permission to erect a book-stall on their jetty for the convenience of the public, which was granted.

(4.) I am not aware. The matter will be referred to the Marine Board.

(5.) Each steamer is limited by her certificate to a certain number of passengers, and the owner incurs a heavy liability if he carries any in excess.

(6.) The rumours as to overcrowding are exaggerated. Passengers often overcrowd certain parts of the steamer, and leave other portions empty. Overcrowding probably takes place occasionally. Steps are, however, taken by the Marine Board, by prosecutions and otherwise, to prevent the evil.

(7.) The Inspectors of the Marine Board, on Easter Monday, found uncertificated persons in the steamers “Quail” and “Agenoria”; these vessels were not allowed to ply until certificated officers had replaced those not possessing certificates.

(8.)

11th May, 1897.

(8.) Yes; when large steamers are being berthed the traffic is occasionally blocked. There is great difficulty in interfering in the matter, however, as these vessels have equal rights with the ferry steamers. The obstruction is minimised as much as possible by the harbour authorities.

(9.) Two special officers and other employees of the Marine Board. The Water Police are also constantly in attendance to see that no breaches of the Navigation Acts are committed.

(5.) Deviations on the Southern Railway Line:—*Mr. Affleck*, for *Mr. Ball*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What is the total estimated cost of the deviations and alterations to grades on the Southern Railway Line, between Marulan and Hill Top stations, including those completed and in contemplation as well as those now being carried out?

(2.) Does the deviation between Exeter and Merrilla increase the distance; if so, how much?

(3.) How many curves are there in this distance, and what is the radius of the sharpest curve?

(4.) What are the anticipated advantages of this particular deviation?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed that—

(1.) Between the stations named the following grade and curve improvements have been carried out at the costs stated:—Near Moss Vale (by contract), £11,937 13s. 5d.; near Wingello (by contract), £11,234 7s. 7d.; near Moss Vale (departmental) £3,100 17s. 11d.

In addition to the above the following are in hand or contemplated:—

	Estimated cost.
Hill Top to Colo Vale	£17,223
Mileage, 72.52 chains to 73.32 chains	9,600
Braemar to Mittagong	6,500
Mittagong to Bowral (substituting a maximum grade of 1 in 66 for 1 in 55 grades)	6,500
Meryla to Exeter (substituting a maximum grade of 1 in 66 for 1 in 44 grades)	14,000
Marulan (substituting a maximum grade of 1 in 66 for 1 in 55 grades	2,400

(2.) Yes. The length of line is increased 41 chains 23 links.

(3.) There are four curves, 16 chains being the minimum radius.

(4.) This deviation is one of a series being carried out between Hill Top and Goulburn for the purpose of enabling all trains (goods and passenger) to be increased in their loading by over 50 per cent. without incurring the necessity for employing assistant engines. This improved loading not only facilitates the working of the traffic, but also considerably reduces the number of trains to be passed over the single line, and so enabling the duplication of the lines to be postponed considerably longer than would otherwise be the case. It also enables a considerable amount of expensive assistant engine work to be avoided.

(6.) Release of Good-conduct Prisoners:—*Mr. Anderson* asked the Minister of Justice,—Will he recommend to His Excellency the Governor that exemplary conducted prisoners in the Colony be liberated, so as to commemorate Her Most Gracious Majesty's clemency on her record reign?

Mr. Gould answered,—It is not my intention to recommend the liberation of any prisoner for the reasons indicated by the Honorable Member's Question. I am always prepared to give the fullest consideration to all cases in which it is shown that reasons exist to justify a remission of sentence, or the issue of a license. Apart from such considerations, I see no reason to justify the liberation of prisoners, convicted of criminal offences, whose terms of imprisonment have been awarded under and in accordance with the law and the circumstances and character of their several crimes.

(7.) Coast Hospital, Little Bay:—*Mr. McGowen*, for *Mr. Dacey*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In reference to the Answer No. 3 to *Mr. Dacey's* Question of 4th May, what is the nature of the allowances to the nurses which go to make up the various sums total of the rates of pay stated; what is the actual net-cash payment made to each class of nurse?

(2.) In reference to Answer No. 7, have they never been required to scrub floors?

(3.) In reference to Answer No. 8, that "leave is granted under regulation," will he please state what the regulation is, and what holidays the nurses actually get?

(4.) Is the employment of nurses governed by the Factories and Shops Act, which requires that no female shall be employed in a factory for more than forty-eight hours in any one week; if so, are not the hours and days (sixty-eight and a-quarter and seven per week respectively) of labour excessive, and the holidays granted deficient of what is required by this Act?

(5.) If this class of employment is not regulated by this Act, will the Government, as an employer of female labour, with a view to setting a good example to other employers, and in consideration of the onerous and laborious duties of nurses, direct that the hours and days of work, and the holidays granted, shall in future be regulated in the spirit and by the principles of this Act?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) The allowances to each nurse include quarters, rations, fuel, light, and uniform. The actual net cash received by each nurse is—1 head nurse, £55 per annum; 5 senior nurses, each £50 per annum; 8 nurses, each £35 per annum; 16 probationers of more than one month's service, each £25 per annum.

(2.) It is reported they have not.

(3.) By Regulation No. 18 of the Public Service Board, in common with every employee of the Government, they are entitled to a fortnight's leave in each year. In addition, one day a month is allowed in consideration of their duty extending over Saturday afternoons, Sundays, and public holidays.

(4.) No.

(5.) This is a matter which will receive immediate attention by the Government, with a view to the amelioration of the present condition.

11th May, 1897.

- (8.) Mr. A. P. Cannaway:—*Mr. Afleck*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) What position in the Public Service does Mr. A. P. Cannaway hold, and what is his salary?
 - (2.) Has Mr. Cannaway made a claim for special fees, apart from his salary, for services rendered in connection with the Mercadool land cases?
 - (3.) Is Mr. Cannaway entitled to such special fees or charges, and has he been paid, or is it intended to pay same?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—
- (1.) Mr. Cannaway does not hold any position in the Public Service, and is not in receipt of a salary. Mr. Cannaway, under Royal Commission, has for some years appeared for the Crown in the Land Appeal Court, and acted as standing counsel for the Department.
 - (2.) Yes, for services not included in the Commission.
 - (3.) Mr. Cannaway is entitled to make such a charge, and has been paid a sum representing his charges as moderated by the Crown Law Officers.
- (9.) Gates on Road from Canowindra to Toogong and Cudal:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the erection of several gates on the main road from Canowindra to Toogong and Cudal (and not far from Lockwood) are a great source of danger and inconvenience to the travelling public?
 - (2.) Will he see that immediate steps are taken to have these gates removed in the interest of the travelling public, and for the protection of the life and property of travellers?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—This Question comes under the province of my honorable colleague the Minister for Lands.
- (10.) Cummoock Water Supply:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—Have any steps yet been taken to obtain a report on the necessity of a sufficient water supply for the town of Cummoock; if so, what is likely to be done in the matter, and when is the work likely to be proceeded with?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—Yes, the papers have been referred to the local officer, with a view to ascertain whether there are any grounds for reversing the determination already arrived at. When the report is received I shall at once deal with the matter, and apprise the Honorable Member of the decision.
- (11.) Appointment of Mayors of Municipalities as Js.P.:—*Mr. Rigg* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has the Government, in view of Her Majesty's Record Reign, considered the advisability of appointing the Mayors of Municipalities who are not already Justices of the Peace to that position?
 - (2.) If not, is it intended to do so?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—The Honorable Member will understand that appointments to offices of distinction must be considered by the Government, and they have not yet had an opportunity to consider the subject to which his Question refers.
- (12.) Royal Commission on Charges made by Mr. Varney Parkes, M.L.A.:—*Mr. Chanter* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) In view of the Report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into certain matters affecting the honesty of the Under Secretary for Public Works in connection with public contracts, completely exonerating that officer, will he now recoup that gentleman the amount of money he has paid in defending himself against such charges?
 - (2.) What has been the total cost to the State of this Royal Commission?
 - (3.) What amount has been paid to Mr. Varney Parkes, M.L.A., to enable him to prosecute these charges?
 - (4.) Under the circumstances, has Mr. Varney Parkes intimated to him his intention of repaying the amount he has received from the State?
 - (5.) Has Mr. Varney Parkes, in compliance with his statement in Parliament that if he did not substantiate his charges before a Royal Commission he would resign his seat, given any intimation of tendering his resignation to Mr. Speaker?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—
- (1.) This matter is under consideration.
 - (2.) Amount actually paid, £1,113 1s. 5d., in addition to which vouchers to the extent of about £600 are at present outstanding.
 - (3.) No amount has been paid to Mr. Parkes in connection with this matter.
 - (4.) Answered by No. 3.
 - (5.) The Question cannot be answered by the Government.
3. COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS:—*Edward Davis Millen*, Esquire, and *Dugald Thomson*, Esquire, came to the Table, and were sworn by the Clerk as Members of the Committee of Elections and Qualifications.
4. ORANGE SHOW GROUND BILL:—
- (1.) *Mr. Newman* presented a Petition from *Andrew Taylor Kerr*, one of the Trustees of the Orange Pastoral and Agricultural Association, representing that the Orange Show Ground Bill, which was introduced into this House during the last Session of Parliament, and passed through several stages, was interrupted by the close of the Session, and praying that leave may be given to proceed with the said Bill during the present Session.
And the 409th Standing Order of this House permitting of the prayer of the Petitioner being entertained,—
Petition received.
 - (2.) Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 8th June.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th May, 1897.

5. PAPERS :—

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Molong, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875, and the Nuisances Prevention Act Amendment Act of 1892.

(2.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during the month of April, 1897.

(3.) Return to an Order, made on 22nd July, 1896,—“Alleged evasion of the Beer Duty Act by Messrs. Tooth & Co (Limited).”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Additional Regulation under the Water Rights Act, 1896.

(2.) Departmental Reports relative to the additions and improvements to the Government Printing Office, recently carried out by “Day Labour.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Parkes moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 40.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. A. B. Piddington,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Collins,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. H. H. Brown,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. McCourt.
Mr. Wilks,	
Mr. Cann,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Hawthorne.

Noes, 21.

Mr. McFarlane,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Dr. Ross,	
Mr. See,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Morton.
Mr. Lyne,	
Mr. Crick,	
Mr. Miller,	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Rose,	
Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Pycers,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Henry Clarke,	
Mr. Cruickshank,	
Mr. Schey,	
Mr. Ashton,	
Mr. Rigg,	
Mr. Afleck,	
Mr. Carroll.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday, 25th May.

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

(1.) Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading :—until Tuesday, 25th May.

(2.) Public Works Act Further Amendment Bill; second reading :—until after Order of the Day No. 4.

(3.) North Shore Bridge Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading :—until Tuesday, 25th May.

8. PUBLIC WORKS ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—

Mr. Cann moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 23.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. McCourt.
Mr. Hawthorne,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Rigg.
Mr. Millard,	

Noes, 24.

Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Rose,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Edden,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Gormly,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Cann.
Mr. A. B. Piddington,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Knox,	
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Ashton.

And so it passed in the negative.

Question,—

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th May, 1897.

- Question,—That this Bill be now read a second time,—put and passed.
 • Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. Cann, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 12 MAY, 1897, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
 Ordered that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for To-morrow.

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

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-six 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. 8.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 12 MAY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Gates on Main Road from Canowindra to Toogong and Cudal:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that the crection of several gates on the main road from Canowindra to Toogong and Cudal (and not far from Lockwood) are a great source of danger and inconvenience to the travelling public?

(2.) Will he see that immediate steps are taken to have these gates removed in the interest of the travelling public, and for the protection of the life and property of travellers?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—I am not aware, but I find that a complaint was made some time ago, and the complainant has been asked to furnish particulars. His reply when received will be forwarded to the District Surveyor for report, on receipt of which I shall be in a position to determine upon the proper action to be taken.

- (2.) Application for Rev. J. M. Curran to Lecture at Wattle Flat and Sofala:—Mr. Hurley asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) When will Mr. Hurley's application, made over twelve months ago, be complied with, that the Rev. J. M. Curran be instructed to visit Wattle Flat and Sofala, and lecture on geology?

(2.) Are there many more applications of an earlier date than Mr. Hurley's before Mr. Hurley's application can be complied with?

Mr. Cook answered,—The Rev. J. M. Curran is not now available for this service, as he has been transferred to another position.

- (3.) Compensation to Owners of Cattle destroyed under Dairies Supervision Act:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that Inspectors under the Dairies Supervision Act may order the destruction of cattle which they suspect are suffering from tuberculosis, lumpy jaw, &c.?

(2.) Is he aware that in some cases cattle so suspected have been destroyed, and afterwards found not to be suffering from these diseases?

(3.) Should it be proved that cattle destroyed under orders from the Inspectors are not diseased, will he take steps to compensate the owners of cattle so destroyed?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) Out of a very large number of condemnations two such cases only have occurred. In both the owners were compensated.

(3.) See above.

- (4.) Workman's Train to the Dudley Mine:—Mr. Edden asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Have the Railway Commissioners decided to run a workman's train to the Dudley Mine, Newcastle District?

(2.) If so, what is the cause of delay?

(3.) When will the train commence to run?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) I am informed the Railway Commissioners have expressed their willingness to extend certain train facilities to the Dudley miners.

(2 and 3.) The colliery line is said to require certain attention before passengers could be run over it, and the company has been communicated with, asking them if they will have the necessary attention given. When this is done, the train service can be arranged.

(5.)

12th May, 1897.

- (5.) Instalments on Conditional Purchases :—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) How many applications for extensions of time to pay the annual instalments on selections have been received since 1st January, 1896?
 - (2.) How many applicants have been fined 10 per cent., and how many 4 per cent., since that time?
 - (3.) How many mortgages and transfers of conditionally-purchased land have been registered since the 1st January, 1896?
 - (4.) How many non-applicants for extension of time have been fined since 1st January, 1896?
 - (5.) The total number so fined in each Division of the Colony during the period named?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—The Honorable Member should move for a return in the ordinary manner.

- (6.) Electric Telegraph Code :—Mr. Ohanter, for Mr. See, asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is it true that the Electric Telegraph code or alphabet, numerals, &c., is to be changed from the 1st July?
 - (2.) Will he state who suggested the alteration?
 - (3.) What practical experience as an operator has the gentleman who suggested the change?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that at present New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania use what is known as the Australian code, and that West Australia is the only Colony out of line on the mainland?
 - (5.) Does he know of any precedent where a country has changed its established code.
 - (6.) Is it a fact that the Technical Head of the Telegraph Department in this Colony has reported strongly adverse to the proposed change?
 - (7.) Is it a fact that he states that the introduction of another code to replace the one in existence for nearly forty years in this and adjoining Colonies is fraught with grave danger to the efficiency of the service and to the correct transmission and receipt of telegraphic communications?
 - (8.) Is it also a fact that the practical telegraphists of Victoria, South Australia, and this Colony have furnished reasons against the change, and have asked for a reconsideration of the matter?
 - (9.) Was the change confirmed without consulting the Technical Heads (as regards the objections raised against the proposal) at a meeting of the Postmasters-General, in Melbourne, convened only for the purpose of electing a delegate to the Washington Congress?
 - (10.) Has he at any time received any report or complaint from any of his skilled officers against the present code?
 - (11.) Is he aware that the Australian code is more modern than the so-called Universal code?
 - (12.) Will he agree to postponing the proposed change until the objections have been reviewed by a conference of technical men from the various Colonies?
 - (13.) If not, would there be any objection to laying copies of all reports, papers, and minutes which he has received in favour of or in opposition to the adoption of the new code upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) The Permanent Heads of the New South Wales, South Australia, and Queensland Postal and Telegraphic Departments, in a Report submitted at the Intercolonial Postal and Telegraphic Conference, held in November last. This recommendation was made after consultation with the telegraphic experts.
- (3.) I am unaware.
- (4.) Yes. New Zealand also uses the Universal Code.
- (5.) No.
- (6, 7, 8.) Representations have been made by the technical heads and operating staffs of the Colonies referred to adverse to the introduction of a change involving the learning of the new code, which is a matter of small difficulty.
- (9.) Yes, the reason being that some of the experts had afterwards decided contrary to their previous attitude, and without reference to the Ministers, to ignore their former recommendation.
- (10.) See reply to Nos. 6, 7, 8.
- (11.) This involves a comparison of codes, and cannot be answered in a limited form.
- (12.) I see no reason to do so.
- (13.) These must be moved for in the usual way.

- (7.) Amount Collected under the Diseases in Sheep Acts :—Mr. Perry, for Mr. FitzGerald, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) What is the gross amount collected annually under the Diseases in Sheep Act or Acts, specifying the amount so collected in each Stock or Sheep District in the Colony?
- (2.) How and for what purpose is the money so collected expended, specifying the expenditure for each Stock or Sheep District in New South Wales?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This information will be prepared as soon as possible, and laid upon the Table of this House in the form of a return.

- (8.) Train Accidents at Redfern Railway Yard :—Mr. Watkins, for Mr. McGowen, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to Mr. McGowen's Questions of 4th May *re* Redfern Railway Station,—

- (1.) Is it not a fact that the empty train in question invariably starts from Botany siding, as it did the day it ran on the wrong line?
- (2.) Is it not a fact that, besides the shunting signals from the siding, the proper main line signals from down fast to down slow line were also exhibited for the empty passenger train, although, as proved, the points were open for the up slow line?
- (3.) Should not a proper system of interlocking provide that signals cannot be lowered for a line unless the points are first properly set for the line the signal applies to?

(4.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th May, 1897.

- (4.) Is it a fact that an Inspector of the Department endeavoured to induce the servants concerned in the case of running on the wrong line not to report the occurrence?
- (5.) In view of the answer that thorough and careful investigation has been made in these cases, will he lay all the Departmental papers and report in these cases upon the Table of this House?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—As some inquiries are necessary before this Question can be answered, I shall be glad if it can be postponed until next week.
- (9.) Registry Offices :—*Mr. Black* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he take steps to bring forward the legislation promised last Session with regard to registry offices?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—I can assure the Honorable Member that this matter is not being overlooked. It is now receiving attention with a view to legislation on the subject during the present Session.
- (10.) Small-pox on the P. & O. Steamers :—*Mr. Black* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is he aware that small-pox is of periodical occurrence among the Lascars on the P. & O. steamers?
- (2.) Is it not a fact that these zymotic diseases are largely the result of insanitary conditions?
- (3.) Is it not a fact that the shipping laws demand 72 cubic feet for each member of a crew, while the Lascars are only allotted 36?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Treasury Department,—
- (1.) No.
- (2.) It is not a fact that small-pox is largely the result of insanitary conditions.
- (3.) Yes; the Lascars in the P. & O. ships in port at the present time have more than the regulation space.
- (11.) Amount paid for Advertising by the Government :—*Mr. Chanter* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) What amount of State funds was paid to the proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph* newspaper for advertisements during the year 1896?
- (2.) The amount paid to the proprietors of the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Sydney Mail*?
- (3.) The amount paid to the proprietors of the *Evening News* and *Town and Country Journal*?
- (4.) The amount paid to the proprietors of the *Australian Star*?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—There is no objection to furnish the information asked for by the Honorable Member if he will move for it in the form of a return.
- (12.) Samuel Lemon's Conditional Purchase :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that as far back as the year 1885, or thereabouts, one Samuel Lemon was deprived of 5½ acres of the best part of his conditional purchase, through which the railway from Orange to Molong passed, and on which the selector had expended a large amount on grubbing, clearing, fencing, and other improvements?
- (2.) If so, will he state whether adequate compensation will be paid to Mr. Lemon; and, if so, why the matter has so long been delayed?
- (3.) Will the Government see that steps are taken to have the matter reconsidered and finally dealt with, with the view to adequate compensation being paid to Mr. Lemon for the loss of the land and his improvements?
- (4.) What was the assessed amount of compensation offered to Mr. Lemon for the loss of the 5½ acres of improved, cleared, and fenced agricultural land?
- Mr. Young* answered,—
- (1.) Five acres and 22 perches of land were resumed from Samuel Lemon on the 15th May, 1884, under the "Public Railways Land Resumption Act of 1874," which fixes the amount of compensation to be paid for the land.
- (2 and 3.) Mr. Lemon is responsible for the delay, as he refuses to sign the release.
- (4.) Improvements, £4; land, £3 1s. 7d.; total, £7 1s. 7d.
- (13.) Special Lease held by George F. Millgate :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the conditions in regard to fencing the special lease, obtained by one George F. Millgate, of lots 1 and 2, containing 8½ acres, at auction sale, at the Molong Land Office, on 8th December, 1896, and situated in the town of East Molong, parish of Gamboola, county of Wellington, are not being complied with or carried out in accordance with the terms of the sale?
- (2.) Is he aware that the fence erected simply consists of a few split saplings, 6 inches in the ground, and only three wires?
- (3.) Will he see that steps are taken to have the matter inquired into, or a report made by some competent officer of the Lands Department?
- (4.) Is he aware that the Municipal Council of Molong have repeatedly protested against the land being leased, on the grounds that Millgate has fenced across three of the main streets in the township, thereby putting owners of town lots and ratepayers to great annoyance and inconvenience, besides debarring them from access to their land and homes, and cutting them off from access to the Molong Creek and water supply?
- (5.) Will he under such circumstances see that steps are taken to have Millgate's leases cancelled, in the interest of owners of town lots, ratepayers, and general public, and in compliance with the wish of the Municipal Council?
- Mr. Carruthers* answered,—
- (1.) No.
- (2.) No.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) The papers do not show that the Municipal Council of Molong have protested against the leases.
- (5.) An inquiry will be made.

12th May, 1897.

- (14.) Roads in the Wagga Wagga District:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is he aware that, through the extended area of land brought under cultivation in the Wagga Wagga district within the last few years, a large number of fresh roads have been opened for traffic, while in most cases no adequate provision has been made to improve such roads?
 - (2.) Will he have inquiry made, so that where found necessary a number of the roads in the district referred to will be classified and placed on the list of scheduled roads?
 - (3.) Will he have a sufficient sum placed on next Estimates to have unclassified roads, where found necessary, placed in a passable state?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) The Department is aware that in consequence of increased settlement additional roads are coming into use in the Wagga Wagga and other districts, and provision is made for them from time to time as occasion seems to demand.

(2 and 3.) Inquiry is being made, and each case will be dealt with on its merits.

- (15.) Band Contest during Record Reign Celebrations:—Mr. Wilks asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Have any conditions been drafted in connection with the special grant of £250 for an inter-colonial band contest during the Record Reign celebrations?
 - (2.) If so, what are they?
 - (3.) Will military bands be eligible for the contest?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I shall be glad if this Question can be postponed for a week to enable me to make inquiries.

- (16.) Case of Stewart v. Gould:—Mr. Price asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) What has been the cost to the country of the case of "Stewart v. Gould," in which the Government appealed to the Privy Council?
 - (2.) On whose advice was the appeal made?
 - (3.) Who was the Minister of Justice by whom Mr. Clarendon Stewart was dismissed?
 - (4.) Who was the Attorney-General of the day?
 - (5.) Is it the intention of the Government to appeal to the Privy Council in the case of Adams v. Young?

Mr. Gould answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by my honorable colleague the Attorney-General:—

- (1.) £717 1s. 10d.
- (2.) The Crown Solicitor, upon the joint opinion of Sir Julian Salomons and Mr. C. B. Stephen, and with the approval of the Minister of Justice and the Attorney-General.
- (3.) The Honorable R. E. O'Connor.
- (4.) The Honorable Edmund Barton.
- (5.) Yes.

- (17.) Artesian Bores on Selectors' Holdings:—Mr. Collins asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has he received any report in connection with assisting groups of selectors to have artesian bores put down on their holdings, provided they guarantee the capital and interest?
 - (2.) If the report has been received, and is favourable, what steps have been taken to give effect thereto?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Yes; but the reports are of such a nature that the Government would not be justified in complying with the request of petitioners.

- (18.) Tamworth Water Supply Works:—Mr. Collins asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is he aware that most of the men who are employed on the Tamworth Water Supply works have been brought from Armidale?
 - (2.) If this is a fact, will he give instructions to have some of the local workmen employed on the works in question?

Mr. Young answered,—I find that, with the exception of the foreman and one or two leading hands, no workmen have been brought from Armidale to Tamworth, but when the works have been properly started local labour will be employed.

- (19.) Resumption of land for Tamworth to Manilla Railway:—Mr. Collins asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Have arrangements been concluded with the property-owners in connection with the Tamworth and Manilla Railway?
 - (2.) What amount of money will be required for the resumption of land in connection with this railway?
 - (3.) Should the resumption of land cost more than the £2,000, as specified in the Bill, does he intend carrying out the work; if not, what course does he intend pursuing?

Mr. Young answered,—The Act provides that this work shall not be commenced if the compensation to be paid for the land required to be resumed is estimated to exceed the sum of £2,000, unless there has been paid to the Constructing Authority a sum equal to or greater than the amount estimated in excess of that sum. It is my intention to carry out this provision.

- (20.) Prevention of Floods on the Rivers Hunter and Clarence:—Mr. Wood, for Mr. McFarlane, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Respecting the proposal for flood prevention on the Hunter River, before carrying out such proposal will he reconsider the scheme proposed by Mr. Archibald for flood prevention on the Clarence?
 - (2.) Is he aware that Mr. Archibald's scheme, proposed several years ago, is exactly identical with that proposed to be carried out?
 - (3.) Is he aware that the proposed works can be carried out at a less cost on the Clarence than the Hunter?

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Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) The two schemes being wholly independent of one another, I see no necessity for treating them as one and considering them together.
- (2.) The principle of both is much the same.
- (3.) No ; the Clarence River scheme, to obtain a proportional benefit, would cost quite as much as that for the Hunter.

- (21.) Royal Commission on Charges made by Mr. Varney Parkes, M.L.A. :—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to Mr. Chanter's Question No. 12, asked and answered yesterday,—will he state what amount has been paid to Mr. Varney Parkes' solicitors, or other persons, on his behalf, and the amount of claims made for such services ?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The only payment made to date is an amount of £9 12s. to W. Cull for services as messenger to Mr. Parkes during the sitting of the Commission. Other claims have been received from Mr. Parkes, which are under consideration.

- (22.) Transfer of Conditional Purchases to Married Women :—Mr. Wood asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Lands Department now refuse to execute a transfer of certificated conditionally-purchased land to a purchaser (being a married woman), notwithstanding the fact that such purchase is made from moneys coming from her separate estate ?
- (2.) If so, why has this new practice been adopted ?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) The practice is not to register transfers of conditional purchases to married women except in cases where they are to hold the land in a representative capacity.
- (2.) The practice has been adopted on the advice of the Crown Solicitor.

- (23.) Withdrawn Lands on Burrawang Holding :—Mr. Thomas Brown asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact, as reported in the *Herald* and *Telegraph* of the 11th instant, that he has decided to withdraw the notification making certain "withdrawn" lands on Burrawang Holding, Forbes and Parkes Land Districts, available for homestead selection and settlement lease applications on 20th and 27th instant ?
- (2.) If so, on whose application, and what was the nature of the representations on which this action was taken ?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the lessees of the holding did not apply for an occupation license of these "withdrawn" lands within the time prescribed by the Act ?
- (4.) Is it proposed that any concessions in this direction shall be taken into account in determining the time compensation accruing to the lessees for the withdrawal of this area ?
- (5.) Does he deem that the large number of intending settlers, who, at considerable expense and inconvenience, have been waiting for the opening of these lands, are entitled to any consideration ; and, if so, how does he propose to meet their cases ?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) An application was made by letter from the lessees representing that, in consequence of the severe drought, the withdrawal at the present juncture of an area of about 60,000 acres from their leasehold would result in serious consequences to them, and most probably in the loss of the whole of their 150,000 valuable sheep now depastured on the holding. These representations were known to be practically correct.
- (3.) The application was technically "late."
- (4.) Yes ; it is proposed to equitably adjust this matter in accordance with the spirit of the law.
- (5.) Such men are entitled to consideration, and by giving ample notice I have endeavoured to avoid unnecessary expense and inconvenience to them.

I may add generally that in a time, such as the Colony is now experiencing, when the great staple industries are being threatened with unexampled disaster, I deem it to be my duty to extend every reasonable aid to both large and small holders, and to avoid any action which may increase the losses of stock. In doing so, it may result that inconvenience and delay will occur to men anxious to take up new holdings, but it would be an act of public injustice to inflict ruin on any old settlers at a critical period in their affairs merely to save a few weeks' delay to intending settlers.

2. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS :—Mr. Ewing, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Third Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plan, relating to the proposed Sewerage Works for Parramatta. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. PAPERS :—

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Further Despatch respecting the Intercolonial Copyright Convention of 9th September, 1886.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—Debates of the Australasian Federal Convention held in Adelaide, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—Return of Votes polled at Election, 4th March, 1897, under the Australasian Federation Enabling Act, 1895.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

(1.) Church and School Lands Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor

Message No. 23.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to vest the Church and School Lands in her Majesty free from all trusts and provisions affecting the same; to validate certain dealings with those lands; and to provide for the appropriation of moneys at credit of the Public Instruction Endowment Account; to make better provision for dealing with the said lands and with the money derived therefrom; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.

Government House,
Sydney, 8th May, 1897.

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

(2.) Public Trusts Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 24.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to regulate trusts of land for public purposes; to amend the law with respect to the reservation and dedication of Crown lands, and the resumption and exchange of land so reserved or dedicated; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.

Government House,
Sydney, 8th May, 1897.

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

(3.) Rabbit Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 25.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to deal with the Rabbit pest, and for purposes incidental thereto.

Government House,
Sydney, 5th May, 1897.

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

(4.) Noxious Weeds Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 26.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to deal with noxious weeds, and for purposes incidental thereto.

Government House,
Sydney, 4th May, 1897.

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

5. BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS FEES BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Barristers and Solicitors Fees Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.

Question put and passed.

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

6. LEGAL PROFESSION AMALGAMATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be considered in Committee To-morrow.

7. EIGHT HOURS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Eight Hours Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.

Question put and passed.

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

8. PUBLIC SERVICE ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Public Service Act of 1895, and to provide a special Court of Appeal; and to extend the provisions of the Public Service Act of 1895 to Crown Prosecutors and teachers of the Sydney Grammar School: and for other purposes.

Question put and passed.

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9. GRAND JURY BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to abolish the present system under which the Attorney-General of New South Wales acts as a Grand Jury, and for other purposes connected therewith.
Question put and passed.
10. ILLEGITIMACY DISABILITY REMOVAL BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
(1.) Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to legitimatise the offspring born before marriage of parents who subsequently intermarry.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Neild then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to legitimatise the issue born before marriage of parents subsequently married*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 6th July.
11. AUSTRALIAN LEGAL PROFESSIONS FEDERATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time To-morrow.
12. APPLICATION OF JOHN FINNERAN FOR LEASE OF WATER RESERVE, COUNTY OF ASHBURNHAM (*Formal Motion*):—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all correspondence, minutes of the Minister for Lands, and other documents; also decision of Land Board at Molong, on the 15th of June, 1893; also ruling of Land Appeal Court at Dubbo, on the 5th of September, 1893,—relative to the application of John Finneran for an annual lease of water reserve 11,640, proclaimed 21st May, 1890, parish of Boree Nyrang, county of Ashburnham.
Question put and passed.
13. APPLICATION OF JOHN LYSTER FOR AN ORIGINAL CONDITIONAL PURCHASE, COUNTY OF ASHBURNHAM (*Formal Motion*):—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all correspondence, minutes of the Minister for Lands, notes of land agent, original plans of adjoining land, decision of Land Board, and ruling of Land Appeal Court, relative to the application of John Lyster for an original conditional purchase of 110 acres of land in the Land District of Molong, parish of Boree Nyrang, county of Ashburnham, No. 96-15.
Question put and passed.
14. TOTALIZATOR BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
(1.) Mr. Sleath moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to more effectually cope with the practice of gaming, and to legalise an instrument known as the Totalizator on racecourses, subject to certain restrictions and regulations.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 56.

Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Nelson,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Raymond,
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Carroll,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. McLean,*
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Pyers.
Mr. Price,	
Mr. Gillies,	Tellers,
Mr. Wilks,	
Mr. Law,	Mr. Sleath,
	Mr. Schey.

Noes, 23.

Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Crick,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. McLean,*
Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Caan,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Rose.

Tellers,

Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Jessep.

*So in Tellers' Lists.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

- (2.) Mr. Sleath then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to more effectually cope with the practice of gaming, and legalise an instrument known as the Totalizator on racecourses, subject to certain restrictions and regulations*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
15. VENTILATION OF COAL-MINES, NEWCASTLE DISTRICT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Edden moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all reports regarding the ventilation of coal-mines, under the new Coal-mines Act, from the Inspectors of Coal-mines in the Newcastle district from the commencement of the year 1897.
Question put and passed.

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16. **AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS BILL** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Price moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to agricultural holdings, and to amend such other statutes as may be necessary to give effect to the same.
Question put and passed.
17. **THE CIVIL SERVICE** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Parkes moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) The number of Civil Servants whose services have been dispensed with since the Public Service Act of 1895 came into operation.
(2.) The total amount of the salaries thereby saved.
(3.) The total of the lump sum or other compensation that has been or will have to be paid.
(4.) The total annual sum to be paid as pensions to officers removed from the Service since the new Public Service Act came into operation.
(5.) The number of new appointments or reappointments to the Public Service since the new Act came into operation.
(6.) The total of the salaries to be paid to newly-appointed or reappointed officers.
Question put and passed.
18. **PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Ordered, that the Bill be considered in Committee To-morrow.
19. **TRAVELLING STOCK AND CAMPING RESERVES, WAGGA WAGGA LAND DISTRICT** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Gormly moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of the evidence taken before the Local Land Board, Wagga Wagga, in September, 1894, on the application of the Stock Branch to have Water Reserve 1,370. and Reserve 75, parish of Rowan, county of Wynyard, proclaimed Travelling Stock and Camping Reserves.
Question put and passed.
20. **MINING ON PRIVATE LANDS ACT AMENDMENT BILL** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Moore moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the "Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894."
Question put and passed.
21. **VOTE FOR ROADS AND BRIDGES 1896-7** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Frank Farnell moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the amounts expended out of the vote for roads and bridges during the financial year 1896-1897 up to date in each electorate in the Colony.
Question put and passed.
22. **DISMISSAL OF TEMPORARY HANDS, GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. McGowen, moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers relating to the dismissal from the Government Printing Office of the temporary hands.
Question put and passed.
23. **STOCKTON COLLIERY DISASTER** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Fegan moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, documents, evidence, and reports of inquiries in connection with the Stockton Colliery disaster.
Question put and passed.
24. **HOMES PROTECTION BILL** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Homes Protection Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be further considered in Committee To-morrow.
25. **APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Fegan moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House,—
(1.) All papers and documents in connection with the appointment of a Chief Inspector of Mines.
(2.) A return showing the number, names, and qualifications of the applicants for Chief Inspector of Mines.
(3.) The name and qualifications of the person appointed to the position of Chief Inspector of Mines.
Question put and passed.
26. **PUBLIC SERVICE ACT AMENDMENT BILL**:—Mr. Schey, pursuant to leave granted this day, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Public Service Act of 1895, and to provide a special Court of Appeal; and to extend the provisions of the Public Service Act of 1895 to Crown Prosecutors and teachers of the Sydney Grammar School; and for other purposes,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
27. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Public Works Acts Further Amendment Bill, reported; adoption of Report;—until Tuesday, 25th May.
(2.) Maitland Gaslight Act Amendment Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*);—second reading; until Tuesday, 8th June.
28. **COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS**:—John See, Esquire, came to the Table and was sworn by the Clerk as a Member of the Committee of Elections and Qualifications.

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29. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Ryde, Mr. Frank Farnell, 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 danger which is growing up in connection with the Centennial Park on account of the violation of "regulation No. 13 of the Centenary Celebration Act." And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Farnell moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
30. **FISHERIES BILL**:—Mr. Bruncker moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Fisheries Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Wednesday, 26th May.
31. **CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL**:—
(1.) Mr. Speaker being requested to give his opinion as to the procedure proposed to be adopted under Mr. Carruthers' Notice No. 2, stated that in his opinion the Australasian Federation Enabling Act required that the Draft Bill should be considered in Committee of the Whole, and that the Bill could then be fully discussed.
(2.) Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in pursuance of section 26 of the Australasian Federation Enabling Act, 1895, this House do "now" resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Draft Constitution prepared under the provisions of the aforesaid Act.
Mr. McLaughlin moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the word "now" and inserting the words "this day week," instead thereof.
Question proposed,—That the word proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
Proposed amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Original Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it. Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the affirmative, as there were only four Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.
The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Miller, Mr. Levien, and Mr. Schey.
Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.
32. **CONSOLIDATION OF THE LAND LAWS**:—Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report on the Consolidation of the Laws relating to Crown Lands.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Copeland, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Moore, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Millen, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Watson, Mr. Macdonald, and the Mover.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 56.

Mr. Cook,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Lync,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Ducey,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Slcath,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Lee,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Fegun,	Mr. Wright,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Harris,	Mr. Ferguson.
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Newman,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Millard,	
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Bull,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Hawthorne.
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. McLean,	
Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Parkes,	

Noes, 8.

Mr. Miller,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Ashton.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Perry.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

33. **SHEEP DIRECTORS ELECTION BILL**:—Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Diseases in Sheep Amendment Act of 1878, in respect of Elections of Sheep Directors thereunder.
Question put and passed.
34. **AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION (REPRESENTATIVES' ALLOWANCE) BILL**:—Mr. Bruncker moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to authorise the payment of allowances to the Representatives of New South Wales at the Federal Convention.
Question put.

The

12th May, 1897:

The House divided.

Ayes, 50.			Noes, 8.
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Wright,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Simcon Phillips,	Mr. Harris,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Edden,	Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Molesworth.
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Wood,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Schey,	Mr. James Thomson,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Black,	Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Hurley.
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Ewing,	
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Mackay.	
Mr. Gould,	Mr. McLean,	<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Cann,	
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Bull,	Mr. Bavister.	
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Newman,		
Mr. A. B. Piddington,	Mr. Parkes,		
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Millard,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

35. **STAMP DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:**—Mr. Brunker moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Stamp Duties Acts, 1880-1894.
Question put and passed.
36. **CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS BILL:**—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to vest the Church and School Lands in Her Majesty free from all trusts and provisions affecting the same; to validate certain dealings with those lands, and to provide for the appropriation of moneys at credit of the Public Instruction Endowment Account; to make better provision for dealing with the said lands and with the money derived therefrom; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to vest the Church and School Lands in Her Majesty free from all trusts and provisions affecting the same, to validate certain dealings with those lands, and to provide for the appropriation of moneys at credit of the Public Instruction Endowment Account; to make better provision for dealing with the said lands and with the money derived therefrom; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.
On motion of Mr. Carruthers, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
- (2.) Mr. Carruthers then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to vest the Church and School Lands in Her Majesty free from all trusts and provisions affecting the same, to validate certain dealings with those lands, and to provide for the appropriation of moneys at credit of the Public Instruction Endowment Account; to make better provision for dealing with the said lands and with the money derived therefrom; and for purposes incidental to the above objects*,”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday, 26th May.
37. **POSTPONEMENT:**—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the expediency of bringing in the Public Trusts Bill postponed until To-morrow.
38. **RABBIT BILL:**—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Carruthers Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to deal with the Rabbit pest; and for purposes incidental thereto.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to deal with the Rabbit pest; and for purposes incidental thereto.
On motion of Mr. Carruthers, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
- (2.) Mr. Carruthers then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to deal with the Rabbit pest; and for purposes incidental thereto*,”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday, 26th May.
39. **ADJOURNMENT:**—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
The House adjourned accordingly, at thirteen minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 9.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 13 MAY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Tenders for Poles and Brackets for George-street Tramway:—Mr. Schey asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) How many sets of tenders were called for the supply of poles and brackets required for the electric tramway along George and Harris Streets?

(2.) Were tenders for manufacture in the Colony distinguished from those for manufacture abroad?

(3.) Who were the lowest tenderers in each class; and what were their respective prices?

(4.) Whose tender has been accepted for the supply of the poles and brackets referred to?

Mr. Young answered,—Tenders were invited locally for the supply and erection of Mannesmann poles, and only three offers received—two from Messrs. Pope, Maher, & Co., and one from Messrs. G. and C. Hoskins. Two of the three were informal, but as they were all too high it was decided to order the Mannasmann poles direct from the manufacturers, and to invite tenders locally, in due course, for the brackets, fittings, and erection.

- (2.) Record Reign Celebrations:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Has he, as Minister for Public Instruction, taken into consideration the desirability of in some appropriate way marking the Record Reign of Her Majesty amongst the children attending the Public Schools of our Colony?

(2.) If so, will he please state what he contemplates doing, and in what form?

(3.) If not, will he consider the desirability of taking some steps that shall permanently fix upon the memories of our children attending the schools the important epoch to be celebrated on the 22nd June next?

Mr. Garrard answered,—This matter has received consideration, and an advisory Board has been appointed to report what steps should be taken for the celebration of the Record Reign.

- (3.) Alien Hawkers' Bill:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—When will he introduce the Bill he promised last Session to deal with the alien hawkers?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This matter is now under consideration.

- (4.) Refunds of Deposits lodged with Mining Applications:—Mr. Travers Jones asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it a fact that the rule he has recently made in regard to refunds of deposits lodged with applications to lease land for mining purposes is seriously prejudicing the mining interest?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This regulation was found necessary in order to stop a form of shepherding, and has so far proved successful. The regulation cannot prejudice those who wish to take up land for *bonâ fide* mining purposes.

- (5.) Appointment of Chief Inspector of Collieries:—Mr. Peiry asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Was the new Chief Inspector of Collieries appointed on the recommendation of Sir William Lewis; if not, on whose recommendation was the appointment made?

(2.) Was Sir William Lewis one of the promoters of the Sydney Harbour Coal-mine Company?

(3.) Is he aware that Sir William Lewis is the chief agent of the biggest mining monopoly in Great Britain?

(4.) Is he aware that Sir William Lewis is the manager for the Marquis of Bute's collieries and Bute Dock Company?

(5.) Is it a necessary qualification for the position of Chief Inspector of Collieries that he should graduate in collieries outside of the Colony of New South Wales?

(6.) Will he take steps to offer inducements to men in our own Colony to qualify themselves for these positions?

Mr.

13th May, 1897.

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Sir William Lewis, with the Agent-General, went carefully through all the applications received in England, and selected Mr. Atkinson as the most eligible person for the appointment. The recommendation in favor of his appointment was made by me, after considering the advice of the Agent-General and Sir William Lewis, and carefully looking through all the applications and credentials from those applying in England and the Colonies, and I am satisfied that the right selection was made.

(2 and 3.) I am not aware, nor do I think it is the business of the Department to concern itself in the private affairs of Sir William Lewis. All I know is that he is one of the best known mining authorities in the world.

(4.) I believe he is connected with the management of the Marquis of Bute's collieries.

(5.) No qualification of the kind is imposed. The only wish of the Government was to obtain the services of the best man available, and I believe he has been secured.

(6.) Certainly.

(6.) Areas under Municipal control:—*Mr. O'Sullivan*, for Mr. Ewing, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that some of the areas under municipal control in the Colony are too large for satisfactory management?

(2.) Is he prepared to introduce a Bill permitting reasonable reductions in areas in such cases?

(3.) If not, will he assist a private Member in passing such a measure?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I have asked to-day for the information which will enable me to answer the Honorable Member's Question.

(7.) Erection of Bridges across the River Murray:—*Mr. Morgan* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) How many bridges have been erected across the Murray at the joint expense of the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria?

(2.) The date of completion of each?

(3.) The date of payment made by the Government in each case?

(4.) The date on which the Victorian Government was notified of amount due by them on each?

(5.) The amount (if any) still unpaid?

(6.) The amounts of liabilities for repairs or maintenance of these bridges due by the Victorian Government, and still unpaid?

Mr. Young answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of this House in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.

(8.) Fidelity Guarantee Fund:—*Mr. Morgan* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What amount is at the credit of the Fidelity Guarantee Fund?

(2.) What amount has been paid thereout since 1st January, 1895?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Amount at credit of Fidelity Guarantee Fund, £8,688 14s. 9d.

(2.) £3,778 6s. 4d.

(9.) Record Reign Celebrations:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—In view of the approaching Record Reign celebrations, or Queen's Diamond Jubilee, occurring on the 22nd June next, will he see that steps are taken to give school children a week's extra holiday, it being the period of the year when midwinter holidays begin?

Mr. Garard answered,—This matter will receive consideration.

(10.) Products received from Botanical Gardens, &c.:—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is there a list kept of recipients who receive gratis, tree shrubs, cuttings, bulbs, plants, or any other product—excepting seeds—from the Botanical Gardens, State Nurseries, or Agricultural Farms?

(2.) If so, will he lay upon the Table of this House the list of recipients who have received gratis from the Botanical Gardens, State Nurseries, or Agricultural Farms, during the past five years, trees, shrubs, cuttings, bulbs, plants, or any other product—excepting seeds—such list not to include the names of any schools, religious institutions, parks, railway yards, or any other solely public place?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—In regard to the Botanic Gardens and State Nurseries a list is kept, but no trees, cuttings, &c., are issued gratis to any private person. In the case of the Agricultural Farms, I am informed by the Department of Mines and Agriculture that no complete list has been kept.

(11.) Appointment of Member to Land Board at Gundagai:—*Mr. Barnes* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware there are some important cases awaiting inquiry at the next sitting of the Land Board at Gundagai?

(2.) Will he, before the sitting referred to takes place, cause the vacancy made through the removal of Mr. Weeks, Police Magistrate, and a late member of the Board leaving the district, to be filled by appointing another member in his place?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The matter will receive consideration.

(12.) Publication in *Government Gazette* of names of Convicted Prisoners:—*Mr. Morgan*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Justice,—Will he take into his early consideration the question of having published in the *Government Gazette* from time to time the names of convicted prisoners to whom a remission of sentence has been granted, so that the public generally may be made cognisant of such remission?

Mr.

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Mr. Gould answered,—I do not consider that it would be at all advisable to adopt the course proposed by the Honorable Member. The names of all prisoners who are discharged from gaol, either by special remission or otherwise, are published from time to time in the *Police Gazette* for the information of the Police, but I could not approve of the *Government Gazette* being used as the channel for making public any similar particulars. It would be most undesirable to do so, not only in the interests of the discharged prisoners themselves, but also with due regard to the feelings of their near relations and friends.

(13.) Regulations under the Public Service Board :—*Mr. Morgan*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it not one of the conditions under which officers to fill the several Departments of State are chosen by the Public Service Board, that they shall be able to write a legible hand?
- (2.) Will he suggest to the Public Service Board the necessity which exists for compelling certain officers in several Departments to sign their names in such a manner as to admit of same being deciphered, as under present conditions much inconvenience is caused to the recipients of many public documents?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Yes, so far as clerical appointments are concerned.
- (2.) The matter will receive attention.

(14.) Publications Registered as Newspapers :—*Mr. Morgan*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) Is he aware that there are registered for transmission through the post as newspapers several publications which should properly be classed as monthly magazines, and be paid for as such?
- (2.) Will he cause the regulations on this question to be strictly enforced?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) I am not aware.
- (2.) They are enforced so far as they can be. If the Honorable Member will give instances of the breach of the law they will be inquired into.

(15.) William Creswell, inmate of Parramatta Lunatic Asylum :—*Mr. Morgan*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Will he cause to be laid upon the Table of this House copies, from the books of the Parramatta Lunatic Asylum, of the reports of those medical officers of that institution who have made examinations of an inmate called William Creswell during the past five years?
- (2.) When was the last examination of this inmate made?

Mr. Brunker answered,—As this matter is now before the law courts, it is not considered advisable to furnish the information desired.

(16.) Dr. Williams' Pink Pills :—*Mr. Haynes* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to the extensive introduction of a medicament known as Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and is he aware that the same has been scientifically exposed in Great Britain as an imposture, and the testimonials regarding it proven to be in most cases inventions?
- (2.) Will he instruct the Government Health Board to have these pills, or any other medical or health preparation that may be submitted, analysed, and the results officially published in the *Government Gazette*?
- (3.) Is he aware that this course is being pursued now in different European countries, and that the same has already been practically adopted in Great Britain for the protection of the public against impostures?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Attention has not been drawn especially to the proprietary article mentioned, but there is no objection to it being analysed for Mr. Haynes' information, and this shall be done. The imposture referred to by Mr. Haynes usually lies in the false or unfounded statements published as advertisements to promote the sale of quack medicines—the latter are usually, though not always, harmless, or sometimes simply inert. The question whether any practical good would result if all such articles were analysed, and the results published in the *Government Gazette*, as Mr. Haynes suggests, requires consideration, and it has accordingly been referred to the Board of Health.

(17.) Postmistress at Coogee :—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Postmaster-General,—If it is a fact that there is a report lodged against the Postmistress at Coogee; if so, has he any objections to lay the papers upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Cook answered,—A complaint of incivility on the part of the postmistress, Coogee, has recently been inquired into and dealt with by the Department. The case is a very trivial one, and does not reflect very seriously upon the postmistress. I do not consider it of any public importance, but the papers will be laid upon the Table if moved for in the usual way.

(18.) Road to Lake Cowell :—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Has any application been received by his Department for the resumption of a road of access to Lake Cowell, to encourage a fishing industry?
- (2.) If so, has any objection been lodged in regard to same; and what steps are intended to be taken to extend the facilities required?

Mr. Brunker answered,—No application has reached this Department.

(19.)

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(19.) Lake Cowell:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has an application been made to the Fisheries Department to proclaim Lake Cowell as open waters for fishing; and, if so, what steps have been taken in the matter?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed by the Commissioners of Fisheries that Lake Cowell is not closed against fishing. Inland lakes are waters open for fishing under the "Inland Waters Fisheries Act, 1887," unless closed by proclamation.

(20.) Leave of Absence to Civil Servants:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What are the names, positions, and salaries of officers who have been granted leave of absence by the Public Service Board, with the intention of visiting England?

(2.) What rules have been laid down by the Board in regard to extended leave outside ordinary regulations?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This information will be laid upon the Table in the shape of a return if moved for in the usual way.

(21.) Mercantile Explosives Department, Middle Harbour:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How many men are employed in connection with the Mercantile Explosives Department at the powder hulk, Middle Harbour, and what is the average number of hours these men work?

(2.) Are these men compelled to live on board, and is it a fact that a rental of £25 per annum is charged them for each bunk they occupy?

(3.) What is the size of space allotted to each of these men for which this rent is paid?

(4.) Has an appeal been sent to the Public Service Board in this matter, and what steps, if any, have been taken to deal with same?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) There are five men employed in connection with the Mercantile Explosives Department at the Magazine Station, Middle Harbour (exclusive of the officer-in-charge). Each of these men works on an average 9½ hours per day, or 57 hours per week.

(2.) Yes; these men are required to live on board a guardship provided for the purpose, with use of cooking appliances and attendance of a cook and steward. A rental of £25 per annum is charged them for the accommodation thus provided.

(3.) The space allotted on board the guardship is on the 'tween decks, to each man, for sleeping, a cabin, 6 ft. 6 in. x 6 ft. 6 in. x 6 ft. 3 in.; to the whole for messing, a room, 11 ft. 6 in. x 9 ft. 7 in.; also the use of the upper deck.

(4.) Yes. The question of charge for quarters is one which affects a large number of persons in the Public Service, and the Public Service Board is, I understand, now dealing with the whole question.

(22.) Boys sent to the N.S.S. "Sobraon":—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is it a fact that, under the Industrial Schools Act, all boys sent to the N.S.S. "Sobraon" can be detained until the age of 18, and that no magistrate has discretionary power to sentence them for a shorter period?

(2.) Is it a fact that this Act was intended to deal with vagrant and destitute children only?

(3.) Is it a fact that children of respectable and, in some cases, well-to-do parents, which do not come under the above category, are often sent to the ship by magistrates?

(4.) Is it a fact that, after serving twelve months on board the ship, boys of any age are sent to the country and allowed to remain there until they reach the age of 18, and forbidden to reveal their whereabouts to their parents?

(5.) Will he take such steps to amend the Act to provide for grades of punishment, so that truant boys may be sent to the ship for periods commensurate to the act for which they are punishable?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) No. Clause 4 of the Act states, "Every child whose age in the opinion of the person apprehending or ordering the apprehension, as hereinafter mentioned, shall not exceed sixteen years who shall be found lodging, living, residing, or wandering about in company with reputed thieves or with persons who have no visible lawful means of support, or with common prostitutes, whether such reputed thieves, persons, or prostitutes be the parents or guardians of such child or not, or who shall have no visible lawful means of support, or who shall have no fixed place of abode, or who shall be found begging about any street, highway, court, passage, or other public place, or who shall be found habitually wandering or loitering about the streets, highways, or public places in no ostensible lawful occupation, or who shall be found sleeping in the open air, may be apprehended by any constable or peace officer or by any other person, and taken before any two Justices of the Peace to be dealt with as hereinafter is directed."

(3.) Answered by No. 2.

(4.) (a) Inmates of the "Sobraon" may be so apprenticed at the end of twelve months, but the average time on board the ship is sixteen months. (b) Information as to the boys' general welfare can be obtained through the Superintendent, and every inquiry made is answered; but it is not desirable, in the interests of the employers as well as of the boys, to reveal the boys' addresses to their parents.

(5.) This question is now under consideration.

(23.) Royal Commission on Charges made by Mr. Varney Parkes, M.L.A.:—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to the Answer given to Mr. Chanter's Question No. 21, of 12th May, has he any objection to stating the amount of claims made on Mr. Varney Parkes' behalf, and the names of the persons making such claims, together with the separate amounts claimed?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Amount of claims made on Mr. Varney Parkes' behalf, £869 16s. Names of persons making such claims—Geo. Christie, £475; G. McCredie, £394 16s.; total, £869 16s.

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2. ILLAWARRA HARBOUR AND LAND CORPORATION ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL :—Mr. Hawthorne presented a Petition from the Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation, Limited, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to amend section 1 of the Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation Act Amendment Act of 1895, and to further extend the time mentioned in that section for the completion of the harbour and works in connection therewith, authorised to be constructed by the Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation Act of 1890, for one year, for the due completion thereof. And Mr. Hawthorne having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Illawarra Mercury*, newspapers, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—
Petition received.
3. PAPERS :—
Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table.—Notifications of resumptions, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, for Public School Purposes, at Elliott, Lakelands, and Menah.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table.—Return to an Order, made on 5th May, 1897,—“Homestead “Leases in names of W. Brady, senior, Ann B. Morris, and W. Brady, junior, Wilcannia District.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Third Report from the Printing Committee.
5. PHARMACY BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Bruncker moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Pharmacy 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 establish a Board of Pharmacy; to regulate the “carrying on of the business of a pharmacist; to provide for the examination and registration of “pharmacists; and for purposes incidental to the above objects,”—forwarded to the Legislative Council for concurrence during last Session of the present Parliament, not having been finally dealt with because of the prorogation of the Legislature, the Assembly requests that the said Bill be proceeded with under the Council’s Standing Order in that behalf.
Question put and passed.
Message to the Legislative Council sent accordingly.
6. GOVERNMENT ADVERTISEMENTS IN SYDNEY NEWSPAPERS (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Chanter moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) The amount of State funds paid to the proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph* newspaper for advertisements during the year 1896.
(2.) The amount paid to the proprietors of the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Sydney Mail*.
(3.) The amount paid to the proprietors of the *Evening News* and *Town and Country Journal*.
(4.) The amount paid to the proprietors of the *Australian Star*.
Question put and passed.
7. USURY LIMITATION BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. McFarlane moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Usury Limitation Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be further considered in Committee on Tuesday, 20th July,
8. RESUMPTION OF WALDRON’S SELECTION, YALGOGRIN (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Porry moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all correspondence received from the Yalgogrin Progress Committee and the Yalgogrin public on the subject of the proposed resumption of Waldron’s selection for mining purposes.
Question put and passed.
9. SMALL DEBTS RECOVERY ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—
(1.) Mr. Affleck moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the attachment of debts due, owing, or accruing to Judgment Debtors from the Crown, either for salary or otherwise, to confer upon any two Justices of the Peace the powers of a Police Magistrate under the Small Debts Recovery Act, and for those purposes to amend the said Act.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Affleck then presented a Bill, intituled “A Bill to provide for the attachment of debts due, owing, or accruing to Judgment Debtors from the Crown, either for salary or otherwise, to confer upon any two Justices of the Peace the powers of a Police Magistrate under the Small Debts Recovery Act, and for those purposes to amend the said Act,”—which was read a first time.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 3rd August.
10. ATTORNEYS COSTS ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Chapman moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Attorneys Costs Act, 11 Victoria No. 33.
Question put and passed.
11. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
(1.) Totalizator Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 17th August.
(2.) Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill; to be considered in Committee;—until Tuesday, 20th July.

13th May, 1897.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Argyle, Mr. Rose, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.:—"The necessity of the Government taking immediate steps to ameliorate the distress existing in the drought-stricken parts of the Colony."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Rose moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
13. **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 1897-8; a Service 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, JOHN LACKEY,
Sydney, 13th May, 1897. President.
14. **PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH PROPERTY BILL**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—
MR. SPEAKER,—
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*,"—forwarded to the Legislative Assembly for concurrence during last Session of the present Parliament, not having been finally dealt with because of the prorogation of the Legislature, the Legislative Council requests that the said Bill be proceeded with under the Assembly's Standing Order in that behalf.
Legislative Council Chamber, JOHN LACKEY,
Sydney, 13th May, 1897. President.
And the 296th Standing Order of the House permitting of the restoration of the Bill to the stage it had reached at the close of last Session,—
Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 3rd August.
15. **PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (NEWCASTLE TECHNICAL COLLEGE) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Garrard moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
On motion of Mr. Garrard, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
16. **SHEEP DIRECTORS ELECTION BILL**:—Mr. Carruthers, pursuant to leave granted on 12th May, 1897, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the 'Diseases in Sheep Acts Amendment Act of 1878' in respect of Elections of Sheep Directors thereunder*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday, 26th May.
17. **AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION (REPRESENTATIVES' ALLOWANCE) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Brunner, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to authorise the payment of allowances to the Representatives of New South Wales at the Federal Convention.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be now received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to authorise the payment of Allowances to the Representatives of New South Wales at the Federal Convention.
On motion of Mr. Brunner, the resolution was read a second time (after Debate), and agreed to.
18. **STAMP DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL**:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Brunner, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Stamp Duties Acts, 1880-1894.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be now received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amend the Stamp Duties Acts, 1880-1894.
On motion of Mr. Brunner, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Mr. Brunner then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Stamp Duties Acts, 1880-1894*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Thursday, 20th May.

13th May, 1897.

19. PUBLIC TRUSTS BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of *Mr. Gould*, for *Mr. Carruthers*, *Mr. Speaker* left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate trusts of land for public purposes; to amend the law with respect to the reservation and dedication of Crown lands, and the resumption and exchange of land so reserved or dedicated; and for purposes incidental to the above objects. *Mr. Speaker* resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

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

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

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to regulate trusts of land for public purposes; to amend the law with respect to the reservation and dedication of Crown lands, and the resumption and exchange of land so reserved or dedicated; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.

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

(2.) *Mr. Carruthers* then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to regulate trusts of land for public purposes; to amend the law with respect to the reservation and dedication of Crown lands, and the resumption and exchange of land so reserved or dedicated; and for purposes incidental to the above objects*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Thursday, 20th May.

20. NOXIOUS WEEDS BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of *Mr. Carruthers*, *Mr. Speaker* left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to deal with noxious weeds, and for purposes incidental thereto. *Mr. Speaker* resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

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

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

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to deal with noxious weeds; and for purposes incidental thereto.

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

(2.) *Mr. Carruthers* then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to deal with noxious weeds; and for purposes incidental thereto*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Thursday, 27th May.

21. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Orders of the Day of Government Business and the intervening Orders of the Day of General Business, and the Notices of Motions down to No. 26, postponed (*by consent*) until Tuesday next.

22. EXCHANGE OF LAND, CUPPACUMBALONG RUN, QUEANBEYAN DISTRICT:—*Mr. O'Sullivan* moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the proposed exchange of land on Cuppacumbalong Run, Queanbeyan District.

(2.) That such Committee consist of *Mr. Carruthers*, *Mr. Miller*, *Mr. W. H. B. Piddington*, *Mr. Molesworth*, *Mr. Carroll*, *Mr. Mahony*, *Mr. Mackay*, *Mr. Travers Jones*, *Mr. Ferguson*, and the Mover.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 10.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 18 MAY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Railway Employees :—*Mr. Fegan*, for *Mr. Schey*, asked the Colonial Treasurer :—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the railway receipts for the current financial year show an increased profit of £150,000 over those of the previous year?
- (2.) Is it a fact that several years ago large numbers of railway employees were put on short time, and increases of pay due were delayed owing to falling off of railway revenue?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the men affected by such short time and stoppage of increases were told that when the revenue improved increases due by the Commissioners' classification sheet would be paid and full time worked?
- (4.) Have all the increases due been now paid; if not, what is the cause of delay?
- (5.) Are all employees now permitted to work full time; if not, what is the cause of present short-time working?
- (6.) When may all employees expect to make six full days per week?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) I am informed that the railway and tramway receipts at the Treasury show an increase of £142,000 for the ten months ending the 30th April last, as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

(2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.) Owing to depression, and consequent shrinking of revenue, a number of employees were in the year 1892 put on short time to prevent a large number of men being put off. Ninety per cent. of the whole wages staff were, however, working full time as far back as in August, 1895, and the remainder have subsequently been restored to full time. Classification increases were only suspended in the case of employees receiving more than 5s. per day. In December, 1894, such increases were also given up to 6s. per day; in June, 1895, up to 6s. 6d. per day, and in December, 1895, up to 7s. per day. Notwithstanding the increase in the revenue at the present time, the Railway Commissioners do not feel warranted, in the public interests, in reviving the classification increases to the more highly-paid staff.

(2.) Intercolonial Band Contest :—*Mr. Hawthorne*, for *Mr. Wilks*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Have any conditions been drafted in connection with the special grant of £250 for an intercolonial band contest during the Record Reign celebrations?
- (2.) If so, what are they?
- (3.) Will military bands be eligible for the contest?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Up to the present no conditions have been imposed. Arrangements in connection with contest will be determined by the Committee when appointed.

(3.) Lusk's School History of Australia :—*Mr. Hogue* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) What is the total estimated cost to date borne by the Government in connection with the acceptance, revision, and printing of Lusk's School History of Australia?
- (2.) Who were the persons that judged the works submitted in competition for the prize offered by the Public Instruction Department for the best School History?
- (3.) How many works were offered in competition for the prize?
- (4.) How many persons have since been engaged revising Lusk's History, which was awarded first prize?
- (5.) Is the work of revision yet completed?
- (6.) Is it not a fact that this particular history contained a large number of blunders, and was, as it originally stood, totally unsuited for use in schools?
- (7.) Will he say if it is intended to abandon all efforts to make this work serviceable?

Mr.

18th May, 1897.

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) £995.
- (2.) The late Under Secretary, Mr. Edwin Johnson, and Messrs. J. C. Maynard and F. Bridges.
- (3.) Ten.
- (4.) One.
- (5.) Not quite.
- (6.) Not as revised; but even as it originally stood it was considered, apart from statistical and minor errors, much the best School History of Australia existing.
- (7.) It is not so intended.

(4.) Military Horses driven in Private Carriages:—*Mr. Affleck*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it customary to permit officers of the Military Service to drive battery horses in their private carriages; and, if so, how many officers possess this privilege?
- (2.) Have any of the battery horses been disabled during the past twelve months in consequence of being thus used?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) Officers would, on asking for the privilege, be permitted to occasionally use Battery horses to drive, such horses being for the time not required for Military Service, but on the understanding that they shall be treated with the same consideration as if they were private property, and that the officer is responsible for any damage that may occur. The privilege has only been exercised by the Officer Commanding "A" Battery, who is responsible for the efficiency and condition of the horses. Such work as he has occasionally given one or two of the horses is, I consider, beneficial. This privilege is accorded to officers in the same branch of the Imperial Service.
- (2.) No.

(5.) Allowances to Officers of the Permanent Artillery:—*Mr. Affleck*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he be good enough to furnish a return showing,—

- (1.) The officers of the Permanent Artillery drawing allowances in lieu of quarters for the year 1895-6, and the amount saved on that Vote;
- (2.) officers occupying quarters in Barracks for the same period;
- (3.) the amounts paid as compensation for clothing to Permanent Artillery for the past three years out of the item "uniform as per clothing regulations";
- (4.) the remounts procured by the Permanent Artillery for the three years ending 30th June, 1896?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—This return is being prepared, and will be laid upon the Table as soon as possible.

(6.) Control of Public Roads:—*Mr. Affleck*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Will he take into consideration the desirability of having certain of the roads in this Colony—removed from the control of local trustees—vested in such trustees again?
- (2.) Has any financial advantage been derived by the Department as a result of the change?
- (3.) Are such roads as well tended and cared for under the new system as they were under the old?

Mr. Young answered,—A number of roads, hitherto under trustees, were lately placed under the supervision of the local roads officers. This was done as a matter of public policy, as it was considered the roads would be maintained more effectively, and at less expense, not only as to the class of work carried out upon the roads, but by doing away with a lot of unnecessary clerical work at the Head Office. Results have, so far, gone to prove the correctness of these expectations, and it is not intended to place these roads again under trustees unless in special cases where it can be shown that some advantage is to be gained by doing so.

(7.) "Costa Rica Packet" Case:—*Mr. Perry* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) On what date was the money paid by the Dutch, in obedience to the award of the arbitrator for the crew of the "Costa Rica Packet," received by the Agent-General for the New South Wales Government?
- (2.) Has any of it yet been paid to the persons entitled to it; if not, what is the cause of the prolonged delay in payment to these men being made?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Transmitted from the Foreign Office to Agent General on 26th March, 1897, credited in London and Westminster Bank Account on 29th March, 1897. The bank account for March was received at the Treasury on 6th instant, and the amount was brought to account in Treasury books on that date.

(2.) No. It may be pointed out that moneys can only legally be paid from the Treasury when warrants have been obtained, as required by the Audit Act of 1870. The London account was received on 6th instant, warrant sent to the Auditor-General on 10th, returned on 13th, forwarded to His Excellency the Governor same day, and returned completed on 14th instant. The amount is now available, and will be paid when the costs have been ascertained. No delay has, however, taken place in the matter.

(8.) Sewer at Circular Quay:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that offensive sewerage matter is thrown into the harbour at that part of Circular Quay near the North Shore Ferry Company's passengers wharf?
- (2.) Have any provisions been made by the Water and Sewerage Board in regard to the removal of this sewer as part of the city sewerage scheme?
- (3.) Will he cause inquiries to be made into the sanitary condition of this sewer, with a view to remedy any nuisance that may now arise from same?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

18th May, 1897.

Mr. Young answered,—The Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage have furnished me the following Answers:—

- (1.) A small area below limit of gravitation still drains into the harbour at this point.
- (2.) When the sewerage scheme is completed all sewage will be intercepted from harbour.
- (3.) One of the sewers referred to was constructed under the City Council, but has been ventilated by the Board, and is now in fair working order. The other is an overflow sewer or relief from main sewer discharging at Port Macquarie, and only comes into operation during heavy rainstorms. Every care is taken pending the completion of low-level system to prevent any nuisance.

(9.) Compensation for Land resumed for Railways, Jerilderie to Berrigan :—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Were there ever any funds in the hands of the Government to compensate Mr. Dickey for resumption of land taken for the construction of the railway from Jerilderie to Berrigan?
- (2.) If so, what was done with the money?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) The money has been paid into the Treasury.

(10.) Blue Book, Parliamentary Volumes :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it the intention of the Government to issue the usual yearly volume of the Blue Book; if so, when?
- (2.) Has the Government determined to cease issuing the Blue Book for the future; if so, why?
- (3.) Were all Members of both Houses of Parliament served with canvas-bound Parliamentary volumes for last Session?
- (4.) If all were not served with the same kind of bound volumes, who received leather-bound and who received canvas-bound volumes?
- (5.) Is it intended to serve all Members alike for the future; and, if so, are the volumes to be canvas or leather-bound?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1 and 2.) As soon as the Public Service Board have finished the work of dealing with the appeals of officers of the various Departments, which work is now approaching completion, a Civil Service List will be issued, and thereafter published annually.
- (3, 4, and 5.) No Blue Book has been printed since 1894, but up to then both Houses of Parliament were supplied with paper-bound copies, as per Standing Order. If, however, *Hansard* is meant to be referred to by this Question, all Members of both Houses were served with canvas-bound copies, but volumes in the usual binding were furnished for Ministerial, Library, and Record purposes. It is intended to continue the same procedure under authority of Treasury Minute 6,772, of the 3rd July, 1896.

(11.) Use of Buggies for the Coast Hospital :—Mr. Griffith asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it a fact that the buggies provided for the use of the Coast Hospital are reserved for the use of the doctors and a few of the higher officers, and that to get to Sydney on the occasion of their monthly day off the nurses have to walk 3 miles to the Botany tram?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been furnished by the chief medical officer:—No; one buggy is reserved for use of superior officers when engaged on duty. The nurses have to walk to the tram terminus when going on leave, but are driven back from it when returning from leave.

(12.) Poles for the George and Harris Streets Tramway :—Mr. Wood asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) With reference to the supply of wrought-iron poles for the George and Harris Streets electric tramway, is it a fact a tender was received by the Works Department from a colonial firm, offering to supply the raw material, viz., the Mannesman pole, at a rate not exceeding £6 per pole?
- (2.) Was a document lodged by the tendering firm showing that this class of pole could be procured at the price stated?
- (3.) Did he or any of his officers, in an interview with the representative of the Foreign Agency Company, disclose the prices of tenders received, and request him to make inquiries as to whether these poles could not be imported cheaper than the Colonial firm offered?
- (4.) Was a contract given without competition to the Foreign Agency Company for the supply of these Mannesman poles at the rate of £7 per pole, an increase price of 30s. more than the former tender?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) No such document has been received, nor any guarantee that the poles can be supplied according to drawings at £6 each. A letter was received from one of the tenderers, purporting to show how their tender had been made up, and in this £6 was mentioned as the value of the Mannesman poles; but this figure, I am informed, was incorrect, as the offer of the agent of the Mannesman Company was to supply them to the tenderer at £7.
- (3.) No disclosure of prices was made, as the tenders had already been published. The Foreign Agency Company was asked to submit a tender for the supply and erection of the Mannesman poles complete.
- (4.) The Foreign Agency Company is the only recognised agent of the manufacturer of the Mannesman poles. An order was given for certain poles at £7, and for other larger ones at £10, which were the only prices tendered for Mannesman poles without fittings and erection.

(13.)

18th May, 1897.

(13.) Tenders for Poles and Brackets for George-street Tramway :—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Schey*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—In reference to the Answer given to *Mr. Schey's* Question No. 1, of 13th May, will he please say,—

- (1.) What were the prices submitted by Messrs. Pope, Maher, & Co. and G. and C. Hoskins, respectively?
- (2.) What is the name of the firm from whom the poles have been ordered, and what price is to be paid for them?
- (3.) Was the price determined by tender; and, if not, by what method was it arrived at?
- (4.) Was the order given to the firm direct or to an agent; if the latter, what is the agent's name?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) The prices submitted were—Pope, Maher, & Co., £4,291 18s. 9d.; Pope, Maher, & Co., (Mannesman poles), £3,471 5s. (informal); G. and C. Hoskins (Mannesman poles), £4,478 2s. 6d. (informal).
- (2.) The Foreign Agency Co. are the recognised agents in Sydney of the manufacturers of the Mannesman poles. The price to be paid for the poles is £7 for the small, £10 for the large.
- (3.) The Mannesman poles are made by only one company, and there is only one recognised agent in Sydney.
- (4.) As has already been stated, the order was given to the Foreign Agency Co., of which *Mr. Schmellitscheck* styles himself the proprietor.

(14.) Penny Postage :—*Mr. Moore* asked the Postmaster-General,—When does the Government intend to give effect to the following resolution of the House, passed on the 11th August, 1896, viz. :—“That, in the opinion of this House, the existing 13-mile radius penny postage system is “inequitable in its operation, benefiting certain districts only, and the same should be abolished “in favour of an uniform penny postage rate throughout the Colony.”

Mr. Cook answered,—Not at present.

(15.) Parramatta Park :—*Mr. O'Reilly* asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he state the present position of affairs in connection with the proposal of the trustees of the Parramatta Park to lease to the Council of the King's School a certain area of the Park?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—No official communication from the trustees of Parramatta Park on this subject has yet reached me. The Honorable Member, as the Parliamentary representative of the district, will be fully informed of the proposal and the circumstances surrounding it as soon as possible.

(16.) Distances of the Sydney and Suburban Tram-lines :—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. McGowen*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the exact distance on the tram-line between the following points, giving particulars separate in each case:—Bent street to Liverpool-street; Liverpool-street to Queen-street Junction; Queen-street to Bondi Junction; Bondi Junction to Bondi Beach; Bondi Junction to Waverley Junction; Waverley Junction to Waverley Terminus; Waverley and Randwick Extension Line; Bent-street to Randwick Post Office; Randwick Post Office to Coogee; Bent-street to Dowling-street *via* Crown-street; Bent-street to Redfern Railway Station; Bent-street to Waterloo Tram Terminus; Waterloo Tram Terminus to Gardiner's Lane; Gardiner's Lane to Botany Tram Terminus; Bent-street to Newtown Road Junction; Newtown Road Junction to Leichhardt Terminus; Newtown Road Junction to Balmain Terminus; Newtown Road Junction to Glebe Point Terminus; Newtown Road Junction to Forest Lodge Terminus; Newtown Road Junction to Enmore Terminus; Enmore Terminus to Marrickville Terminus; Marrickville Terminus to Dulwich Hill Terminus; Marion-street, Leichhardt, to Abbottsford; Ashfield to Enfield; Kogarah to Sans Souci; Sans Souci to Kogarah *via* Sandringham?

Mr. Bruncker answered—I have a return prepared in answer to this Question, and I will lay it upon the Table at the proper time.

(17.) Resumption of Land for Railway purposes at Moree :—*Mr. Perry* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—With reference to replies given to *Mr. Perry's* Questions in connection with resumption of land at Moree for railway purposes, what position did *Mr. E. J. H. Knapp* hold in the matter, what charge did he make in connection therewith, and what amount has he been paid?

Mr. Young answered,—*Mr. Knapp* held the position of arbitrator for the Constructing Authority. He made a charge of 50 guineas. No amount has yet been paid.

2. PAPER :—*Mr. Bruncker* laid upon the Table,—Return showing the distances between various points on the Sydney and Suburban Tramways.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by *Mr. Bruncker*, and read by *Mr. Speaker* :—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 27.

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 1897-8; a Service 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, 17th May, 1897.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

18th May, 1897.

4. PRISONERS' GAOL REGULATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
 (1.) Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to regulate the treatment of prisoners awaiting and during trial, and of convicted prisoners on whose behalf any question or questions of law is or are reserved at their trial; and for other purposes.
 Question put and passed.
 (2.) Mr. Neild then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to regulate the treatment of prisoners awaiting and during trial, and of convicted prisoners on whose behalf any question or questions of law is or are reserved at their trial; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 3rd August.
5. CASE OF JOHN WILD AND GEORGE HEMSWORTH, APPLICANTS FOR GOLD LEASE ON MR. HENRY BUTLER'S PRIVATE LAND, PARISH OF MOUNT LAWSON (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Hurley moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all correspondence, minutes of the Minister for Mines, and other documents, also Warden's report, with inquiry made at Rockley on the 20th May, 1896, on the case of John Wild and George Hemsworth, each applying for a gold lease on Mr. Henry Butler's private land, portion 84, parish Mount Lawson, in terms of the Mining on Private Lands Act, 1894.
 Question put and passed.
6. ILLAWARRA HARBOUR AND LAND CORPORATION ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—
 (1.) Mr. Hawthorne moved, pursuant to notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend section 1 of the Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation Act Amendment Act of 1895, and to further extend the time mentioned in that section for the completion of the harbour and works in connection therewith, authorised to be constructed by the Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation Act of 1890 for one year for the due completion thereof.
 Question put and passed.
 (2.) Mr. Hawthorne having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend section 1 of the Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation Act Amendment Act of 1895, and to further extend the time mentioned in that section for the completion of the harbour and works in connection therewith, authorised to be constructed by the Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation Act of 1890, for one year, for the due completion thereof*,"—read a first time.
7. GAOL AND COURT-HOUSE AT MUDGEE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Robert Jones moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and reports in connection with a complaint made by Mr. Robert Jones, M.P., as to the use of inferior material and workmanship in the Gaol and Court-house at Mudgee; also all papers, reports, and evidence taken by the Public Service Board as to the complaints by Mr. Jones in the above case.
 Question put and passed.
8. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Wellington, Mr. Haynes, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.:—
 "The case of the man Hines, now under sentence of death at Maitland."
 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.
 Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.
 Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only nineteen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, namely, Mr. Affleck, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Alexander Campbell, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. Cook, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Edden, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Law, Mr. McElhone, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Rose, and Mr. T. R. Smith,—
 Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at nine minutes after Seven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 11.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 19 MAY, 1897.

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

CONSOLIDATION OF THE LAND LAWS:—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received from Mr. Copeland a letter, stating that, for the reasons therein given, he desired to resign his position as a Member of the Select Committee appointed to consider the subject referred.

Whereupon, Mr. Carruthers moved, That Mr. Copeland be discharged from attendance upon the said Committee.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Preservation of Fodder:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Mines,—In view of the important part that the preservation of fodder, in the shape of ensilage, must play in connection with the development of the dairying industry in this Colony, will he take steps in the direction of having a series of lectures delivered on this subject in dairying districts by competent officers of his Department?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Yes, and the Principal of the Hawkesbury College will lecture shortly on the subject in the Richmond, Clarence, and Tweed Districts.

(2.) Extension of the Sewerage Scheme to Chatswood:—Mr. Howarth asked the Secretary for Public Works,—What has been done with respect to extending the sewerage system to Chatswood and to other parts of the Borough of Willoughby?

Mr. Young answered,—A survey is being made for extending the sewerage works into the borough referred to, a sum of £15,000 for carrying out portion of the work being available.

(3.) Constable stationed at Level-crossing at Pymble:—Mr. Howarth asked the Colonial Secretary,—(1.) Has a constable been stationed at the level-crossing at Pymble, to prevent the public from crossing the railway on the Lane Cove Road?

(2.) If so, at whose request and by whose authority was he so stationed?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed by the Inspector-General of Police that, at the request of the Commissioners for Railways, the police were instructed, in the event of Government property being damaged, to ascertain by whom it was done.

(4.) Visit of Mr. Coghlan to England:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary:—

(1.) Is Mr. Coghlan visiting England with a view, among other duties, to inspect the Agent-General's accounts?

(2.) Are Mr. Coghlan's travelling expenses, or any portion of them, paid or to be paid by the Government?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Mr. Coghlan is not visiting England for the purpose of inspecting the Agent-General's accounts.

(2.) There is no arrangement respecting such payment.

(5.) Railway from Gregra to Cudal:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—In view of the widespread distress that is likely to arise from the present protracted drought during the approaching winter, will he see that steps are taken to have the railway (a light line) from Gregra to Cudal (a distance of about 7 miles, estimated cost £14,000), constructed by day labour, in order to afford relief to the unemployed?

Mr. Young answered,—This line will not be overlooked when the Railway Policy of the Government is again under consideration by the Cabinet.

(6.) Magazine Station, Middle Harbour:—Mr. Bavister, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to the Question of Mr. E. M. Clark, No. 21, on 13th May, on the subject of men employed at the Magazine Station, Middle Harbour, what is the value of guardship provided for these men to live upon, and what revenue is received from same in rent?

Mr.

19th May, 1897.

Mr. Brunker answered,—The value of this vessel to the Government is represented by the amount paid for her purchase, fitting up, and maintenance since the year 1882, say—purchase money, £850; fitting up, £600; maintenance, £250; total, £1,700. The sums deducted as rent for quarters from the pay of residents on the guardship amount to £150 per annum.

- (7.) Claims against Public Works Department *re* Charges made by Mr. Varney Parkes, M.L.A. :—*Mr. Bavister*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What claims (if any) have been made by officers of the Public Works Department in regard to the Royal Commission on the charges made by Mr. Varney Parkes, M.P., against the Public Works Department?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Two clerks were allowed, for overtime worked, £3 2s. and £2 14s. 3d. respectively, by the authority of the Public Service Board. A claim amounting to 25 guineas was preferred by one of the clerks, but disallowed by the Public Service Board. Mr. Hickson's solicitors sent in a claim for £661 6s. 4d., which was moderated by the Crown Solicitor to £602 10s. 4d.

- (8.) Convictions under Public Health Bill :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Since the Public Health and Food and Liquor Adulteration Acts came into operation have any convictions taken place under these Acts?

(2.) Have any analyses been made of food and liquors that are now in daily use and consumption; if so, what has been the result of such analyses?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) There is no provision in the Act that prosecutions under the adulteration part of the Public Health Act should be reported, and it is not known whether any have taken place or not. The part is framed for general use of the public by themselves, or through the local authority in whose district they live.

(2.) No one has yet sought to move the Board of Health under section 58, which was passed so that its assistance might be procured whenever this seemed necessary.

- (9.) Oyster Leases held by H. Woodward :—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) When do the oyster leases of H. Woodward, Nos. 468, 551, 710, and 900, expire?

(2.) Is it a fact that a further extension of these leases has been granted under the provisions of the Oyster Fisheries Act of 1884, and for what period?

(3.) Is it a fact that, in view of the early introduction of a Fisheries Bill, he caused to be inserted in new leases a special clause to bring the holders within the provisions of new legislation?

(4.) Is it a fact that it is proposed by the new Bill to limit this description of leases to a period of ten years?

(5.) In view of the proposed early introduction of the new Fisheries Bill, what special reasons were there for extending these leases to Woodward?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) No. 468 oyster lease expires 30th September, 1899; No. 551 oyster lease expires 31st August, 1899; No. 710 oyster lease expires 30th September, 1899; No. 900 oyster lease expires 31st January, 1900.

(2.) Yes; for a further period of fifteen years, subject to the provisions of the new Bill.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) Yes.

(5.) The Fisheries Commissioners are of opinion that it was in the public interest to extend the leases referred to.

- (10.) Police Superannuation Fund Bill :—*Mr. Fegan*, for Mr. O'Reilly, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it his intention to introduce the Police Superannuation Fund Bill at an early date?

(2.) Is it a fact that in past years rewards for the apprehension of bushrangers were in certain cases paid from the said fund?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) The matter has been deferred pending the result of an actuarial calculation.

(2.) I am informed by the Inspector-General of Police that such is not the fact.

- (11.) Public Servants in the "General Division" :—*Mr. Fegan*, for Mr. O'Reilly, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it a fact that the Public Service Board refuses to allow public servants in the General Division who are over 21 years of age to qualify themselves by examination for the Clerical Division?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed by the Public Service Board that it is not the case.

- (12.) Quit-rents on old Grants of Land :—*Mr. Edden*, for Mr. Robert Jones, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that several old grants of land in the Colony have not as yet had the whole of the quit-rents paid for them, although long overdue?

(2.) If so, will he cause such payments to be made similar to other alienated lands?

(3.) If not, why not?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—It has been ascertained at the Treasury that there are old grants in respect of which quit-rents have not been redeemed; but until the quit-rents have been redeemed the grants will not be delivered, nor will the land be brought under the Real Property Act.

- (13.) Fines on Overdue Payments on Conditional Purchases :—*Mr. Wood* asked the Secretary for Lands,—What is the total amount collected as fines upon overdue payments on conditionally-purchased lands for years 1895-6 and 1896-7?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—The information cannot at present be supplied beyond the 31st December, 1896. I am informed by the Treasury the amounts are—For fines and overdue interest: 1st July, 1895, to 30th June, 1896, £3,659 0s. 2d.; 1st July, 1896, to 31st December, 1896, £2,875 12s. 6d.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th May, 1897.

(14.) Appeals against Decisions of Mining Wardens :—Mr. Watson asked the Secretary for Mines,—
(1.) Is it a fact that, when general instructions were issued to Wardens by the Department, Wardens were informed that they would be supported by the Department in any appeal against their decisions to superior courts?

(2.) Has the present Minister, or to his knowledge any of his predecessors, recommended a refund of costs given against Wardens?

(3.) If so, in which cases?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) No.

(2 and 3.) In the following cases, where the Wardens' decisions were appealed against, the costs were paid by the Government, but in no case was the payment made except on the advice of the Crown Solicitor :—Mandamus against Warden Maunsell ; mandamus against ex-Warden Lane ; Supreme Court action, Johnson v. late Warden Robinson.

3. PAPERS :—

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Statistics in connection with the Draft Bill of 1897 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia.

(2.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No 18.

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

(4.) Copies of *Gazette* Notices setting forth the mode in which it is proposed to deal with the dedication of certain Lands, in accordance with the provisions of the 105th section of the Act 48 Victoria No 18, and the 41st section of the Act 53 Victoria No 21.

(5.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No 18.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parishes of Gin Gin and Carrigan, counties of Narromine and Ewenmar, for a Weir on the Macquarie River and a Channel in connection therewith.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Returns under the several Acts of Parliament administered by the Registrar-General for the year 1896.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Certificate of the Public Service Board respecting the Appointment of a Clerk for special duty in the Taxation Department.

(2.) Certificate of the Public Service Board respecting the Appointment of a Geological Surveyor, Department of Mines and Agriculture.

(3.) Certificate of the Public Service Board respecting the Appointment of an Assistant, Technological Museum.

(4.) General Abstracts of Bank Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 31st December, 1896.

(5.) General Abstracts of Bank Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 31st March, 1897.

(6.) General Abstracts of Banking, Land, Building, and Investment Companies' Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 31st December, 1896.

(7.) General Abstracts of Banking, Land, Building, and Investment Companies' Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 31st March, 1897.

(8.) Regulations, under the Public Service Act, of 1895, respecting the employment of Gardeners and others, under the control of the Director of Botanical Gardens.

(9.) Return to an Order, made on 13th May, 1897,—“Government Advertisements in Sydney Newspapers.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (NEWCASTLE TECHNICAL COLLEGE) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Garrard, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Garrard then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to vest certain Lands at Newcastle in the Minister of Public Instruction on behalf of Her Majesty.*”

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled “*An Act to vest certain Lands at Newcastle in the Minister of Public Instruction on behalf of Her Majesty,*” —presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 19th May, 1897.

5. DISMISSAL OF MAURICE HICKEY, OF NEWCASTLE, BY THE MARINE BOARD (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr.

Fegan moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all papers concerning the dismissal of one Maurice Hickey, of Newcastle, by the Marine Board.

Question put and passed.

6. EXPENDITURE FROM VOTES FOR 1896-7 ON WORKS UNDERTAKEN IN 1895-6 (*Formal Motion*) :—

Mr. Wood moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the total amount paid from moneys voted for the year 1896-7 for works undertaken in the previous year.

Question put and passed

19th May, 1897.

7. LEASING OF PORTION OF CHURCH AND SCHOOL ESTATE, RANDWICK—KENSINGTON RACECOURSE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Haynes moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all the papers in connection with the leasing of that portion of the Church and School Estate at Randwick embraced in the Kensington Racecourse.
Question put and passed.
8. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Barristers and Solicitors Fees Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 17th August.
(2.) Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill; to be considered in Committee;—until Tuesday, 17th August.
(3.) Eight Hours Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 31st August.
(4.) Public Service Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 31st August.
9. EMU GRAVEL AND ROAD-METAL COMPANY'S TRAMWAY BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—
MR. SPEAKER,—
The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the construction, maintenance, and control by the Emu Gravel and Road-metal Company (Limited) of a tramway from the property known as the Prospect Quarries to the Toongabbie Railway Station, and connecting with the Great Western Railway, and to carry passengers and goods thereon,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence, accompanied by a copy of the Report from, and Minutes of Evidence taken before, the Select Committee thereon.
Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 19th May, 1897.
Bill, on motion of Mr. Garrard, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
10. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—DISSENT FROM MR. SPEAKER'S RULING:—Mr. Copeland moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in terms of the 161st Standing Order, this House dissents from the ruling of Mr. Speaker on Wednesday last on the question of whether the principles of the "Draft Federal Constitution," as drawn up by the Adelaide Convention, could be debated in the House prior to going into Committee of the Whole, as provided for in the 26th section of the "Australasian Federation Enabling Act," inasmuch as such ruling was contrary to the practice of Parliament, and calculated to destroy the effectiveness of the usual preliminary debate on a motion of such exceptional importance as that under consideration, while it deprived Honorable Members of their undoubted right of debating the general principles of the proposed Constitution, except on sufferance, in a manner contrary to the practice of Parliament, and in direct contravention of the 260th Standing Order, which provides that the debate in Committee must be relevant to the clause under discussion.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 22.

Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Lyne,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. See,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Kelly.

Tellers,

Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Fegan.

Noes, 48.

Mr. Brunner,
Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Bull,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Davis,
Mr. Jessop,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Smiles,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Greene,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. Newman,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Colton,
Mr. Black.

Tellers,

Mr. Moore,
Mr. Thomas.

And so it passed in the negative.

11. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Wallsend, Mr. Watkins, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.:—"The administration of the Coal Mines Regulation Act."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Watkins moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
12. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunner moved, That this House do now adjourn
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
The House adjourned accordingly, at three minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 12.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 20 MAY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Road at Pymble Railway Station :—Mr. Howarth asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What was the total cost of the new road at Pymble Railway Station?
- (2.) Was such road necessary?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed that the cost of the new road was £212 15s. 3d. It was made for the purpose of affording the public a better and safer means of crossing the line by way of a bridge. The level-crossing is inconvenient, and there is always a certain amount of risk attached to it, which will increase in proportion to the expansion of traffic on the line.

(2.) Bicycle Travellers by the North Shore Ferry :—*Mr. Haynes*, for *Mr. E. M. Clark*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that bicyclists are refused the right to travel by the North Shore passenger ferry service?
- (2.) Is it a fact that lady bicyclists and others are compelled to use the horse ferry service at considerable inconvenience?
- (3.) Will he consider (in view of the popularity of bicycling) the advisability of inserting a clause in future leases of wharfs at the Circular Quay, to make provisions for this class of traffic with less inconvenience than at present?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am not aware.

(3.) The insertion of such a clause is not considered advisable, as it would probably interfere with the conduct of business.

(3.) Resumption of Land at head of Berry's Bay :—*Mr. Haynes*, for *Mr. E. M. Clark*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—What steps (if any) have been taken by the Department in the matter of reclamations at the head of Berry's Bay, North Sydney?

Mr. Young answered,—The question of whether the reclamation is to be undertaken by the Department as a public work is now being considered, but no decision can be arrived at until further inquiries are made about the land that will have to be resumed.

(4.) Proposed Visit of Dr. Koch to the Colonies :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that steps are now being taken by the Government to obtain the services of the great scientist, Dr. Koch, to visit these Colonies, with the view of suggesting or discovering some radical method or remedy for dealing with and eradicating the tick pest?
- (2.) Will he consider whether it would be better to offer some substantial reward for the discovery of an effectual remedy in place of bringing Dr. Koch to these Colonies?
- (3.) What has been the result of Dr. Koch's recent visit to Cape Colony in regard to dealing with the rinderpest plague now so prevalent in that Colony, and has his mission there been a failure or a success?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes; the recent Intercolonial Conference decided that a cable should be sent to the Agent-General to ascertain the terms upon which Dr. Koch would visit Queensland and complete an investigation of the kind. When these terms are known the matter is to be considered by the Premiers of the different Colonies in England.

(2.) It is proposed to offer a reward to any persons proving they have a satisfactory and an effectual remedy.

(3.) The Government has no official intimation, but it has been stated in a Press cable that the treatment failed.

(5.)

20th May, 1897.

- (5.) Compensation for Land Resumed for Jerilderie to Berrigan Railway:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it the intention of the Government to hand over the money now in the Treasury, as compensation for land resumed for the Jerilderie to Berrigan railway, to Mr. Dickey?
 - (2.) If so, when will the money be paid to Mr. Dickey?
 - (3.) If the Government does not intend to hand over the money at once, what is the reason?
 - (4.) What is the amount now in the Treasury, according to Mr. Young's reply to Question No. 9 of Tuesday, 18th May, on this same matter?
 - (5.) Is the money now in the Treasury for this purpose Government money, or was it subscribed by the people to be paid to Mr. Dickey?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1, 2, and 3.) The money cannot be handed over until an agreement is arrived at between the Constructing Authority and Mr. Dickey as to the amount of compensation to be paid, or until the case is decided by two Justices.
 - (4.) It would be inadvisable to disclose the amount paid into the Treasury; to do so might prejudice the Government should Mr. Dickey resort to legal proceedings.
 - (5.) The money was subscribed by the residents of Berrigan.
- (6.) Settlement Leases:—Mr. Watkins, for Mr. Collins, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) How many settlement leases have been taken in the Narrabri, Moree, and Walgett Land Districts?
 - (2.) How many persons who have obtained settlement leases are still holding or have held conditionally-purchased land in these districts?
- Mr. Carruthers answered,—As almost all the papers respecting the settlement leases taken up in the Narrabri, Moree, and Walgett Districts are with the Chairmen of those districts, it is impossible to give the whole of the information desired by the Honorable Member. It is, therefore, suggested that he should move for a return in the usual manner.
- (7.) Carriage of Stock on Railways from Drought-stricken Districts:—Mr. Watkins, for Mr. Collins, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the serious drought which is affecting most of the inland districts of the Colony, will he give effect to a resolution passed at a meeting of stock-owners in the north-western district, namely, "That the great loss of stock will materially affect the returns of the Railway, and that provision should be made whereby stock could be sent free of all charges on the railways from the drought-stricken districts to where feed and water are obtainable, and to be returned to the different districts as soon as the drought breaks"?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—The Railway Commissioners have already made a very liberal concession in granting half rates for starving stock, and do not feel justified in making a further concession.
- (8.) Selectors' Payments under the Crown Lands Acts:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Secretary for Lands,—In view of the terrible distress caused by the drought in the Qucanbeyan, Yass Plains, Argyle, and other districts, will he take into consideration the desirableness of making the following concessions:—(1) That the current year's payments to Government by selectors under the Crown Lands Acts (whether rent, instalments, or interest) should be remitted; or (2), that such payments should be deferred until the end of the respective terms free of interest; also (3), that rentals payable under pastoral holdings be suspended for the current year under the same conditions?
- Mr. Carruthers answered,—No general rule of this character can be established. Whilst the larger portion of the Colony is suffering from drought, I am aware that there are districts which fortunately have escaped the disaster, and the land-holders there are not only secure from loss, but they are likely to profit from the comparative advantage which they have in the fat stock and forage markets. It must not be forgotten that the more the revenues of the Colony are diminished the less able will the Government be to proceed with works calculated to find employment and afford relief to men suffering from the season. For that reason, as well as for many others, it is incumbent on me not to be reckless of the consequences of a too wide liberality. I can only again assure this House that every consideration reconcilable with the public interests will be extended to both large and small settlers upon the merits of their cases.
- (9.) Relief to Residents of Drought-stricken Districts:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Referring to the Minister's statement in the Legislative Assembly that he would ask the District Surveyors and Chairmen of Local Land Boards to suggest some means of relief to the residents of drought-stricken districts, have any such reports been received?
 - (2.) If so, what is the nature of the suggestions made?
 - (3.) Does he intend to act upon the suggestions so made; and, if so, when?
- Mr. Carruthers answered,—
- (1.) Yes, from some of the Chairmen and District Surveyors.
 - (2.) Among the suggestions are the following, viz.:—The reduction of cost of transit by railway of stock, hay, chaff, and other agricultural produce; the temporary reduction of all rents; the making provision for additional water supply; the carriage of water by rail to certain localities; and the keeping up of a full and constant flow of water from artesian bores, &c.
 - (3.) Some of these suggestions have already been given effect to, and any others that may appear to be practicable shall receive my most earnest attention.
- (10.) Subsidy for the Thirlmere Home for Consumptives:—Mr. Watson, for Mr. Griffith, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he consider the advisability of placing on the next Estimates a sum of money to provide a subsidy for the Thirlmere Home for Consumptives?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—Before consenting to place a sum upon the Estimates for such a purpose I should require some details, so that I might understand the working of the institution before pledging any portion of the public funds. (11.)

20th May, 1897.

- (11.) Conveyance for use of Nurses at Coast Hospital, Little Bay:—*Mr. Watson*, for *Mr. Griffith*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he consider the advisability of placing on the forthcoming Estimates a sum of money for the purpose of providing a conveyance for use by the nurses at the Coast Hospital between Little Bay and the Botany tram terminus?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I do not think it will be necessary to place a sum on the Estimates to make such a provision as that asked for by the Honorable Member, because I believe conveniences are already at the command of the Department sufficient to carry it out.

- (12.) Goulburn Gaol:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Rose*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) What is the number of warders in the Goulburn Gaol?
- (2.) What is the number of prisoners in the gaol?
- (3.) Has there been any recent reduction in the number of warders?

Mr. Gould answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by the Comptroller-General of Prisons:—

- (1.) The staff at Goulburn Gaol consists of forty-one officers, including thirty-five warders of various grades.
- (2.) Two hundred and sixty-six.
- (3.) Yes. There are three warders less employed.

- (13.) Goods or Stock consigned to Agents:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that, as the law at present stands, unscrupulous salesmen can, without leaving themselves liable or being punished, defraud the settlers of this Colony who entrusted them with the sale of their products?
- (2.) Have any cases of recent occurrence of this system of defrauding been brought under his notice; if not, will he read the case of insolvency of *McBurney and Wallace, &c.*?
- (3.) In view of the importance of protecting those who consign goods or stock to agents for sale, will the Government (1) bring in a Bill to make agents who receive goods liable for the account sales of such goods; (2) that any misappropriation of moneys so received shall be a misdemeanour?
- (4.) That the consignee of such goods, stock, produce, &c., sent for sale, shall be compelled to place the sale receipts into a trust account for the benefit of the owner or consignor of the goods sold?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This Question appears to me to affect private interests. However, I should advise the Honorable Member to refer the matter for consideration to the Minister for Justice.

- (14.) Angledool Weir:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What is the delay in proceeding in a proper manner with the construction of the Angledool weir?
- (2.) Is it a fact that men have been idle for some time, waiting for tools and instructions?
- (3.) Is he aware that the present time, when the river is dry, is the most favourable time to have the weir completed cheaply if expedition is used?
- (4.) Will he give instructions to have the work pushed on with proper diligence?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Owing to the very dry state of the country much delay has been experienced in getting tools and materials on to the ground.
- (2.) No; because men could not be put on until material was on the ground. Instructions were given three or four months ago, but, as above explained, unavoidable delay occurred in sending cement, tools, &c., forward.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) The work is now being pushed on.

- (15.) Colonel Home, Irrigation Expert:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What has been the result of Colonel Home's investigation in this Colony in regard to irrigation?
- (2.) Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of this House a report showing what we may expect from Colonel Home's engagement?
- (3.) What salary does Colonel Home enjoy?
- (4.) How long is he engaged for?
- (5.) What is the total amount of his travelling and incidental expenses to date?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) No result can be anticipated until the examination of the country has been completed by Colonel Home in such a manner as to enable him to prepare a report of his investigations.
- (2.) When Colonel Home's report is received it will be presented to Parliament.
- (3.) He is to receive a fee of 2,000 guineas.
- (4.) Twelve months.
- (5.) £168 13s. 3d.; of this amount £63 9s. 9d. was for passage money from London to Sydney.

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parishes of Gill and Perry, county of Inglis, for the Supply of Water to the Town of Tamworth.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Report of the Inspector-General of the Insane for the year 1896.
- (2.) By-laws of the Borough of Kempsey.
- (3.) By-law of the Borough of Wollongong.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

20th May, 1897.

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

4. CHURCH ACTS REPEALING BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to repeal the Acts 7 William IV No. 3, 8 William IV No. 5, and 21 Victoria No. 4, to bring lands held for Church purposes under the provisions of Ordinances of Synod, to validate the appointment of past trustees under the said repealed Acts, and to make provision for vesting lands held on trust in the present trustees and in new trustees without conveyance.*"—forwarded to the Legislative Assembly for concurrence during last Session of the present Parliament, not having been finally dealt with because of the prorogation of the Legislature, the Legislative Council requests that the said Bill be proceeded with under the Assembly's Standing Order in that behalf.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 20th May, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

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

Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday next.

5. INTERPRETATION BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act for consolidating enactments relating to the interpretation of Acts of Parliament, and for further shortening their language.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 20th May, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

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

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

6. PUBLIC ROADS BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having taken into consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 11th November, 1896, in reference to the Public Roads Bill,—

Insists upon its amendments in clause 2, disagreed to by the Assembly,—

1. Because in subdivision of Crown lands a large number of reservations are properly set apart for purposes of access, which, in the majority of cases, become useless for any public purpose, and it is not considered desirable to place such reservations in the position of roads until the necessity for public dedication has been ascertained, when a proclamation can be made under new clause 16.

2. Because, in the case of strips of Crown land set apart as roads of access, the clause as originally passed would expose Crown tenants, selectors, and other holders to prosecution under clause 29, and to unnecessary interference by persons claiming to use them as roads before proclamation.

3. Because the clause as originally passed by the Assembly is not limited to land defined, designed, or intended as a road by the Crown, but would also apply to private subdivision and private right-of-way.

4. Because in the case of many of the old grants tracks were indicated as roads on the Departmental plans, and this would expose the present holders to prosecution under clause 29, on the ground that these were intended for roads within the meaning of this clause.

Insists upon its amendment in clause 5, line 18, and disagrees to the Assembly's amendment upon such amendment,—because, in addition to the Departmental information at the command of the Minister, the Local Land Board has the best means of ascertaining the facts locally affecting the case.

Insists upon its amendment in clause 7, which omits subclause (III),—because it is consequential on its amendments in clause 2.

Insists upon its amendment in clause 8, line 35,—because every person interested should have an equal right of appeal, and the mode of bringing the matters in dispute before the Land Board can be set out by regulation.

Insists upon its amendment in clause 18,—because it is consequential on its amendments in clause 2.

And agrees to the Assembly's further amendment in clause 6.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 20th May, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the Message be taken into consideration in Committee of the Whole on Wednesday next.

7. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for St. Leonards, Mr. E. M. Clark, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.:—"The competition of the Permanent Artillery Band with other private Bands."

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

20th May, 1897.

8. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.
9. STAMP DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Brunker moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Brunker, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 13.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 25 MAY, 1897.

There being only nineteen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, namely,—Mr. Barnes, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Carroll, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Crick, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Edden, Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Mr. Gould, Mr. Harris, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Simcon Phillips, Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, Dr. Ross, Mr. Willis, and Mr. Young,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at half-past Four o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 14.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 26 MAY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Case of Sergeant McKee :—Mr. Storey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that Sergeant McKee, of Randwick, was sued in the Supreme Court, and a verdict given against him for the small sum of £25, which carried £277 costs ?

(2.) Will he make the fullest inquiry into this case, with a view of placing a sum on the Estimates for the consideration of Parliament, so as to recoup Sergeant McKee for the loss incurred in the execution of what he considered to be his duty ?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed that such a verdict was given, with costs. With regard to the second Question, I have the matter now under my consideration. The Honorable Member will admit that establishing a precedent of this kind is of considerable importance ; but I shall have the matter fully considered, with a view to having a sum placed on the Estimates if considered desirable.

- (2.) Report of Government Meteorologist on the present Drought :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Will he obtain from Mr. Russell, the Government Meteorologist, a report on the present protracted and disastrous drought, and how long the apparently uncontrollable physical laws are likely to continue ?

(2.) Does the present drought coincide with Mr. Russell's often-expressed views of a nineteen years' cycle of droughts ?

(3.) Will Mr. Russell furnish some information or data of the extent of the present drought, if it extends to other parts of the world, or is it confined simply within the limits of these Australian Colonies ?

(4.) Is there any known scientific connection between alleged sun spots and the present drought, or the existence and prevalence of icebergs in the Indian or Pacific Ocean ?

Mr. Garrard answered,—I will presently lay this information upon the Table in the form of a return.

- (3.) Electric Telegraph Code :—Mr. See asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Does he mean, by his Answer to Question G, asked by Mr. See, on Wednesday, 12th May, with reference to the change of Telegraph Code, that the Chief Electrical Engineer has no right to change his views as a result of more mature consideration of a purely technical subject without Ministerial permission to do so ?

(2.) Does he admit that the Technical Head of the Department has reported adversely to the introduction of another code, and will he state on whose advice he is now acting in persisting in his determination to carry out this great change ; if on his own judgment, has he any knowledge of telegraphy ?

(3.) Does he admit that he knows of no precedent where a country has changed its established code ; and what guarantee can he give that the alteration can be made without imperilling the efficiency and causing the disorganisation of this important branch of the Public Service ?

(4.) Is he aware that the Americans, upon the advice of eminent authorities, refused to change their code owing to the confusion which might be created ?

(5.) Is he aware that the Australian code is an improvement upon the American code, and is regarded by some authorities in America as the best code in existence ?

(6.) Has he any reason to feel dissatisfied with the existing standard of efficiency of the Telegraph Service in consequence of complaints from the press or public ?

(7.) Have the adverse reports and representations which have been received from the Technical Heads and Operating Staffs been considered ; if so, by whom ?

(8.)

26th May, 1897.

(8.) Is it a fact that, at the Conference at which the change was confirmed, there was no reference whatever to the telegraph code on the business-paper?

(9.) Is it a fact that a statement, solely from a Queensland officer, was submitted at this second Conference?

(10.) Is he aware that this Queensland officer has been the prime mover in this question?

(11.) Is he aware that this gentleman had been only two months in the Colonies when the change was decided upon, and thus could have no experience or practical knowledge of the conditions of Australian telegraphy?

(12.) Will he promise to take steps to hold a further Conference of Postmasters-General, so that consideration may be given to all the scientific, technical, and other objections raised against this change of code?

Mr. Cook answered,—I have only to say in reply to all these Questions, the statements in some of which are quite incorrect, that I am carrying out a decision arrived at by the whole of the Australian Colonies, and whilst doing so I shall use every precaution to see that the public interests do not suffer.

(4.) Coast Hospital, Little Bay :—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In reference to the Answer No. 1 to Mr. Dacey's Question No. 7, of 11th May, will he please to state what is the actual annual cost to the Government of the quarters, rations, fuel, light, and uniform respectively for each nurse, which it is stated makes up the allowances amounting to £50 per annum?

(2.) What provision has been made for the scrubbing of the floors, which it is stated, in Answer No. 2, has not been performed by the nurses; and what has been the actual cost to the Government of this work since 1st January, 1896?

(3.) Will the Government direct that a more adequate equivalent shall be granted than one day's holiday per month, amounting to twelve in the year, which it was stated in Answer No. 3 has been conceded in consideration of the fact that the nurses have to work on Saturday afternoons, Sundays, and public holidays, amounting to ninety days per annum?

(4.) In reference to Answer No. 5 to Mr. Dacey's Question No. 7, of 4th May, is it not a fact that the nurses work from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the one day, and from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the next, with two half-hours only off duty on each day for meals, amounting on the first day to eleven hours, and on the second to nine hours, of actual work, and that, in case of the absence of any nurses from illness or other cause, these hours for those on duty are at times considerably increased; if so, will he cause inquiry to be made as to who is responsible for the reply that the nurses were only on duty for "nine and three-quarter hours each day," and direct an explanation to be given?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Quarters—estimated cost per nurse, £26; rations, calculated on quantity supplied according to standard diet scale at present contract rates, £23; fuel, £1 0s. 9d.; light, 9s. 8d.; uniform material, at contract price, £3 13s. 5d.; servants (2)—estimated proportion, £1 13s. 4d.; cooks (6)—estimated proportion, £1 1s. 6d.; washing, £7 16s.; total, £64 14s. 8d.

(2.) Floors are scrubbed by inmates whose state of health allows of their doing such work. No expenditure has been incurred in this direction.

(3.) Steps are being taken to place the nurses on a similar footing to other employees of the Government in this respect.

(4.) No; the hours of work differ on each of every two consecutive days, and the average hours of actual work on the two days are 9½. On the first day the hours of actual work are 9, on the second day they are 10½. When any member of the staff is temporarily absent the remainder work proportionately longer.

(5.) Proposed Railway from The Rock to Green's Gonyah :—Mr. Lync asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it his intention to submit during the present Session the proposed line of railway from The Rock to Green's Gonyah?

Mr. Young answered,—I hope to be able to do so.

(6.) Appointment of Police Magistrate for Brewarrina :—Mr. Willis asked the Minister of Justice,—What is the delay in appointing a Police Magistrate for the town and district of Brewarrina?

Mr. Gould answered,—The question of the appointment of a Police Magistrate for Brewarrina has recently been under the notice of the Public Service Board, but after carefully considering the matter they do not deem it necessary to appoint such an officer. The duties are being attended to by the Police Magistrate of Bourke, who pays regular visits to Brewarrina, and the Clerk of Petty Sessions there is a Justice of the Peace, so that no inconvenience should arise from the want of a Magistrate for magisterial duty.

(7.) Engine Drivers and Firemen stationed at Eveleigh :—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it a fact that some of the reduced drivers and firemen stationed at Eveleigh are invariably allowed to work fourteen "days" and over per fortnight, whilst there are drivers and firemen amongst the regular staff not receiving their twelve "days" pay per fortnight, although available for duty?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed that the work is distributed as evenly as the exigencies of the traffic will permit among the men who are available at the time.

(8.) Public Servants over 65 years of age :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—How many officers still remaining in the service of the State are above the age of 65 years; and for what special reason are they retained?

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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

26th May, 1897.

(9.) Duty on Tea imported into Norfolk Island:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—By what authority is it proposed to exact a Customs duty of 3d. per lb. on tea imported into Norfolk Island?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Customs duties on certain goods imported into Norfolk Island for home consumption are levied by virtue of a proclamation under the sign manual of His Excellency the Governor, dated the 7th April last, a copy of which will be forwarded to the Honorable Member.

(10.) Special Trains obtained by Messrs. Cook and Son:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Under what conditions do Messrs. Cook and Son obtain special trains through the medium of which to run excursions to Melbourne and other Colonies?

(2.) Is he aware that a wholesale traffic in tickets issued by this company is carried on by agents in various centres of population in this and the adjoining Colonies?

(3.) Will he suggest to the Railway Commissioners the advisability of conducting these special excursions themselves, and of making, on behalf of the taxpayers, the profits attached thereto?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed that:—

(1.) Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son act as ticket agents in connection with a special excursion train run periodically between Sydney and Melbourne, receiving 10 per cent. of the amount collected, and defraying the expenses of printing and advertising such excursions.

(2.) Reports in the Victorian Press have recently been published to this effect. No doubt abuses have taken place in connection with these tickets, similar to those which have occurred with other cheap excursion tickets. Abuses of the ordinary cheap excursion tickets were somewhat numerous a short time since, and a number of prosecutions were instituted and convictions obtained.

(3.) The Honorable Member appears to be under a misapprehension. The trains are run by the Commissioners, and the proceeds are received by the Department, but Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son, who have offices throughout the world, act as ticket agents in connection with intercolonial excursion business by special train periodically to and from Melbourne, and several tourist resorts within the Colony.

(11.) Labour Agents:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is he aware that a class called "Labour Agents" are in the habit of exacting exorbitant charges from unfortunate persons in search of work, and when procuring work or situations for them?

(2.) Is there any fixed scale of fees or charges in such cases?

(3.) Would he see that steps are taken to have so serious a matter rectified or inquired into in the interest of those who are in search of situations or work?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1 and 2.) I have heard that such a class of agents are in business in the Colony. At present there is no legal means of control over them.

(3.) The desirableness of necessary legislation in the matter is under consideration.

(12.) Train Accidents at Redfern Railway Yard:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to Mr. McGowen's Questions of 4th May *re* Redfern Railway Station,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that the empty train in question invariably starts from Botany siding, as it did the day it ran on the wrong line?

(2.) Is it not a fact that, besides the shunting signals from the siding, the proper main line signals from down fast to down slow line were also exhibited for the empty passenger train, although, as proved, the points were open for the up slow line?

(3.) Should not a proper system of interlocking provide that signals cannot be lowered for a line unless the points are first properly set for the line the signal applies to?

(4.) Is it a fact that an Inspector of the Department endeavoured to induce the servants concerned in the case of running on the wrong line not to report the occurrence?

(5.) In view of the answer that thorough and careful investigation has been made in these cases will he lay all the Departmental papers and report in these cases upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed that—

(1.) An empty car train has occasionally been despatched improperly from Botany Road Siding, whereas it ought to have been first shunted on to, and despatched from, the main line.

(2.) The shunting signal for leaving the siding was taken off, but this signal was an authority for leaving the siding for shunting purposes only, and not for going away on the main line. The down fast to down slow main line signal referred to in the Question was lowered and the points set in harmony therewith for the line to which it applied, but the driver of the empty carriage train was not on the down slow line, and therefore the signal did not apply to him.

(3.) Yes; and the points and signals were so interlocked in this case. The occurrence arose through irregular working on the part of certain members of the staff, and the matter has been taken up suitably with those concerned.

(4.) So far as can be ascertained there is absolutely no foundation for such an insinuation.

(5.) It is considered undesirable to place Departmental papers regarding detail working upon the Table.

2. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Affleck presented a Petition from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales, praying that there may be inserted in the Preamble of the Commonwealth Bill now before the House a recognition of the existence of Almighty God, and of His Sovereignty over nations.

(2.) Mr. McMillan presented a Petition from the Australasian National League, New South Wales Section, suggesting certain amendments for insertion in the Commonwealth Bill; and praying the House to recommend such as will provide a system of effective representation in the election of representatives to the Senate; for the limitation of the taxation powers of the Federal Parliament, so that direct taxation may only be imposed in the event of war; and for the granting of the right of appeal to the Privy Council to litigants before the Australian Courts.

Petitions received.

26th May, 1897.

3. PAPERS :—

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Return by the Government Astronomer respecting the present drought.
- (2.) Report of the Minister of Public Instruction for the year 1896, with Appendices.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—Return respecting Allowances to Officers of the Permanent Artillery.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

- (1.) Public Works Acts Further Amendment Bill, reported; adoption of report;—until Tuesday, 8th June.
- (2.) Ministerial Election Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 8th June.
- (3.) Borough of Lithgow Validating Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 6th July.
- (4.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Parkes, "That this Bill be now read a second time";—until Wednesday, 9th June.
- (5.) Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Wednesday, 9th June.
- (6.) Emu Gravel and Road-metal Company's Tramway Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 6th July.

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

MR. SPEAKER,—

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

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 26th May, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Frank Farnell, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 6th July.

6. COOK'S RIVER IMPROVEMENTS BILL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled, "*An Act to sanction the construction of certain works for the improvement of Cook's River, near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood waters,*"—with the amendment indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 26th May, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

COOK'S RIVER IMPROVEMENTS BILL.

Schedule of the Amendment referred to in Message of 26th May, 1897.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 4, line 15. Omit "6" insert "7"

Examined,—

ARCH. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the Message be taken into consideration in Committee of the Whole To-morrow.

7. STAMP DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Bruncker, passed.

Mr. Bruncker then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Stamp Duties Acts, 1880-1894.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled, "*An Act to amend the Stamp Duties Acts, 1880-1894,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 26th May, 1897.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

26th May, 1897.

8. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.
9. PUBLIC TRUSTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.
10. PUBLIC ROADS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Legislative Council's Message of 20th May, 1897, in reference to the amendments in this Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee insists upon its disagreements to the Council's amendments in the Bill.
On motion of 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 20th May, 1897, in reference to the Public Roads 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. Carruthers, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Gould, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Moore, Mr. Perry, Mr. Lee, Mr. Wood, Mr. Thomas Brown, and Mr. Millen.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 26th May, 1897.*
11. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
The House adjourned accordingly, at six minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 15.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 27 MAY, 1897.

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

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

- (1.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote for "Government Printer's Department," to supplement the Vote for "Public Library of New South Wales."
 - (2.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Contingent Vote for "Department of Mines," to supplement the Vote for "Public Watering Places and Artesian Boring."
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

2. QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) The Rev. J. M. Curran.—Mr. Hurley asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) To what position has the Rev. J. M. Curran been transferred?
 - (2.) Has any appointment been made to take the position vacated by the Rev. J. M. Curran?
 - (3.) Are there any geologists available to visit mining centres and lecture on geology?
 - (4.) Why was the information not conveyed to Honorable Members, who have been applying for over twelve months for the Rev. J. M. Curran's services, that he had been transferred?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) Teacher of Geology and Assaying in connection with the establishment of a School for Miners at the Technical College, Sydney.
- (2.) No.
- (3.) Not under this Department.
- (4.) Mr. Curran was appointed by the Public Service Board yesterday only.

- (2.) Relief to the Unemployed:—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Have any arrangements been made to put gangs of men on to cut up, remove, and burn the fallen timber from the banks and beds of the Murray, Darling, and Murrumbidgee Rivers?
- (2.) If not, will the Government arrange that this useful work be carried out at once, giving at the same time relief to a large number of unemployed?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) A contract has been let for the supply of a steamer and a gang of men for snagging purposes on the Darling River, which work embraces the cutting up and burning the fallen timber on the banks of the Darling River. Nothing is being done at present on the Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers.
- (2.) Further consideration will be given to the matter.

- (3.) Relief to the Unemployed:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Mines,—Has he yet decided upon the applications made to him, by petition from unemployed and otherwise, asking that work might be provided for men in gathering up and burning the fallen timber in the thinned forests on the Murray River?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The Officer-in-charge states that there is a very limited amount of this work which could be undertaken, in view of the probability of flood-waters coming down. Further inquiry is, however, being made in the matter.

(4.)

27th May, 1897.

- (4.) Stock Inspectors' Salaries:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Referring to previous Questions on the subject, has any decision been arrived at in reference to the reductions made from Stock Inspectors' salaries by the Public Service Board?
 - (2.) Is it his intention to refund to Stock Inspectors the amounts reduced, and place them in the future on the old basis of salary fixed by the various Stock and Pasture Boards?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This is a question which must await the preparation of the Estimates, as the Inspectors in every case have been paid the salaries voted by Parliament.
- (5.) Ferry Traffic at Circular Quay:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a considerable delay of the ferry traffic at the Circular Quay was occasioned between 5 and 6 p.m. on the 21st instant; and, if so, what was the cause of such delay?
 - (2.) Will the Marine Board take steps to prevent any blocking of this traffic during the busy hours of the day?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—
- (1.) There was a slight obstruction to the ferry traffic for about twenty minutes on the evening of the 21st instant, caused by one of the Newcastle boats turning round to leave the Cove.
 - (2.) The Marine Board will do all they can, and have already taken steps to prevent a repetition of the block in the traffic referred to.
- (6.) Exhibition of Pictures in the Art Gallery:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Have any pictures by James Howe Carr been offered for exhibition in the loan gallery of the Art Gallery just opened and refused?
 - (2.) Have any pictures by Neville Cayley been offered for exhibition in like manner and refused?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—
- (1.) Two of James Howe Carse's pictures were declined by the Trustees without giving reasons, in accordance with the terms of the circular issued.
 - (2.) Three of Neville Cayley's were also declined.
- (7.) Leasing of Parramatta Park:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Trustees of Parramatta Park are leasing an area of the land to the council of the King's School, and is it proposed to erect buildings thereon?
 - (2.) What is the area proposed to be leased, and for what term, and at what rent?
 - (3.) What powers (if any) have the Trustees of a public park to dispose of, either by lease or otherwise, any portion of such park?
 - (4.) Is King's School a denominational one; and, if so, will not such a lease, if granted, open up equal rights to other denominations?
 - (5.) Will he take steps to prevent any interference with the public rights by the leasing of any portion of the park?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—The Honorable Member's attention is invited to a reply given on the 18th instant to a Question asked by the Honorable Member for Parramatta, and my honorable colleague has merely to add that no official letter has since reached the Department.
- (8.) Land resumed at Jerilderie and Berrigan for Railway purposes:—Mr. Crick asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that 14 acres of land, the property of John Dickie, were resumed for the purposes of the Jerilderie to Berrigan railway?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the Government Valuator estimated the value of the said land as "nil"; if so, how was such estimate arrived at?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) An area of 13 acres 0 roods 13 perches was so resumed.
 - (2.) Yes, by the application of the betterment principle, in accordance with section 24 of the "Public Works Act of 1888."
- (9.) Quit-rents on old Crown Grants:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) What is the amount of money received annually in the shape of quit-rents from old Crown grants?
 - (2.) What is the number of acres upon which such quit-rents are paid annually?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—
- (1.) It has been ascertained from the Treasury that the amounts paid as quit-rents, in connection with grants redeemed during the past five years, are as follows, viz.:—1892, £562 2s.; 1893, £500 16s. 4d.; 1894, £1,353 1s. 4d.; 1895, £766 9s. 7d.; 1896, £487 17s.
 - (2.) I am informed by the Treasury that the area included in the grants redeemed cannot be ascertained without considerable research; but the information can be given, if so desired, in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.
- (10.) Record Reign Celebrations:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Has any decision yet been arrived at in regard to granting school children an extra week's holiday during mid-winter holidays (which commence on 25th June) in celebration of the Queen's Record Reign?
 - (2.) In the event of an extra week's holiday being disallowed, are any provisions likely to be made to mark the advent of this auspicious event or occasion in Public Schools throughout the interior?
 - (3.) Is it not possible to make suitable arrangements for school children in the interior so disposed to travel to Sydney at reduced railway rates to enable them to participate in the Public School demonstration or athletic sports that take place in Sydney on the 22nd June, the day fixed for celebrating the Record Reign?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—This matter has not yet been decided. I hope a decision will be arrived at early next week.

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- (11.) Mr. Lethbridge, the Sheriff's Office :—Mr. McElhone asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Was a person named Lethbridge employed in the Sheriff's Office?
 - (2.) If so, is it a fact that he kept or embezzled the fees earned by assistant bailiffs?
 - (3.) Has he been prosecuted for the same?
 - (4.) Have the assistant bailiffs made any claim on the Government for their fees, kept by Lethbridge; if so, with what result?
- Mr. Gould answered,—
- (1.) Yes; as Chief Sheriff's officer.
 - (2.) I am not aware that he kept any fees earned by assistant bailiffs, but a deficiency of £191 8s. 9d. was found in his accounts as Chief Sheriff's officer. The whole amount was recovered.
 - (3.) No; but he was dismissed the Service.
 - (4.) A Mr. Barnard has made a claim for certain moneys alleged to be due to him while acting as keeper for Mr. Lethbridge, but as he had his remedy against Mr. Lethbridge had he chosen to enforce it, it was decided that no liability rested with the Government.
- (12.) Instalments due on Conditional Purchases :—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—In consideration of the terrible drought which is causing untold suffering to selectors throughout the Colony, will he make provision, where cases demand it, to permit the transfer of this year's instalment to the end of the term without interest?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—My honorable colleague would invite the Honorable Member's attention to his reply given on the 20th instant to a similar Question by the Honorable Member for Quacanboyan; but he might point out that the Crown Lands Act of 1895 already provides for suspension of payment of instalments in cases where the conditional purchasers are residing on their holdings. It is perhaps unnecessary for my honorable colleague to add that any application made in view of this provision will receive the fullest possible consideration.
- (13.) Loss of Stock in Drought-stricken Districts :—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has he received any reports from the various Stock Boards throughout the Colony as to the losses of stock caused by the prevailing drought?
 - (2.) If so, will he state the aggregate loss of stock to date?
 - (3.) If not, will he request the various Stock Boards to furnish a return of stock which have died within their respective districts, and supply the information to this House?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1 and 2.) No reports have been received from which this information could be compiled.
 - (3.) It is premature to obtain information at the present time.
- (14.) Manly Sewerage Scheme :—Mr. Molesworth asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) By whose authority did Messrs. Harper, Harper, and Henderson call for tenders for the Manly Sewerage Scheme, and on what date was such authority given?
 - (2.) By whose authority were Messrs. Harper, Harper, and Henderson to receive a commission on any particular tender, and what was the date of such minute?
 - (3.) On what date was such commission paid, and what was the amount so paid?
 - (4.) Were Messrs. Harper, Harper, and Henderson allowed access to the Government plans, surveys, and data, and what did they receive a commission for?
 - (5.) Was any portion of Messrs. Harper, Harper, and Henderson's work original?
 - (6.) Is it his intention to carry out the tender upon which such commission has been paid?
 - (7.) Was the authority for tenders and for payment of commission given after the resignation of the previous Administration had been tendered to the Governor; and by whom?
 - (8.) Is he aware of a Ministerial minute, dated 28th February, 1893, which distinctly states that Messrs. Harper, Harper, and Henderson are the engineers of the council, and that they will be entitled to no remuneration unless and until approved by the Engineer-in-Chief, and receive the final approval of the Executive, and that a letter to the same effect was written to the council by Mr. J. Barling, then Under Secretary for Public Works, dated 26th September, 1893?
 - (9.) Is he aware that Messrs. Harper, Harper, and Henderson agreed to and signed such minute, and that the Manly Council holds letters from this firm, acknowledging that their fees became payable only after receiving approval of the Engineer-in-Chief and the Executive?
 - (10.) Had the Engineer-in-Chief approved of Messrs. Harper, Harper, and Henderson's plans when commission was paid, or had their calculations been checked?
 - (11.) Had Messrs. Harper, Harper, and Henderson's plans been submitted to the Executive Council for approval?
 - (12.) Has Mr. Treasury Inspector Brodie, in two several reports, recommended the Government to incur no further financial responsibility with regard to Manly?
 - (13.) Is it a fact that the Manly Council has never paid the interest when due to the Government on its water service account?
 - (14.) Is it also a fact that the Mayor of Manly wrote to the Minister for Works three months ago urging the reduction of the capital cost of the water service from £38,000 to £30,000, and tendered a cheque for interest on the latter sum, because the council was unable to pay interest on the larger sum?
 - (15.) Has he been informed that the Manly Council has a report that for a sum of £400 the present system of pipe-drains could be extended to connect all houses needing drainage?
 - (16.) Has the Department taken into consideration the limited capacity of the Manly Reservoir, and the necessity of raising the dam at the expense of the Government, if the sewerage scheme is carried out?
 - (17.) Will he be good enough to lay upon the Table of this House all the papers in connection with this matter?

Mr. Young answered,—The information asked for being of such a voluminous nature, I would ask the Honorable Member to move for it in the form of a return in the usual way.

(15.)

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(15.) Rewards for Recovery of Messrs. Lesagh and Burgess:—Mr. Thomas Brown asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has the reward offered for the recovery of Lesagh, supposed to have mysteriously disappeared in the Parkes district, been paid; and, if so, to whom?

(2.) Has he authorised the payment of a reward with respect to the discovery of the murdered man Burgess, whose remains were found in the Black Ranges, near Parkes; and, if so, how was such reward distributed?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) The reward has not been paid, nor can it be claimed by any person under the terms of the notice.

(2.) Yes, £35. The amount has not yet been distributed.

(16.) Pollution of the Parramatta River by the Sydney Meat-preserving Company:—*Mr. Chanter* for Mr. Wright, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that for many years past the Sydney Meat-preserving Company, at Rookwood, have been polluting the Parramatta River by the discharge of the "soup" from their works into the river?

(2.) Is he aware of the fact that the above has been brought under the notice of the Board of Health, and no steps have been taken to stop this nuisance?

(3.) If not previously aware of the above facts, will he now give immediate instructions to the Board of Health to perform their duty, and at once put a stop to the discharge of "soup" into the river, and the nuisance caused thereby?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2 and 3.) In the ordinary course of executing the Noxious Trades Act the Board have become aware that the Sydney Meat-preserving Company dispose of their soup by first diluting it with a large proportion of water (said to amount to six volumes), and then discharging it into the Parramatta River. They have frequently urged the manager of these extensive works to search for some less objectionable plan of disposal, and consequently several methods have been devised and experimented with by him, though unsuccessfully; but it is believed he has at length solved the problem, which presented much greater difficulties than may be supposed, and a plant which will dispose of the whole of this refuse is now being manufactured—partly by Hudsons, partly by Sutton at Brisbane—at a cost of £3,000, and is expected to be in use within three months. The present pollution of the river will then cease. The Board are aware, as a mere matter of law, that they have powers, both under the Noxious Trades Act and the Public Health Act, to cause this company to cease to pollute the river, but, in view of the known difficulties and the magnitude of the business carried on, they have not deemed it expedient to exercise them peremptorily, while the proprietors were known to be actually making every effort, short of closing their works, to comply with the law.

(17.) Payments under the Land Tax:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it his intention to afford practical relief to landowners who have had heavy stock losses by introducing legislation with the view of suspending their land-tax payments?

(2.) Is it the intention of the Ministry to at once introduce a measure for the purpose of preventing persons from being forced to pay taxes on incomes never earned?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Cases of undoubted hardship or distress of the character referred to will receive special consideration.

(2.) It is not clear what this Question refers to. Perhaps the Honorable Member will be good enough to state more specifically the class of income or mode of assessment in connection with which he desires information.

(18.) Mr. Price's Scheme for Flood-prevention in the Hunter River:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) When does he propose to make public the text of the papers submitted to him in connection with Mr. Price's scheme for flood-prevention for the Hunter River?

(2.) Is he aware that, if the proposed dam were erected in the neighbourhood of the town of Denman, the result in time of flood would be that the valleys of the Hunter and the Goulburn Rivers above it would be inundated; also is he aware that in flood time the Goulburn River waters rush down at the rate of 6 to 8 miles an hour, carrying much debris and timber with them?

(3.) Has he yet received advice from the Mines Department with respect to the character of the foundations upon which this dam would have to be constructed?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) The report will be laid upon the Table of this House so soon as the papers are returned to my office from the Department of Mines.

(2.) I am not aware of all the details of the scheme; the report when made public will no doubt give this information.

(3.) No.

(19.) Proposed Railway, Muswellbrook to Cassilis:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it his intention to submit, this Session, and to refer same to the Public Works Committee, the proposed railway line, Muswellbrook *via* Merriwa to Cassilis?

Mr. Young answered,—This has not yet been dealt with by me.

(20.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th May, 1897.

- (20.) Employment of Aliens on the Railways:—Mr. Watson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a Syrian is employed in the railway shops at Werris Creek?
 - (2.) If so, is such a course in harmony with the policy of the Government to exclude coloured aliens?
 - (3.) Will such person be employed any longer while so many British subjects are unemployed?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed that the Railway Commissioners find that a man named G. Toby was engaged for a few days in connection with some temporary work at Werris Creek, but he is not now employed.
- (21.) Use of Government Launches on Sundays:—Mr. McElhone asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that he and a party of friends, on Sunday, the 23rd May, had a Government launch employed to take them up Middle Harbour, and that the said launch got stuck on mud flats, and many of the party had to walk home?
 - (2.) In view of the fact that he, by using this launch, compelled the men to break the Sabbath by working on Sunday, will he continue the practice?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The party of visitors from the other Colonies were not taken round the harbour at my invitation. The launch was granted at the request of a prominent member of the Opposition, who had charge of the arrangements, and on the condition that the men employed on the boat were agreeable.
- (22.) Use of Government Launch:—Mr. McElhone asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it a fact that he refused Mr. See's application for a steam launch to enable him (Mr. See) to take the Protectionist Conference round the harbour, whilst his colleague, Mr. Smith, got a steam launch on the Sunday to take his friends round the harbour?
- Mr. Young answered,—I refused Mr. See's request for the use of a particular steamer. He applied for the steamer "Dawn." Before refusing I made inquiries as to whether the Public Service would be injured by lending her. That is, whether the dredges would remain idle, or whether I should have to hire another boat to take her place. The reply was that if I did lend the launch I should have to hire a vessel at the expense of the Government to take her place, or some of the dredges would have to remain idle. I therefore refused to lend Mr. See the launch. So far as my honorable colleague is concerned, he did not have a launch under the control of his Department.
3. EXCHANGE OF LAND, CUPPACUMBALONG RUN, QUEANBEYAN DISTRICT:—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington presented a Petition from James Orr, of the Union Bank of Australia (Limited), of Sydney, praying that Petitioner may be represented by counsel or attorney or in person before the Select Committee appointed to inquire into and report upon the exchange of land, Cuppacumbalong Run, with the right to call witnesses and adduce evidence, and to examine and cross-examine such witnesses as may give evidence before the said Committee.
- Petition received.
Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.
4. PAPERS:—
- Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Additional By-law of the Municipal District of Port Macquarie, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
 - (2.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Waratah, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
 - (3.) Return respecting Retirements of Members of the Local Marine Board, Newcastle.
 - (4.) Return to an Order, made on 19th May, 1897,—“Dismissal of Maurice Hickey, of Newcastle, “by the Marine Board.”
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Report on Prisons for the year 1896.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Report of the Department of Mines and Agriculture for the year 1896.
 - (2.) Return to an Order, made on 13th May, 1897,—“Resumption of Waldron's Selection, “Yalgogrin.”
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Fifth Report from the Printing Committee.
6. APPLICATIONS FOR COMPENSATION FROM CERTAIN LANDHOLDERS ON DEEPWATER CREEK, ULMARRA (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. McFarlane moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and correspondence relating to applications for compensation from certain landholders on Deepwater Creek, parish of Ulmarra, Clarence River.
Question put and passed.
7. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the North Shore Bridge Bill postponed until Wednesday, 9th June.
8. LICENSING ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Gould moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to enable Licensing Courts and Licensing Magistrates to grant or refuse any application for a brewer's or spirit merchant's license; to provide that the business of the holder of any such license shall be carried on only on premises described in the license or in an indorsement made thereon by such Court or Magistrate; to enable a married woman who has obtained a protection order or judicial separation, or a woman whose marriage has been dissolved, to obtain a publican's or colonial wine license; and for those purposes and purposes incidental thereto to amend the Licensing Acts, 1882-1883.
Question put and passed.

27th May, 1897.

9. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.
10. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:—Mr. Carruthers explained to the House the intentions of the Government regarding the business to be proceeded with on Wednesday next.
11. PUBLIC TRUSTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
On motion of Mr. Carruthers, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
12. COOK'S RIVER IMPROVEMENTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendment made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendment.
On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendment made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of certain works for the improvement of Cook's River, near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood waters.*"
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 27th May, 1897.
13. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 28 MAY, 1897, A.M.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at a quarter past Twelve o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 16.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 1 JUNE, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Outbreak of Tick Fever in Queensland:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it true that three Stock Inspectors have been sent to Queensland for the purpose of acquainting themselves with the outbreak of tick fever?

(2.) What are their names, and how long have they been in the Service?

(3.) Is it a fact that the Chief Inspector of Stock (Mr. Bruco) has recommended this step to be taken, and considers it advisable that the Department should have some practical knowledge of the pest and its consequences?

(4.) If a practical knowledge is needed to enable the Department to cope in an effectual manner with the tick fever or tick pest, why was the Government Veterinary Surgeon (Mr. Stanley) or a Board of Veterinary Surgeons or qualified experts not appointed to make the necessary investigation to insure a more reliable practical report to be obtained on the tick pest question?

(5.) Will he see that steps are taken to have the matter referred to a Board of Veterinary Surgeons or qualified experts for their report, and in the interest of stockowners?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) C. J. Vyner, M.R.C.V.S., eleven years; C. D. Whitty, over five years; and P. Cowley, eight months.

(3.) This step was first proposed by a deputation of stockowners and dairy proprietors from the Clarence and Richmond River districts, who waited upon me; but it was at the instance of the Metropolitan Stock Board that it was taken.

(4.) At the Intercolonial Stock Conference, held last year, it was decided to make a scientific investigation of the disease, but, in view of the action taken by Queensland in sending experts abroad, the matter was held over for consideration by the recent Conference, when a resolution was carried that it is desirable an Australian Stock Institute should be established where investigations are to be conducted in regard to all such diseases. Dr. Cobb, who is an eminent scientist, is to act for this Colony in the preparation of a scheme for carrying the resolution of the Conference into effect.

(5.) In view of the decision of the Conference, it is not considered necessary to refer the matter to a Board of Veterinary Surgeons.

(2.) Maintenance Men on main road, Capertee to Cudgegong:—Mr. Fagan, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What number of maintenance men are permanently employed on the main road, Capertee to Cudgegong (30 miles)?

(2.) What number are employed on the length from Merriwa to Cassilis (30 miles)?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Three.

(2.) One.

(3.) Inoculation of Stock with Dr. Koch's Tuberculin:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has the Government received any information from the Government Bacteriologist of New Zealand in reference to certain experiments lately tried in that Colony by inoculating stock with Dr. Koch's tuberculin, and have the experiments proved a failure or a success?

(2.) Is it a fact that out of 600 to 700 cows in that Colony inoculated with Dr. Koch's tuberculin 20 to 30 per cent. have shown themselves affected with tuberculosis?

(3.) Have any similar experiments been tried in this Colony in regard to the inoculation of stock with Dr. Koch's tuberculin; if so, what has been the result of the same?

Mr.

1st June, 1897.

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) No official information has been received from the Government Bacteriologist of New Zealand in reference to experiments in inoculating stock with Dr. Koch's tuberculin, nor with respect to the success or otherwise of the experiment.

(2.) It is reported in the Press that the percentage of those showing that they were affected amounted to from 20 to 30 per cent.

(3.) Tuberculin is used by veterinary officers in the Health Department, but chiefly as an aid to a diagnosis of the disease, and the results have been satisfactory.

(4.) Outbreak of Springs in Creeks:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Will he obtain from the Government Meteorologist (Mr. Russell) an opinion or approximate opinion as to the physical cause or otherwise of various springs breaking out in creeks in different parts of the Colony during the present drought?

Mr. Garrard answered,—I will presently lay this information upon the Table of this House in the form of a return.

(5.) Offences under the Betting Houses Suppression Act:—Mr. McElhone asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has he read a statement in the Press that, at a meeting of the Stipendiary Magistrates, said to be called by Mr. Addison, S.M., all tote-shop and betting-shop keepers would be fined £50 for offences committed after 1st June for first offences, and six months gaol for second offences?

(2.) Is it not a most unusual thing for Magistrates to give such notice as above; and has such a proceeding been done before?

(3.) Is it not a fact that tote-shop keepers are rarely fined for such offence a second time, as they generally put in dummies, who act for them after they are once fined?

(4.) Is he aware that cash betting has been carried on at Randwick races on 22nd and 24th May in face of the decision of the Supreme Court lately given in the matter?

(5.) Will the Government bring in a Bill to limit the days of horse and pony racing on proprietary courses in the vicinity of Sydney and other large towns?

(6.) In view of the fact that cash bettors are defying the law as laid down by the Supreme Court Judges, what steps (if any) will be taken to carry out the law and punish the offenders?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) Yes. The decision of the Stipendiary Bench of Magistrates was also some time previously officially intimated to me.

(2.) It is not usual, but a notification was made to all reputed owners of gambling shops in 1895 of the conclusions then arrived at by the Stipendiary Bench of Magistrates with regard to the infliction of punishments upon conviction for similar offences to those referred to by the Honorable Member.

(3.) I am not aware.

(4.) I have no information on this point.

(5.) This matter will be brought under the notice of the Cabinet when time permits.

(6.) This is a matter for the consideration of the police authorities, who are under the administrative control of my honorable colleague the Chief Secretary.

(6.) Rose Bay Cable-tram, Darling Island, Cook's River Drainage Scheme:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it his intention to go on with the Rose Bay cable-tram extension; if so, how long will it be before the work will be available?

(2.) What is the cause of the delay in putting men on to the works at Darling Island, as promised by the Honorable the Acting Premier to the unemployed a fortnight ago, and by the Honorable G. H. Reid some time previous to that?

(3.) How long will it be before the Cook's River drainage scheme will be available for men to be put on that work?

(4.) Will he, as far as possible, push on through his Department any of the works mentioned by the Honorable the Acting Premier to the unemployed some time since, so that the men who have been promised the work for weeks past may have an opportunity during the winter of earning a livelihood for themselves, their wives, and families?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Some contracts have been let in connection with the Electric Tramway to Rose Bay, and tenders for the roadway will be invited in about two months.

(2.) No delay has occurred. A tender has been accepted for the construction of a part of the Railway to Darling Island.

(3.) Plans are in course of preparation with a view of proceeding with the works as expeditiously as possible.

(4.) I have already given instructions to that effect.

(7.) Coast Hospital, Little Bay:—Mr. Thomas, for Mr. Dacey, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In reference to the Answer to Mr. Dacey's Question No. 1, of 26th May, which says that the cost of the nurses' rations at the Coast Hospital is £23 per annum, and that the estimated annual value of the quarters is £26, will he please state what is the annual cost of the rations and annual value of the furnished quarters of the nurses and attendants at the Rookwood and Newington Asylums?

(2.) In reference to the Answer No. 2, of same date, is the scrubbing of the floors by the convalescent patients of the hospital a voluntary act on their part; by what authority are such duties required of them; and, in the event of there being no convalescent patients in sufficiently good health to perform this work, are the floors allowed to remain dirty?

(3.) In reference to the Answer to Question No. 4, of same date, will he direct that in future a record shall be kept for reference, if needed, of all overtime work performed by each nurse; such record to be signed by the nurse concerned at the termination each day of such duty?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1st June, 1897.

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Rations, £15; furnished quarters, fuel, and light, £20.
- (2.) Scrubbing of floors by convalescent patients is a condition of their treatment at the hospital, according to the rules issued for government of the hospital. This duty is required of patients on the authority of the Chief Medical Officer to the Government, in accordance with the common practice of hospitals, whereby patients who are able are usually required to assist in ward work. There has never been any want of patients able to do this work.
- (3.) Yes.

2. LICENSING LAWS:—Mr. Howarth presented a Petition from certain residents of New South Wales, members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, stating that, in the opinion of Petitioners, the present measure of Sunday-closing has been very beneficial in the reduction of the number of arrests for intemperance; and praying the House not to consent to any alteration of the law to provide for the opening of public houses at certain hours on Sundays.
Petition received.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Return respecting the Meteorological conditions of the Colony.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) By-law under the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894—Rushcutters' Creek Drain.
 - (2.) Report of the completion of the Petersham Branch, lower and upper sections of the Leichhardt Branch, and the Smith-street Branch of the Long Cove Creek Stormwater Channel.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Annual Report on Vital Statistics for 1895 and previous years.
- (2.) Return to an Address, adopted on 6th May, 1897,—“Case of Rachel Dawson, tried at Dubbo for shooting at Frederick Acheson.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—Report of the National Park Trust for the year 1896.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. COAL MINES REGULATION (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

- (1.) Mr. Fegan moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide that persons employed in mines of coal and mines of shale shall be paid according to the actual weight of the mineral gotten by them.
Question put and passed.

- (2.) Mr. Fegan then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to provide that persons employed in mines of coal and mines of shale shall be paid according to the actual weight of the mineral gotten by them,*” — which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 3rd August.

5. INTERNATIONAL PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS ARRANGEMENTS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That the International Patents and Trade Marks Arrangements Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.

Question put and passed.

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

6. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for West Macquarie, Mr. Crick, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.,—“To call attention to the effect of the recent judicial determination of the word ‘place’ within the ‘Betting Houses Suppression Act.’”

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

7. OPENING OF THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS ON SUNDAYS:—Mr. Copeland moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House,—

- (1.) Inasmuch as a very large section of the people avail themselves of the opening of the Botanical Gardens, the Public Library, the Museum, and the National Art Gallery on Sunday afternoon, it would be in the public interest to open the Zoological Gardens “free of charge” on Sundays from 2 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

- (2.) Towards making good the loss of receipts by such free admission, the Government should annually provide on the Estimates to be submitted to Parliament a sum of £1,000 in addition to the customary grant of £1,000 for the maintenance of the Zoological Gardens and collection of animals.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Ashton moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out of paragraph (1) the words “free of charge,”

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

Debate continued.

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

The

1st June, 1897.

The House divided.

Ayes, 36.			Noes, 10.
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Levien,	Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Gormly,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Davis,	Mr. Thomas Brown.
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Wood,		<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Kelly,		
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Edden,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Wheeler.	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Law,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 2 JUNE, 1897, A.M.

Mr. Ashton having required that the paragraphs be put *seriatim*,—

Question put,—That, in the opinion of this House,—

(1.) Inasmuch as a very large section of the people avail themselves of the opening of the Botanical Gardens, the Public Library, the Museum, and the National Art Gallery on Sunday afternoon, it would be in the public interest to open the Zoological Gardens free of charge on Sundays from 2 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

The House divided.

Ayes, 40.			Noes, 7.
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Gormly,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Copeland,	Dr. Ross,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Afleck,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Edden,	Mr. Davis,	Mr. Thomas Brown.
Mr. Levien,	Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Thomas,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Lync,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Millard,	
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Morgan.
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Wheeler.	
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Mahony,		<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Law,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. Griffith.	
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Hogue,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question put,—

(2.) Towards making good the loss of receipts by such free admission, the Government should annually provide on the Estimates to be submitted to Parliament a sum of £1,000 in addition to the customary grant of £1,000 for the maintenance of the Zoological Gardens and collection of animals.

The House divided.

Ayes, 24.			Noes, 23.
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Gould,	Mr. Anderson,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Wood,	Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Neild,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Cook,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Levien,	Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Mackay,	Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Rose,	Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Wheeler.
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Schey,	Mr. Afleck,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Rigg,		Mr. Griffith,	
Mr. Gormly,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Edden,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Mahony.
Mr. Davis,	Mr. Hurley.	Mr. Cann,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at a quarter-past 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. 17.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 2 JUNE, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Road Vote for 1897-98 :—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Public Works,—In view of the fact that there will be a large surplus at the end of the financial year, will he cause an additional £100,000 to be placed on the Estimates for the Road Vote for the year 1897-98?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Before submitting the Estimates to Parliament every consideration will be given to the Honorable Member's representations.

- (2.) Appeals by Public School Teachers against Rentals charged by Public Service Board :—*Mr. McFarlane*, for *Mr. McLaughlin*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In the Regulations issued by the Public Service Board, for the guidance of teachers, is it stated that any teacher who considers his rent higher than the actual value of his house should report the matter to his Inspector, who thereupon will furnish for the information of the Board his estimate of what rent should be charged?

(2.) In accordance with this regulation, have not large numbers of teachers appealed against the rentals charged as excessive?

(3.) Have not the Inspectors' reports shown that they are so?

(4.) Has any decision been arrived at by the Board in any one case, although the financial year is about to close?

(5.) When will the Board come to a determination with reference to these rentals?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) Yes, in some cases.

(4 and 5.) There is no doubt but that nominally the rents in some instances are in excess of the real annual value of the buildings, but the greatest difficulty has been experienced in equitably dealing with the matter. The whole question, however, is still under the consideration of the Public Service Board.

- (3.) Penny Postage :—*Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick* asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) When does he intend to extend the penny postage throughout New South Wales?

(2.) Will he consider whether the Record Reign year would be a most opportune time to inaugurate the penny post throughout New South Wales?

Mr. Cook answered,—

(1.) I am not able to say at present.

(2.) The time would for many reasons be appropriate, but I see no prospect of its being done.

- (4.) Resumption of Land for Roads at North Sydney :—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What was the amount paid for resumption of land for road around Careening Cove Reserve, known as the continuation of M'Dougall-street to Willoughby-street; and what was the area of same?

(2.) What was the amount paid for resumption of land for road from High-street, North Sydney, to Neutral Bay Reserve; what was the area of same; and did it include a portion of the land known as Whaling Road?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) *a*, £3,422 8s.; *b*, 1 ac. 2 rd. 0½ per.

(2.) *a*, £3,019; *b*, 1 ac. 1 rd. 14 per.; *c*, No.

(5.)

2nd June, 1897.

(5.) Paintings by Conrad Martens at the National Art Gallery :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) How many paintings by Conrad Martens were received or rejected by the Trustees of the National Art Gallery for the Loan Exhibition?

(2.) Is it a fact that many of these paintings are put into exhibition by dealers and for sale?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) Seventy-five paintings by Conrad Martens were received; very few, if any, were rejected.

(2.) None were received from dealers for sale.

(6.) Assessors under the Land and Income Tax :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the assessors under the Land and Income Tax have not yet been paid for their services rendered twelve months ago?

(2.) If yes, is it the intention to meet the obligations out of this year's Votes?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Under their contracts it was stipulated that a balance of twenty-five per cent. should be withheld until after the hearing of the appeals.

(2.) Half of the amount of balance due has already been paid upon application. It is proposed to complete payment of the whole sum outstanding without delay.

(7.) State Children in the Goulburn District :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What is the reason that a number of guardians of State children in the Goulburn district have not yet been paid the amounts due?

(2.) Is any special provision to be made for paying all persons who have State children in their charge the amounts owing out of this year's Votes?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) An Act providing for boarding children with their mothers was passed after the Estimates were dealt with; and the claims under it, which were unexpectedly large, had to be met from the ordinary State Children's Vote, which thus became exhausted. All claims, however, are now being met.

(2.) Special provision will be made.

(8.) The Fisheries Bill :—Mr. Willis, for Mr. Hassall, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Who prepared and drafted the Bill to provide for the development of the Fisheries?

(2.) What amount was paid for the above work?

(3.) Did not the Royal Commission appointed in 1895 draft a Bill, which was submitted with their report?

(4.) Was the Royal Commission's Bill submitted to the Parliamentary Draftsman before being incorporated in their report?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Mr. Kelynack prepared the Bill under my direction.

(2.) The amount paid for the work was fifteen guineas.

(3.) The Royal Commission drafted the Bill, which was submitted with their Report.

(4.) The Parliamentary Draftsman wrote a report on the Bill, but I do not know if the Commission acted upon it.

(9.) Rents deducted from Public School Teachers' Salaries :—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Price, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is it a fact that exorbitant rents are deducted from the Public School teachers?

(2.) Has he taken any steps to carry out the promise publicly made by him in Parliament, in reply to the Member for Gloucester, viz., "that a revaluation would be made, and a reduction allowed in all cases where the rent charged was excessive"; if so, what is the result of such inquiry, and what course does he intend to adopt?

Mr. Gould answered,—The matter is under reference to the Public Service Board.

(10.) Rents deducted from Postmasters' Salaries :—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Price, asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that exorbitant rents are deducted from the postmasters?

(2.) Has he taken any steps to carry out the promise publicly made by him in Parliament, in reply to the Member for Gloucester, "that a revaluation would be made, and a reduction allowed in all cases where the rent charged was excessive"; if so, what is the result of such inquiry, and what course does he intend to adopt?

Mr. Cook answered,—The attention of the Public Service Board was called to the matter, and by their direction information is now being obtained as to the value of the quarters now occupied by post and telegraph masters for which rent is being charged.

(11.) Appointment of Mr. N. C. Lockhart, Solicitor :—Mr. Nelson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has Mr. N. C. Lockhart been appointed Solicitor to the Commissioners of Taxation; if so, when was he appointed, and at what salary, and on whose recommendation?

(2.) Why was the position not filled by competitive examination, or after advertisement, as in other cases?

(3.) What are considered to be Mr. Lockhart's special qualifications for the position?

(4.) What is the date of the *Gazette* in which the appointment was notified?

(5.) Will he produce the papers relating to the appointment?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Mr. Lockhart was, at the instance of the Taxation Commissioners, appointed solicitor to that body, at a salary of £350 per annum, on 5th February, 1897, but as it was found that this appointment could not be carried out owing to its clashing with the working of the Attorney-General's Department, Mr. Lockhart resigned, and was afterwards appointed an officer of the Taxation Department, in the professional division, under the provisions of section 30 of the Public Service Act of 1895, under which section examination or a period of probation is not necessary.

(2.) This is answered by reply to No. 1.

(3.)

2nd June, 1897.

(3.) When applications were invited for filling vacancies in the Supreme Court and Crown Solicitor's Offices, Mr. Lockhart passed third in order of merit at the competitive examinations, and this marked him as being qualified for the position in the Taxation Department.

(4.) The papers relating to the appointment will be laid upon the Table, as required by the Act.

(12.) Sentence passed on John Collins, at Bingara:—Mr. Haynes asked the Minister of Justice,—Whether the facts as stated in the accompanying Press report are correct, viz., “At the Bingara Quarter Sessions, last week, John Collins was tried and found guilty on a charge of stealing a tin of baking-powder, valued at 1s. In passing a sentence of three years penal servitude, Judge Gibson remarked that he was determined to deal with him as severely as possible, as he (prisoner) had not allowed the Magistrate in the lower Court to deal with the case, but had put the country to the cost of £19 9s. to bring the trial before him?”

Mr. Gould answered,—The matter is now being inquired into, but as it is necessary to make a reference to the Judge, who is away on circuit, it will be some time before I am able to give a definite reply to the question. If it is postponed until (say) Thursday next week, I hope to have the information.

2. PENSIONERS UNDER THE CIVIL SERVICE SUPERANNUATION FUND (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Whiddon moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—

(1.) The number of persons now in receipt of pensions from the Civil Service Superannuation Fund who, at the time of being put upon the said Fund, did not come under clauses 43 to 45 of the “Civil Service Act of 1884,” referring to the prescribed age of 60, or retirement owing to ill-health.

(2.) The names of these participants.

(3.) The date of their being put upon the said Fund, showing:—(a) The amount of pension;

(b) the aggregate amount of their contributions to the Fund, specifying the length of time they contributed to it; (c) their age at time of being superannuated, and present age.

(4.) The nature of their employment, and in which Department employed.

Question put and passed.

3. THE PERMANENT ARTILLERY (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Thomas Brown moved, pursuant to Notice,—That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return of all officers in the Permanent Artillery, showing what examinations they have passed for promotion, and for what ranks; if qualified by examination for present rank in accordance with Imperial Regulations; also, if so qualified, the dates upon which each such examination was held.

Question put and passed.

4. THE CIVIL SERVICE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the names of officers retained in the service of the State over the age of 65 years.

Question put and passed.

5. BRIDGES ERECTED ACROSS THE RIVER MURRAY (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Morgan moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—

(1.) The number of bridges erected across the Murray at the joint expense of the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria.

(2.) The date of completion of each.

(3.) The date of payment made by the Government in each case.

(4.) The date on which the Victorian Government was notified of amount due by them on each.

(5.) The amount (if any) still unpaid.

(6.) The amounts of liabilities for repairs or maintenance of these bridges due by the Victorian Government, and still unpaid.

Question put and passed.

6. PAPER:—Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 12th May, 1897,—“Dismissal of Temporary Hands, Government Printing Office.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

7. AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION (REPRESENTATIVES' ALLOWANCE) BILL:—Mr. Brunker, pursuant to leave granted on 13th May, 1897, presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to authorise the payment of allowances to the Representatives of New South Wales at the Federal Convention,*”—which was read a first time.

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

8. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for The Hume, Mr. Lyne, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.,—“The urgent necessity for the Government to grant relief to the various occupants of land in the Colony.”

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

9. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (NEWCASTLE TECHNICAL COLLEGE) 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 vest certain Lands at Newcastle in the Minister of Public Instruction on behalf of Her Majesty,*”—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 2nd June, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

2nd June, 1897.

10. AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS BILL:—Mr. Price, pursuant to leave granted on 12th May, 1897, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the law relating to Agricultural Holdings, and to amend such other Statutes as may be necessary to give effect to the same,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 22nd June.
11. TONNAGE RATES BILL:—Mr. Bruncker moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the law relating to Wharfage and Tonnage Rates.
Question put and passed.
12. CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Sleath moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Wednesday next.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 18.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 3 JUNE, 1897.

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

COOK'S RIVER IMPROVEMENTS BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Brunker, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 28.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of certain works for the improvement of Cook's River, near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 3rd June, 1897.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Temporary Employment Scheme submitted by Mr. Charles O'Neill, M.I.C.E.:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Was a scheme for the temporary employment of the unemployed submitted to Sir George Dibbs, when Premier, by Mr. Charles O'Neill, M.I.C.E.?

(2.) If so, will he please lay the correspondence upon the Table?

Mr. Brunker answered,—There is no record of any correspondence with regard to this matter in the Colonial Secretary's Department.

(2.) Temporary Employment Scheme submitted by Mr. Charles O'Neill, M.I.C.E.:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Was a scheme for the temporary employment of the unemployed submitted to the Honorable G. H. Reid during the year 1894 by Mr. Charles O'Neill, M.I.C.E.?

(2.) If so, will he please lay the correspondence upon the Table?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes. I shall raise no objection to the production of the papers, if they are moved for in the usual way.

(3.) Police and Military Uniforms:—Mr. Cann asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What is the total number of uniforms supplied by the Department per year, including Police and Military?

(2.) Do the Department supply any of the cloth to the contractor for the manufacture of uniforms; if so, to what value?

(3.) What is the total cost per year, for labour alone, for the manufacture of uniforms supplied by the Department?

(4.) What is the total number of pairs of boots supplied per year, and value?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return, if moved for in the usual way. I shall offer no objection.

(4.)

3rd June, 1897.

- (4.) Uniforms supplied by the Treasury Department:—Mr. Cann asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What is the total number of uniforms supplied by the Treasury Department, including Railways and Tramways?
 - (2.) What is the total number of pairs of boots supplied, and value?
 - (3.) Do the Department supply any of the cloth to the contractor for the manufacture of uniforms; if so, to what value?
 - (4.) What is the total cost per year, for labour alone, for the manufacture of uniforms supplied by the Department?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return, if moved for in the usual way. I shall not object.

- (5.) Uniforms supplied by the Postal Department:—Mr. Cann asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) What is the total number of uniforms supplied by the Postal Department per year?
 - (2.) What is the total number of pairs of boots, and their value?
 - (3.) Do the Department supply any of the cloth to the contractor for the manufacture of those uniforms; if so, to what value?
 - (4.) What is the total cost per year for labour alone for the manufacture of uniforms supplied by the Department?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) 2,005 coats and jackets, 2,504 pairs trousers, and 1,249 hats and caps.
- (2.) None supplied.
- (3.) No.
- (4.) My honorable colleague cannot say, the uniforms being supplied under contract.

- (6.) Uniforms supplied by the Department of Public Instruction:—Mr. Cann asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Does his Department supply any uniforms to its servants; if so, what number and value per year?
- (2.) The same in reference to pairs of boots?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes, to the officers of the "Sobraon" and the attendants at the Technological Museum; twenty-six in all, valued at about £115 per annum.
- (2.) None supplied.

- (7.) Diseases in Sheep Act and Pastures and Stock Protection Act:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is it his intention to bring in a Bill to consolidate the Diseases in Sheep Act and the Pastures and Stock Protection Act?
- (2.) Is it his intention to bring in an amending Bill to permit of stockowners recording their votes by post for the election of Stock Directors?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) I fear it will not be possible to introduce such a Bill this Session.
- (2.) This will be considered when an amending Bill is being introduced.

- (8.) Royalties on Timber:—Mr. Pyers asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he carry out his promise, made last Session, to introduce this Session a Bill to reduce the timber licenses, fees, and royalties?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I have already given notice of my intention to introduce a Bill to deal with Forestry matters generally.

- (9.) Promotion of Mr. George Valder to Hawkesbury Agricultural College:—Mr. Gornly asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Has Mr. George Valder been promoted from manager of the Experimental Farm, Wagga Wagga, to the management of Hawkesbury Agricultural College, and will Mr. Valder be given as good an opportunity of exercising his capabilities as an expert agriculturist at the Hawkesbury College as he has had at the Wagga Wagga Farm, which he has managed so successfully for a number of years?
- (2.) Will he take into consideration the desirability of retaining the services of Mr. Valder at the Wagga Wagga Farm on an increased salary?
- (3.) Has an officer been selected to manage the Wagga Wagga Farm in Mr. Valder's place; and, if so, what are the qualifications and experience of such officer as a general manager and agricultural expert?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) Yes; Mr. Valder has been temporarily appointed to take charge of the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, at which place he will have quite as good an opportunity of exercising his capabilities as an expert agriculturist as at the Wagga Wagga Experimental Farm. He will also have a wider scope for imparting his knowledge to others.
- (2.) In the interests of the Department and the public it is considered desirable that Mr. Valder should be promoted to the more important position in charge of the College.
- (3.) Mr. W. J. Allen, the fruit expert of the Department, will for the present be placed in charge of the Wagga Wagga Farm, Orchard, and Vineyard. Mr. Allen has lately been managing the Bathurst Farm, but prior to his appointment to the Service he was manager for Messrs. Chaffey Bros. at Mildura. Dr. Cobb, the Pathologist to the Department, will temporarily reside at the Wagga Wagga Farm, and with the assistance of the Farm foreman supervise the general agricultural work there.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd June, 1897.

- (10.) Appeals from Government Printing Office:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Have the appeals in connection with the Government Printing Office been dealt with?
 (2.) Will he publish the decisions of the Board with regard to these appeals?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The appeals in connection with this office are now being dealt with by the Public Service Board, and will probably be finished before the end of the present month, when the usual *Gazette* will be published notifying the decisions arrived at.

- (11.) Alleged disappearance of Papers from the Lands Department:—Mr. Sleath asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is it a fact that certain declarations by E. M. Perrott and W. C. Hill, made in February, 1894, in reference to advances made by W. C. Hill in connection with the sale of John Dawson's homestead lease No. 781, county of Kallara, Wilcannia District, have mysteriously disappeared from the Lands Department?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—No such declarations, bearing the date referred to by the Honorable Member, were received in the Department of Lands; but declarations made on other dates by Messrs. Hill and Perrott in connection with the transfer of this homestead lease are with the papers relating thereto.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—Report of the Royal Commission on the City Railway Extension. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table:—

- (1.) Returns respecting Lead-poisoning in connection with the Broken Hill Mines.
 (2.) Annual Report of the Stock and Brands Branch of the Department of Mines and Agriculture for the year 1896.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

5. ATTORNEYS COSTS ACT OF 1847 AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Chapman, pursuant to leave granted on 13th May, 1897, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Attorneys Costs Act, 11 Victoria No. 33,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

6. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Speaker reported the receipt of, and read to the House, the following letter from the Chairman of the Printing Committee:—

No. 3 Committee Room, Legislative Assembly,
 Sydney, 3rd June, 1897.

Sir,
 By direction of the Printing Committee, I have the honor, as Chairman, to bring under your notice the fact that the report of the Department of Mines and Agriculture for the year 1896, laid upon the Table of the House on 27th ultimo, was already in print, without the authority of the Committee.

The Committee consider that, unless it is left to them to say whether papers laid upon the Table and referred to them should or should not be printed, they are unable to carry out the spirit and intention of the Sessional Order under which they were appointed.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,
 JAMES GORMLY,

Chairman.

The Honorable Sir J. P. Abbott, K.C.M.G.,
 Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker stated that he could not remedy the matter complained of.

7. RACECOURSE BETTING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Levien moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Betting Houses Suppression Act, 39 Vic. No. 23, and the Act amending the same.
Question put and passed.8. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

- (1.) Mr. Moore moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the "Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894" and the "Mining Laws Amendment Act of 1896."
Question put and passed.

- (2.) Mr. Moore then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the 'Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894' and the 'Mining Laws Amendment Act of 1896,'*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

9. RACECOURSE BETTING BILL:—Mr. Levien, pursuant to leave granted this day, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Betting Houses Suppression Act, 39 Vic. No. 23, and the Act amending the same,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.10. AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION ENABLING ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

- (1.) Mr. Levien moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Australasian Federation Enabling Act of 1895.
Question put and passed.

- (2.) Mr. Levien then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Australasian Federation Enabling Act of 1895,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

3rd June, 1897.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Glebe, Mr. Hogue, 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 inadequacy of the provision proposed to be made in the forthcoming Record Reign Celebrations for giving assistance to the poor of the community.”
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Hogue moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
12. **CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.
13. **TONNAGE RATES BILL**:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Brunner, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the law relating to Wharfage and Tonnage Rates.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to Wharfage and Tonnage Rates.
On motion of Mr. Brunner, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
- (2.) Mr. Brunner then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to amend the law relating to Wharfage and Tonnage Rates*,”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
- The House adjourned, at seven minutes before Eleven o'clock, until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 19.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 8 JUNE, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Salaries of Inspectors of Stock:—*Mr. Cruickshank*, for *Mr. Hassall*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) When is it intended to refund the Inspectors of Stock the 4 per cent. deductions from their salaries?

(2.) Is there any reason for not doing so at once?

(3.) Is it intended to place the salaries of these Inspectors on the same footing as they were previous to the reductions made by the Public Service Board?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I have already stated, in Answer to a somewhat similar Question, that this is a matter which must await the preparation of the Estimates. The Stock Inspectors have been paid the salaries voted by Parliament, and any alteration in the amounts paid must wait until provision can be made on the next Estimates.(2.) Appointment of a Cotton Expert:—*Mr. Haynes* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Apart from salary, what will be the cost attending the appointment of the cotton expert on his arrival in the Colony?

(2.) What are his qualifications and testimonials as an agriculturist, apart from that of an expert in tobacco?

(3.) On whom devolved the duty in the Colony of examining his qualifications that led to his appointment of cotton expert?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—No cotton expert has been appointed, nor is it deemed necessary to make such an appointment. A tobacco expert has been selected, at the request of this Department, by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture of the United States, who stated that *Mr. Howell* is an agricultural expert of broad experience, and at different times has done excellent work for the United States Department. Besides being a practical agriculturist and horticulturist, he is a man of good education, and speaks and writes well. He has a thorough knowledge of the tobacco business, and, what is of more importance, he has an unusually extensive experience in farming in the United States, and is thus prepared to investigate new conditions and plan agricultural operations to conform to them.(3.) Mining Leases near Grenfell:—*Mr. Watson* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) How many mining leases are there in existence within a mile of Grenfell?

(2.) How long have the bulk of them been in existence?

(3.) What is the total acreage?

(4.) How many men should be employed on these leases in conformity with the labour conditions?

(5.) Is he aware that at present not more than twenty men are employed on these leases, and that at no time within the last twelve months have more than thirty men been employed on them, all told?

(6.) If he finds this to be true, will he take steps to cancel these leases where the labour conditions have not been complied with?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This information will be laid upon the Table of this House in the form of a return, if moved for in the usual way.(4.) Uniforms supplied by the Department of Justice:—*Mr. Cann* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Does his Department supply any uniforms to its servants; if so, what is the total number and value per year?

(2.) The same in reference to pairs of boots?

Mr.

8th June, 1897.

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—At present, in the Department of Prisons, 361 officers are each supplied with two uniforms every year, the total value of which is £1,566 11s. 6d. 1,080 pairs of boots, of the value of £483 10s., are supplied. These boots, and the greater portion of the uniforms, are made in the gaols. In the Sheriff's Department certain of the officers attending the Courts are supplied with uniforms, the value of which, however, is this year only £63 12s. They are not supplied with boots.

- (5.) Train Accidents at Redfern Railway Yard :—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Referring to *Mr. McGowen's* Questions—No. 8, of 4th May, and No. 12, of 26th May—on how many occasions during the past six months has the empty passenger train in question started from any other place than Botany siding?
 - (2.) Referring to Answers 2 and 3 to Question on 26th May, where it is stated that the points and signals were properly set from Down Fast to Down Slow Line, and that the interlocking is perfect, what was the cause of the train running on the wrong line under the conditions stated?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that guard, signalman, driver, and fireman have all been punished by fine in this case?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed that—

- (1.) The train referred to has been started from Botany Road sidings about once a week.
- (2.) The cause of the train running on the wrong line was irregular working by the staff.
- (3.) Yes.

- (6.) Overhead Railway Bridge at Nyngan :—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When do the Railway Commissioners intend to have erected the long-promised overhead railway bridge at Nyngan?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed that the delay has been due to the necessity for completing other works which had been authorised prior to that referred to, but the material for the bridge is now being prepared, and the erection will be taken in hand shortly.

- (7.) Assessment Notices under Income Tax :—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. W. H. B. Piddington*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) In view of the opinion recently given by the Attorney-General *re* arrears of income tax, will he say if new notices of assessment will be made, and the old notices cancelled?
- (2.) If so, will income-tax payers have sixty days' grace from date of such new notices before payment is enforced?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) Amended notices of assessment, in which the arrears are not claimed, were issued on Monday last, 7th June.
- (2.) No. The liability for the amount now called for was incurred on 24th April last, and the sixty days' grace expires on 23rd June instant.

- (8.) Dedication of Land at Grabben Gullen for a Public Hall :—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) When will he lay upon the Table of this House the necessary notice (as required by Act of Parliament) of the dedication of the portion of land granted for a public hall at Grabben Gullen?
- (2.) When will he gazette the names of the trustees for the land granted as a park at Grabben Gullen?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) So soon as the half cost of survey, £2, has been paid, steps will be taken to dedicate the site measured for a mechanics' institute, to which effect the Honorable Member was informed on the 27th March last.
- (2.) It is proposed to gazette the dedication of the recreation ground on the 12th instant, after which trustees will be appointed.

- (9.) Synopsis of Offences punishable on Summary Convictions by Justices of the Peace :—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Has the Government supplied the various Courts of Petty Sessions throughout the Colony with a copy of "A Synopsis of Offences punishable on Summary Convictions by Justices of the Peace," by Macfarlane and Addison?
- (2.) If not, does the Government intend to do so without delay?
- (3.) If they so far have decided not to do so, will he have a sum placed on the next Estimates sufficient to purchase a copy for each Court of Petty Sessions in New South Wales?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—There are nearly 300 Courts of Petty Sessions. 150 copies of the work referred to have been purchased for distribution to the more important of them. The question of making provision upon the Estimates for the purchase of a further supply of the book will be considered.

- (10.) Stock Inspectors visiting Queensland to investigate Tick Pest :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is it true that *Mr. C. D. Whitty* (one of the gentlemen sent to Queensland to investigate or become acquainted with the tick fever) is not a certified man, never having passed the necessary examination, but is holding the position of a Customs Officer on the Border, and acting as an Inspector of Stock?
- (2.) Will he be good enough to state what special qualification *Mr. Whitty* possesses, and who recommended him to be sent on this business when duly-qualified men are idle?
- (3.) Why was *Mr. Cowley* sent when men possessing much more experience and much longer service were available?
- (4.) Who recommended *Mr. Cowley* for this special work?
- (5.) What special qualification has *Dr. Cobb*; and what experience has he had amongst diseases in stock; and where did he obtain his veterinary knowledge?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes; Mr. Whitty had for some time been acting as Inspector on the Murray, and was considered fit for the position. The Collector of Customs was asked to give the Department the benefit of his services, and thus a full salary is saved.

(2.) Mr. Whitty has a good general knowledge of stock. He was recommended by the Chief Inspector of Stock.

(3.) Because he is a very reliable officer; and being at an important crossing-place, it was considered desirable in the public interest that he should be afforded an opportunity of becoming thoroughly acquainted with tick fever and its symptoms, and the dipping and other steps taken in Queensland to stay its spread.

(4.) The Chief Inspector of Stock.

(5.) The Intercolonial Conference, which dealt with this matter, was quite satisfied that Dr. Cobb is competent to undertake such an investigation; and as regards his qualifications, I would refer the Honorable Member to a reply to a somewhat similar question laid upon the Table of the House on the 27th April, 1893.

(11.) Stock Inspectors:—Mr. Carroll asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In view of the recent decision of the Attorney-General that Stock Inspectors are not Civil Servants, or in any way amenable to the Public Service Board, will he at once take the necessary steps by introducing a Bill making them Civil Servants, that they may enjoy all the privileges of the Superannuation Fund; failing which, will he immediately have the reduction from their salaries (since the passing of the Civil Service Act) refunded to them, together with reasonable interest to date of refund?

(2.) Will he be good enough to state how the Public Service Board graded, retrenched, or otherwise disposed of officers in the Stock Branch without first ascertaining their powers?

(3.) Will he be good enough to state how the Public Service Board, in so grading and fixing the salaries of Inspectors of Stock, arrived at the merits of each officer, when few (if any) had been seen or examined by the Board prior to grading them?

(4.) As the Public Service Board recently made appointments of Inspectors of Stock which necessitated the removal of some officers from some districts to others, will he please state the amount of money (if any) these removals cost the Department; and is it not a fact the officers (or some of them) have been rejected by the Board of Directors for their districts, and the money so spent (if any) in so doing wasted?

(5.) If the Public Service Board at the time of grading Inspectors of Stock had the power to do so, will he be good enough to say how it happened that the present Chief Inspector was reappointed at an age considerably over 65 years (the maximum age in the Act)?

(6.) Is he aware that the present Chief Inspector is over 70 years of age?

(7.) As many much younger officers than the Chief Inspector of Stock have recently been retired, will he take the requisite action to dispense with the present Chief Inspector's services?

(8.) As there are a number of available certificated Inspectors of Stock, will he be so good as to explain why one of the three persons recently sent to Queensland to investigate the Tick Question, and who has not passed the requisite examination, was selected for this important duty?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1.) The whole question is now under consideration, but I fear nothing definite can be done until the next Estimates are prepared.

(2.) The Department of Mines included the names of these Inspectors in the returns furnished to the Board under the terms of section 7 of the Public Service Act, and it was not for some time after that the question was raised as to whether they came within the designation of "officers" under the Public Service Act.

(3.) The decisions of the Public Service Board were arrived at after careful inquiry into the merits of each case. The Act does not prescribe that each officer is to be seen or examined, as this would be quite impracticable. The terms of section 8 are that the Board "shall, as far as practicable, personally inspect each Department and investigate the character of the work performed by every officer therein."

(4.) About £150. The Hay Board of Sheep Directors did not nominate the Inspector transferred to that district, nor did the Moree Board accept the Inspector appointed by the Public Service Board.

(5.) A reference was made to the Stock Boards on the subject in 1895 as to whether the Chief Inspector should be retired, and resulted in a large majority reporting in favour of his retention. The Department also considered that he was fully capable of discharging the duties of his office, and that his long and varied experience rendered him of especial service.

(6.) Yes; but he is much more active and capable than many men of considerably less years.

(7.) I see no good reason for doing so.

(8.) The Honorable Member is, I think, under a misapprehension as to the object of sending these officers to Queensland. It was not to investigate the tick question in the sense of making scientific experiments, but merely to afford the Inspectors at the important crossing-places in this Colony an opportunity of becoming practically acquainted with the disease, so that they could readily recognise its appearance and symptoms, and also study the methods adopted in regard to dipping.

(12.) Kenmore Asylum:—Mr. Hughes asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the slating in connection with the Kenmore Asylum has been sublet?

(2.) If so, has special permission been granted by him?

Mr. Young answered,—There have been three contracts for buildings in connection with this asylum, two of which have been completed. In the first there was no slating, tiles, and iron being used, and work was not sublet. In the second the slating was sublet on my approval. In the third, now being carried out, slating has not been sublet.

(13.)

8th June, 1897.

- (13.) The Hulk "Alacrity":—*Mr. McGowen*, for Mr. Black, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What sum was paid by the Government for the hulk "Alacrity," now used as a guardship over the powder vessels at Middle Harbour?
 - (2.) How long is it since she was purchased?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that there are four watchmen now sleeping on board the "Alacrity" who are charged by the Government £25 per year each for their sleeping accommodation?
 - (4.) How long has this been the practice?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1.) The sum of £1,450 11s. 2d. was paid for the purchase and fitting up of the "Alacrity."
 - (2.) The "Alacrity" was purchased in the year 1882.
 - (3.) Yes—four warders as well as the officer-in-charge and a cook and steward living on board the "Alacrity" are charged £25 per annum each for the accommodation provided.
 - (4.) The £25 per annum has been charged since 1st July, 1896.
2. LICENSING LAWS:—*Mr. Robert Jones* presented a Petition from certain residents of New South Wales, stating that, in the opinion of the Petitioners, the present measure of Sunday-closing has been very beneficial in the reduction of the number of arrests for intemperance; and praying the House not to consent to any alteration of the law to provide for the opening of public-houses at certain hours on Sundays.
Petition received.
3. PAPERS:—
- Mr. Bruncker* laid upon the Table,—Papers respecting the Appointment of *Mr. Norman C. Lockhart* as an Officer of the Land and Income Tax Department.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Sydney Smith* laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Minutes respecting the Ventilation and Joint Inspection of Collieries in the Northern District.
 - (2.) Return to an Order, made on 12th May, 1897—"Ventilation of Coal-mines, Newcastle District."
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. SUPPLY OF UNIFORMS (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. Cann* moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) The number of uniforms supplied to the Colonial Secretary's and Treasurer's Departments during the years 1895 and 1896.
 - (2.) The value of same.
 - (3.) The number of pairs of boots supplied, and their value for the same period.
- Question put and passed.
5. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Church Acts Repealing Bill postponed until Tuesday, 26th October.
6. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (NEWCASTLE TECHNICAL COLLEGE) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by *Mr. Bruncker*, and read by *Mr. Speaker*:—
- HAMPDEN, *Message No. 29.*
Governor.
- A Bill, intituled "*An Act to vest certain Lands at Newcastle in the Minister of Public Instruction on behalf of Her Majesty*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.
- Government House,*
Sydney, 4th June, 1897.
7. ARTESIAN WELLS BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by *Mr. Sydney Smith*, and read by *Mr. Speaker*:—
- HAMPDEN, *Message No. 30.*
Governor.
- In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to 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.
- Government House,*
Sydney, 7th June 1897.
- Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
8. PUBLIC WORKS ACTS FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—*Mr. Cann* moved, That the report be now adopted.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

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9. **NARANDERA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TRUSTEES ENABLING BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gormly moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Gormly, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.
On motion of Mr. Gormly, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
10. **MUNICIPALITIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Neild moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Neild, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Neild, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
11. **BOROUGH OF CUDGEGONG CATTLE SALE-YARDS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Robert Jones moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Jones, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Jones, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
12. **ORANGE SHOW GROUND BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Newman moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Newman, 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. Newman, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
13. **MAITLAND GASLIGHT ACT AMENDMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gillies moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Gillies, 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. Gillies, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
14. **MINISTERIAL ELECTION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Hogue moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 14.

Mr. Gould,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. T. B. Smith,
Mr. Black,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Goodwin.

Tellers,

Dr. Graham,
Mr. Crick.

Noes, 46.

Dr. Ross,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. See,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Pycrs,

Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Bull,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Thomas,

Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. McElhonn.

Tellers,

Mr. Price,
Mr. Levien.

And so it passed in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Hogue, the Order of the Day was discharged.

Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.

8th June, 1897.

15. ATTORNEYS COSTS ACT OF 1847 AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading of this Bill,—and no Member making any motion in reference thereto, it dropped.
16. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Moore moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put,—and Division called for,—but there not being Tellers on the part of the *Noes*, no Division could be had, and Mr. Speaker declared the Question to have been resolved in the *affirmative*.
Bill read a second time,
On motion of Mr. Moore, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 20.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 9 JUNE, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Homestead Leases in the Brewarrina and Warrego Districts:—Mr. Scath asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that ten homestead leases in the Brewarrina district, known as Yandallia, are alleged to be dummied by W. Flood, W. W. Richardson, and W. C. Hill, and are held in their interest?

(2.) Are any of the original lessees now resident on those homesteads?

(3.) Is he aware that there are ten homestead leases on the Warrego, alleged to be dummied, held by R. Ridge, W. W. Richardson, and W. C. Hill; and are any of the original lessees now resident on those leases?

(4.) Under what circumstances were the whole of those homestead lessees cleared off their holdings?

(5.) Were mortgages secured upon the whole of those twenty homestead leases when they were taken up; and is it a fact that 15 per cent. interest was charged upon such mortgages?

(6.) Does he intend to take the same action in this case as was taken in the Mercadool cases?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1 to 5.) I am not aware.

(6.) I invite the attention of the Honorable Member to my reply to his Question of the 6th May last.

(2.) Spring Ridge Travelling Stock Reserve, near Quirindi:—Mr. Griffith asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it a fact that he intends to sell by auction during this month the Spring Ridge Travelling Stock Reserve, near Quirindi?

(2.) Is he aware that this is the only good camp between Bundella and Walhallow?

(3.) Is it a fact that he intends to sell by auction during this month a reserve of 540 acres of rich land suitable for agriculture within 20 miles of Quirindi, adjacent to Mr. A. A. Danger's Mooki Springs Homestead?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1.) The land is reserved from sale other than by auction, but at the request of the local Parliamentary representative, Mr. H. Levien, M.P., action was recently taken to stay sale until fuller reports were locally obtained. No action will be taken until Mr. Levien's protest has been dealt with.

(2.) This is not so.

(3.) No definite action has been taken in respect to this reserve pending consideration of a protest against its sale by the local Parliamentary representative, Mr. H. Levien, M.P.

(3.) The Unemployed in the Riverina District:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has the suggestion made to him that, in order to give present relief to the large number of unemployed in the Riverina district, gangs of men could be usefully employed in cutting up, stacking, and burning the timber in the beds of the rivers Murray, Edwards, Darling, and Murrumbidgee, been considered?

(2.) If so, is it intended to proceed with the work while the rivers are very low, as at present, and thus save a large amount of expenditure of the public funds?

Mr. Young answered,—No decision has been arrived at, but I have called for an early report on the subject.

(4.)

9th June, 1897.

- (4.) Bridge over the Murray River:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has his attention been directed, by letter and otherwise, to the terribly dilapidated state of the decking on the bridge over the Murray, between Moama and Echuca?
 - (2.) Have any arrangements been made for the redecking of the bridge?
 - (3.) If so, when is the work to be commenced and completed?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) This bridge is under the joint control of the New South Wales and Victorian Governments, and a scheme submitted the other day by the Government of Victoria is now under consideration.
 - (3.) I am not in a position at present to reply to this.
- (5.) Homestead Leases on Clare Station, Land District of Balranald:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—Referring to the forfeited homestead leases on Clare Station, in the Land District of Balranald,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that these leases were again offered for selection recently?
 - (2.) How many applicants were there for each lease?
 - (3.) Was a ballot taken to determine priority of application?
 - (4.) Were these leases withdrawn by the Department after the ballot had taken place?
 - (5.) If so, what were the reasons for such a course?
 - (6.) Has the land comprised within these forfeited leases been granted to any person or persons under occupation license or otherwise?
 - (7.) If so, to whom, and the nature and extent of the tenure?
 - (8.) Has Mr. Waugh, the owner of Clare Station, the right to impound stock from these lands?
 - (9.) If so, what is his right?
 - (10.) Does he intend to make these leases again available for *bonâ fide* selection?
 - (11.) If so, when, and under what classification?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) No; the homestead leases, after forfeiture, were reserved from homestead lease.
 - (2.) Fifteen applications were made under some misconception.
 - (3.) Yes; by the local land agent.
 - (4 and 5.) The land was not open to lease either before or after the ballot.
 - (6.) These lands reverted to the occupation license by operation of law.
 - (7.) To the licensees of the Clare resumed area, whose occupation license is in force from the 1st January to the 31st December in each year.
 - (8 and 9.) Yes.
 - (10 and 11.) It is intended to offer the lands as improvement leases.
- (6.) Appointment of Captain W. Crossman to Pilot Steamer "Ajax":—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has the Newcastle Marine Board recommended Captain W. Crossman for appointment to the pilot steamer "Ajax"?
 - (2.) Were public applications invited for the position; and, if so, how many were received?
 - (3.) Was it a condition that the applicants should not exceed 35 years of age?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that the age of Captain Crossman is considerably in excess of that; and, if so, why was his application considered in view of the conditions as to age?
 - (5.) Will he take steps before confirming this appointment to have equal opportunities extended to applicants if not exceeding the age conditions, or non-applicants who, as in the case of Captain Crossman, exceeded the age set forth in the advertised conditions, and who considered themselves precluded from applying for the position?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 - (2 and 3.) It is believed that the Local Marine Board called for applicants not exceeding 35 years of age.
 - (4.) No; Captain Crossman is said to be 35 years of age.
- (7.) Payment of the Temporary and Casual Staff, Government Printing Office:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the importance of the Record Reign Celebration, will he take steps to provide for the payment of the temporary and casual staff of the Government Printing Office on the occasion of this event?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The Regulations of the Department will not permit.

- (8.) G. F. Jones, confined in the Gladesville Hospital:—Mr. Willis asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is a man named G. F. Jones at present confined in the Gladesville Hospital?
 - (2.) How long has he been confined there?
 - (3.) How long in other asylums of a similar nature?
 - (4.) Is he a paying patient?
 - (5.) How much a week is he charged for his accommodation?
 - (6.) Is his malady such as to prevent his being handed over to the care of his friends?
 - (7.) Is he mad at all, or only peculiar?
 - (8.) Has he any objection to laying the whole of the papers connected with the case of this man, G. F. Jones, upon the Table of this House?
 - (9.) Is he aware that this man alleges he has been officially threatened with punishment if he dares to complain of his treatment inside this asylum to any member of Parliament?
 - (10.) Will he take such steps as he may deem necessary to protect G. F. Jones from punishment because his case is now mentioned in Parliament?

Mr.

9th June, 1897.

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

- (1.) Yes.
- (2 and 3.) On various occasions during the last twelve years in Gladesville and Callan Park.
- (4.) Yes.
- (5.) 25s. a week.
- (6.) He has no friends to whom, under all the circumstances of the case, he could be discharged with safety.
- (7.) He is insane.
- (8.) It does not appear advisable to lay the papers in this case on the Table of this House.
- (9 and 10.) There is no truth whatever in the statement that this patient has been officially threatened, and there does not appear to be any necessity to take steps to protect him from a purely imaginary contingency.

(9.) Colliers Loading on Sunday at Southern Coast Coal Jetties:—Mr. Black asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that steam colliers have of late been loading on Sunday at the Southern Coast coal jetties?
- (2.) Is not this practice contrary to law?
- (3.) If so, will he see that it is discontinued?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am not aware, but inquiries will be made.

(10.) Land and Income Tax Department:—Mr. Willis, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) How many clerks are now employed at the Land and Income Taxation Department?
- (2.) How many of the number, whose services have been continuous since the passing of the Public Service Act, have been transferred from other Government Departments?
- (3.) Are the remaining clerks engaged only temporarily, under section 37 of the Public Service Act?
- (4.) If the persons referred to in Question 3 are engaged under section 37 of the Public Service Act, have they completed their term of nine months service yet?
- (5.) In the cases of those temporarily employed under section 37, has the Ministerial head of the Department obtained the sanction of the Public Service Board for their re-engagement for two further terms of three months, vide subsection of section 37?
- (6.) In cases where temporary officers have been employed for nine months, has he intimated, in accordance with section 38 of the Public Service Act, to the Public Service Board the desirability of continuing such employment until the completion of the public work or scheme on which they are engaged?
- (7.) How long may the temporary officers referred to in Question 3 anticipate receiving employment in the Taxation Department?
- (8.) Are any of the temporary officers, irrespective of those transferred from other Departments, whose services have been continuous since the passing of the Public Service Act, eligible for permanent employment in the Taxation or any other Department under the control of the Public Service Board?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of this House in the form of a return, if moved for in the usual way.

(11.) Alleged Dummying of Thos. Collins, Molong District:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is he aware that one Thos. Collins took up a selection of 320 acres within special area No. 20,631 on 25th April, 1895, parish of Bell, Molong District, county of Ashburnham?
- (2.) Is it a fact that Collins is merely acting as an alleged dummy for one George Frederick Millgate?
- (3.) Is it a fact that Millgate, or some member of his family, it is alleged, finds the money for the selector, and to carry on the improvements?
- (4.) Will he see that steps are taken to have the *bonâ-fides* of the selection fully investigated, with the view of putting down possible land dummying?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am not aware, as the papers respecting this conditional purchase have not been received at the Head Office.

(12.) Lavatories in Second-class Railway Carriages:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Are any steps being taken to provide lavatories in second-class railway carriages on long journeys; if so, when are such carriages likely to be available for the travelling public?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed that second-class carriages with lavatory accommodation have already been provided, and have been running on the Southern Express and Northern Mail trains since March last. Additional carriages are under construction, and when they are completed will be put into circuit on the mail trains on all lines.

(13.) Letter-boxes on Tram-cars:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has the Acting Premier's attention been called to the many accidents caused, and in two cases deaths, through the tram guards having to change the letters-boxes each journey from one end to the other of the carriages?
- (2.) As these boxes were instituted for the convenience of people living in the suburbs, that they might post their letters, and not for people in the city, where post boxes are plentiful, will he take steps to recommend the discontinuance of this practice, so that the danger to tram guards will be minimised for the future?

Mr. Brunker answered,—My attention has not been called to numerous accidents from the cause stated, and I am informed there is no risk in connection with the letter-boxes if only ordinary care is exercised.

9th June, 1897.

(14.) *Hansard* Reports on Federation:—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Can he see his way to granting a free issue of the *Hansard* reports of the opening debate on the Federation question to the extent of 100 or 500 copies to each Member of the Assembly?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I have been furnished with the following information from the Government Printer:—The Question, as put above, is somewhat different from the request contained in the memorial from the various Members, recently submitted for estimate by the Honorable the Acting Premier, with respect to which I would refer you to my letter of 2nd instant in answer to Treasury minute No. 97/4917. The present Question, I take it, only covers the cost of reprinting reports of the opening debates up to and including the second reading, and would, therefore, mean the omission of all Committee matter from the closing of the debate after discussion of the first clause. So far the matter thus indicated now extends to about 160 pages, and to republish in pamphlet form per 10,000 copies would cost £109 5s., and any additional quantity rateably, say, £10 8s. 6d. per 1,000. What the full extent of the debate may be, of course, it is impossible at the present time to forecast.

2. LICENSING LAWS:—The following Petitions from certain residents of New South Wales,—stating that, in the opinion of the Petitioners, the present measure of Sunday-closing has been very beneficial in the reduction of the number of arrests for intemperance; and praying the House not to consent to any alteration of the law to provide for the opening of public-houses at certain hours on Sundays,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. Neild.

(2.) By Mr. Robert Jones.

Petitions received.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No 18.

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

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

(4.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act, 48 Victoria No. 18.

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

(6.) Return to an Order, made on 29th April, 1897,—“Public Service Board—Cases of Mr. F. O. “Byrnes and Mr. J. J. B. Wakely.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Departmental Reports respecting the Flood-prevention in the Hunter River.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. RECEIPTS UNDER THE DISEASES IN SHEEP ACT (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. Hayes* moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the amount of money received each year during the last ten years under the Diseases in Sheep Act. Question put and passed.

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

(1.) Municipalities Act Amendment Bill; third reading;—until To-morrow.

(2.) Borough of Cudgegong Cattle Sale-yards Bill; third reading;—until To-morrow.

(3.) Racecourse Betting Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 6th July.

6. PHARMACY BILL:—*Mr. Speaker* reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled “*An Act to establish a Board of Pharmacy; to regulate the carrying on of the business of a Pharmacist; to provide for the examination and registration of Pharmacists; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.*”—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 9th June, 1897.

JOHN LUCKEY,
President.

PHARMACY BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 9th June, 1897.

ADOLPHUS P. CLAPIN,

For the Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, clause 1, line 6. Omit “Pharmacy”
Page 1, clause 1, line 6. After “Board” insert “of Pharmacy”
Page 1, clause 1, line 8. After “the” insert “Pharmacy”
Page 1, clause 1, line 9. Omit “of Pharmacy”
Page 2, clause 3, line 27. Omit “but not” insert “as well as”
Page 3, clause 11, line 41. Omit “one year” insert “two years”
Page 3, clause 11, line 43. After “shop” insert “for the purpose of dispensing or compounding
“medical prescriptions”
Page 3, clause 11, line 47. Omit “either wholly or partly”

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- Page 3, clause 11, line 50. *After* "dispensary" *insert* "under the management of a registered pharmacist or of a legally qualified medical practitioner"
- Page 3, clause 11, line 51. *After* "any" *insert* "public"
- Page 3, clause 11, line 51. *After* "society" *insert* "or having so served for not less than one year before the passing of this Act, continues to serve thereafter so as to make a total period of three years"
- Page 4, clause 11, line 10. *After* "has" *insert* "afterwards"
- Page 4, clause 11, line 15. *After* "Board" *insert* "in each of the following subjects, namely:—chemistry, practical chemistry, botany, and materia medica"
- Page 4, clause 11, line 16. *Omit* "following" *insert* "said"
- Page 4, clause 11, lines 18 and 19. *Omit* "namely:—chemistry, practical chemistry, botany, and materia medica"
- Page 4, clause 11. *After* line 21 *add* "Provided that no person shall be entitled to be registered under subsections (a) (b) or (c) hereof after the month of January one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine or under subsection (d) after the month of January one thousand nine hundred and three"
- Page 4, clause 14, line 40. *After* "months" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 5, clause 19. At end of clause *add* "renewable at the discretion of the Board in the month of January in each year."
- Page 6, clause 24, lines 35 to 37. *Omit* "keeping open shop for the purpose of dispensing and compounding prescriptions of duly qualified medical practitioners"
- Page 6, clause 25, line 40. *Omit* "January" *insert* "July"
- Page 6, clause 25, line 42. *Omit* "1896" *insert* "1897"
- Page 7, Schedule 3, line 14. *Omit* "and profession or occupation"
- Page 7, Schedule 3, line 15. *Omit* "189," *insert* "1897 [qualification]"

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the Message be taken into consideration in Committee of the Whole To-morrow.

7. 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 practise of Dentistry,*"—forwarded to the Legislative Assembly for concurrence, during last Session of the present Parliament, not having been finally dealt with because of the prorogation of the Legislature, the Legislative Council requests that the said Bill be proceeded with under the Assembly's Standing Order in that behalf.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 9th June, 1897.

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.

8. ARTESIAN WELLS BILL:—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to 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.

Question put and passed.

9. VEGETATION DISEASES BILL:—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Vegetation Diseases 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 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,*"—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.

Question put and passed.

Message to the Legislative Council sent accordingly.

10. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Pymont Bridge*):—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the removal of the present Pymont Bridge, and the construction in lieu thereof of a timber bridge, with steel swing span, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in their report presented on the 6th December, 1894, be carried out.

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

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Wednesday next.

9th June, 1897.

11. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (Glebe Island Bridge):**—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a new bridge at Glebe Island, to replace the existing structure.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
12. **REAL PROPERTY (CROWN LANDS) BILL:**—
(1.) Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill 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.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Carruthers then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill 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,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
13. **FIELD OF MARS RESUMPTION REPEAL BILL:**—
(1.) Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to apply the provisions of the Crown Lands Acts to certain land described in the Schedule to the Field of Mars Common Resumption Act of 1874; to declare that certain of the said land shall be Crown lands; and to repeal the said Act.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Carruthers then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to apply the provisions of the Crown Lands Acts to certain land described in the Schedule to the Field of Mars Common Resumption Act of 1874; to declare that certain of the said land shall be Crown lands; and to repeal the said Act,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
14. **NULLUM TEMPUS ACT DECLARATORY BILL:**—
(1.) Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to declare that the Imperial Statute, 9th George the Third, chapter 16, commonly known as the Nullum Tempus Act, is not in force in New South Wales.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Carruthers then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to declare that the Imperial Statute, 9th George the Third, chapter 16, commonly known as the Nullum Tempus Act, is not in force in New South Wales,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday, 23rd June.
15. **PAPER:**—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table,—Correspondence and Minutes respecting the interference by the Public Service Board with Votes for the Parliamentary Departments.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
16. **POSTPONEMENTS:**—The Orders of the Day of Government Business Nos. 1 to 13 postponed, to follow after General Order of the Day No. 9.
17. **PUBLIC WORKS ACTS FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Cann moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Cann, *passed*.
Mr. Cann then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend Part I of the 'Public Works Act of 1888,' the 'Public Works Act Amendment Act of 1889,' and the 'Public Works (Committees' Remuneration) Act of 1889.'*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled, "*An Act to amend Part I of the 'Public Works Act of 1888,' the 'Public Works Act Amendment Act of 1889,' and the 'Public Works (Committees' Remuneration) Act of 1889,'*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 9th June, 1897.*
18. **NARANDERA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TRUSTEES ENABLING BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gormly moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gormly, *passed*.
Mr. Gormly then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable William Lanigan, of Goulburn, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church, Thomas Joseph Carroll, of Narandera, priest, Peter Sullivan, of Narandera, stationer, George Jerrom, of Narandera, draper, and John Patrick M'Intyre, of Narandera, innkeeper, or other the trustees for the time being of certain lands situated in East and Twynam Streets, Narandera, to sell the said lands and to provide for the application of the proceeds thereof.*"
Question put and passed.

Ordered,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

9th June, 1897.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable William Lanigan, of Goulburn, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church, Thomas Joseph Carroll, of Narandera, priest, Peter Sullivan, of Narandera, stationer, George Jerrom, of Narandera, draper, and John Patrick McIntyre, of Narandera, innkeeper, or other the trustees for the time being of certain lands situated in East and Twynam Streets, Narandera, to sell the said lands and to provide for the application of the proceeds thereof,*"—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, 9th June, 1897.

19. ORANGE SHOW GROUND BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Newman moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Newman, *passed*.

Mr. Newman then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the trustees of the Orange Pastoral and Agricultural Association to mortgage certain lands granted to the said trustees for the use and general purposes of the said Association for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to pay off the present liabilities of the said Association incurred in erecting the buildings and improvements now standing upon the said lands, and to effect further permanent improvements thereon; and also to sell the same lands, and to purchase other lands in the town of Orange, or in the vicinity of the said town, for the use of the said Association, and to mortgage the lands so to be purchased for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to effect permanent improvements thereon.*"

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 trustees of the Orange Pastoral and Agricultural Association to mortgage certain lands granted to the said trustees for the use and general purposes of the said Association, for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to pay off the present liabilities of the said Association incurred in erecting the buildings and improvements now standing upon the said lands, and to effect further permanent improvements thereon; and also to sell the same lands, and to purchase other lands in the town of Orange, or in the vicinity of the said town, for the use of the said Association, and to mortgage the lands so to be purchased for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to effect permanent improvements thereon,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence, accompanied by a copy of the Report from, and Minutes of Evidence taken before, the Select Committee thereon.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 9th June, 1897.

20. MAITLAND GASLIGHT ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gillies moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gillies, *passed*.

Mr. Gillies then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the Maitland Gaslight Company (Limited) to extend its works to, and to light and supply gas to, and carry on business in, places beyond the limits and boundaries of the towns of East and West Maitland; and to confer further powers on the said company; and to amend the deed of settlement of the company; and the Maitland Gas Act of 1874; and for other purposes incidental thereto.*"

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 Maitland Gaslight Company (Limited) to extend its works to, and to light and supply gas to, and carry on business in, places beyond the limits and boundaries of the towns of East and West Maitland; and to confer further powers on the said company; and to amend the deed of settlement of the company; and the Maitland Gas Act of 1874; and for other purposes incidental thereto,*"—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, 9th June, 1897.

21. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate on the motion of Mr. Parkes, "That this Bill be now read a second time"—

And the Question being again proposed,—

The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.

Interruption.

9th June, 1897.

22. PUBLIC ROADS BILL:—Mr. Speaker (*on the ground of the urgency of this matter*) reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council agrees to the Free Conference requested by the Legislative Assembly in its Message, dated 26th May, 1897, on the subject of the Council's amendments disagreed to by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council in the Public Roads Bill, and appoints that the same be held in the Back Library at the hour of half-past seven o'clock this evening, and that the Honorable Alexander Brown, the Honorable George Henry Cox, the Honorable William Portus Cullen, the Honorable Andrew Garran, the Honorable Charles Gilbert Heydon, the Honorable Frederick Thomas Humphery, the Honorable Charles James Roberts, the Honorable Charles Edward Pilcher, the Honorable Fergus Jago Smith, and the Honorable John Henry Want be the Managers thereof on its behalf.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 9th June, 1897.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Free Conference:—

The time having arrived for holding the Free Conference with the Legislative Council, the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker, called over the names of the Managers appointed on behalf of the Assembly.

And Mr. Millen, Mr. Moore, Mr. Thomas Brown, and Mr. O'Sullivan not answering,—on motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Bull, and Mr. See were appointed in the room of those who had not answered.

The Managers then proceeded to the Conference, attended by the Sergeant-at-Arms, the business of the House being suspended during their absence, in accordance with the Standing Order No. 231.

The Managers having returned,—

Mr. Carruthers, on their behalf, brought up the following Report, which was read by the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker, viz.:—

The Managers appointed by the Legislative Assembly by resolution of 26th May, 1897, whereby a Free Conference with the Legislative Council was requested on the subject of the disagreements to certain of the Legislative Council's amendments in the Public Roads Bill, report to this Honorable House that, having met the Managers appointed by the Legislative Council in its behalf, the following resolutions were agreed upon, viz.:—

That in clause 2, in lieu of the interpretation of "Road" the following should be substituted:—

"Road," wherever used in this Act, includes any land proclaimed, dedicated, resumed, or otherwise provided, before or after the commencement of this Act, as a public thoroughfare or way; and whenever used in sections 6, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 of this Act, also includes any land defined, reserved, or left, before or after the commencement of this Act, as a road in any subdivision of Crown land, or in the measurement or granting of Crown land as indicated upon the official plans of the same; but, where used in section 28 of this Act, does not include any land not proclaimed or expressly or impliedly dedicated to the public as a road.

That in clause 5, line 18, after the word "the" second occurring, the following words be added—"Minister after inquiry and report by the"

That in clause 7, sub-section (iii) be restored and amended so as to read as follows:—"a road not yet proclaimed has been formed by the expenditure of public funds, and is in use"

That in clause 8, line 35, the words "by the Minister or the owner of the land" be omitted, and in line 38, after the word "appeal," the words "to the Land Court" be added.

That in clause 18, line 17, the word "proclaimed" be omitted.

Back Library, 9th June, 1897.

J. H. CARRUTHERS.

Ordered, that the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Report brought up by the Assembly's Managers from the Free Conference stand an Order of the Day for To-morrow.

23. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL:—The Debate on the motion for the second reading of this Bill,—interrupted by the proceedings recorded in entry No. 21 above,—resumed.

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

Debate continued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 10 JUNE, 1897, A.M.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at two 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. 21.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 10 JUNE, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) John Collins, sentenced at the Bingara Quarter Sessions :—*Mr. Cotton*, for Mr. Haynes, asked the Minister of Justice,—

Whether the facts as stated in the accompanying Press report are correct, viz. :—“ At the Bingara Quarter Sessions, last week, John Collins was tried and found guilty on a charge of stealing a tin of baking powder, valued at 1s. In passing a sentence of three years penal servitude, Judge Gibson remarked that he was determined to deal with him as severely as possible, as he (prisoner) had not allowed the Magistrate in the lower Court to deal with the case, but had put the country to the cost of £19 9s. to bring the trial before him ” ?

Mr. Gould answered,—The statements contained in the extract from the Press report are not correct. In a report which has been furnished by his Honor Judge Gibson, that gentleman says that, in passing sentence, he addressed the prisoner in the following terms :—“ As you have chosen to come to this Court, you have thereby enabled me, before sentencing you, to learn your previous criminal career. In all probability the Magistrates would not have had this information before them. As, however, it now appears that you have constantly broken the law, I see no reason in this case to depart from the principle I always adopt in sentencing old offenders, viz., to pass a longer sentence upon you than the highest sentence you have already served for the same class of offence.” Judge Gibson further states that his object in inflicting the sentence which he passed was to confine the prisoner for a considerable time, in order to prevent him from further preying upon society during, at all events, the term of the sentence he would actually serve. He adds that, if it had been the prisoner's first offence, he would undoubtedly have passed a very small sentence. From the inquiry which has been made, it appears that there are several previous convictions for larceny on record against the prisoner.

- (2.) Legal Opinion in Collection of alleged Arrears of Income Tax :—*Mr. Neild* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the name, or what are the names, of the “ eminent counsel ” who advised the Commissioners of Taxation that it was their duty to collect alleged arrears of income tax, contrary to the opinion given by the Attorney-General ?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—One of the opinions was given by Mr. J. L. Campbell ; the other was an opinion given to private individuals by private counsel ; the name cannot be divulged.

- (3.) The Public Works Committee :—*Mr. Rose* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What amount has been paid to the Public Works Committee during the present Parliament, including expenses allowed for travelling ?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—From 25th July, 1895, to date, £11,736 9s.

- (4.) Floors in Cow-bails in the Richmond River District :—*Mr. Perry* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Inspector of Dairies in the Richmond River District has ordered that all cow-bails shall have concrete floors ?

(2.) Is it a fact that the late Inspector approved of slab floors ?

(3.) Will he see that no alteration is ordered by the next Inspector appointed, so as to save expense to the dairymen ?

(4.) Is it a fact that dairymen of the South Coast are allowed to have their bails slabbed ?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) No.

(3 and 4.) I am informed that the Richmond River District is now in course of inspection by a Veterinary Inspector of the Board of Health for the first time, and consequently there can have been no change in the nature of the directions given. Moreover, all directions given by the Board's

10th June, 1897.

Board's Inspectors are in accordance with the Board's printed instructions, which, in order to secure uniformity, have been issued to all local authorities also. It is essential to the wholesomeness, keeping qualities, and good flavour of cream and butter, that milking-yards and dairies should be kept clean, and for this purpose that they should, as far as possible, have impervious flooring which can be washed. Still, as a matter of practice, and in order to spare the dairyman all but absolutely necessary expense, if a dairyman has a well-laid, accurately fitted hardwood floor in good condition, he is not required to alter it; but if, as is very often the case, he has no floor at all but the earth, or a makeshift slab floor which cannot be kept clean, he is then required to construct an impervious floor of brick, or of stone slabs properly squared and bedded, or of concrete, and is not allowed to use wood. In view of the great commercial, as well as hygienic, importance of this matter, it is not proposed to modify the present instructions.

(5.) Regulation of Dance-rooms:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did a representative deputation wait on him some months ago asking for an amendment of the law relating to dance-rooms?

(2.) What answer did he give to such deputation?

(3.) Does he propose to take any action during the present Session in regard to the matter?

(4.) If so, what is the nature of the action he proposes to take; and when will the matter be introduced to the House?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am quite aware that a deputation waited upon me on this subject some time since. I then informed the deputation that this was a matter which could only be dealt with by the introduction of an Amending Municipalities Bill. That Bill has either been prepared or is in course of preparation, and is in the hands of the Premier.

(6.) Stray Dogs:—Mr. Watson, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is he aware that the city is infested by ownerless, collarless, and apparently unregistered dogs?

(2.) Will he see that that phase of the law is enforced which provides that members of the Police Force who do not do their duty in the matter of capturing such stray dogs shall be prosecuted for such dereliction of duty?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed by the Inspector-General of Police that the matter is constantly under attention by the police and municipal authorities. The winter is not a favourable season for seizing such stray dogs, but a large number are always destroyed during the summer months.

(7.) Prison Reform:—Mr. Watson, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Justice,—Is it intended to act upon the suggestions regarding Prison Reform, &c., made in a report of the late Mr. A. C. Fraser?

Mr. Gould answered,—The whole question of prison reform is now under consideration in connection with the reports of the late Under Secretary of Justice (Mr. Fraser), the late Comptroller-General of Prisons (Mr. Miller, now Under Secretary), and the present Comptroller-General (Captain Neitenstein). Some modifications of the present prison system have already been introduced in the amendment of certain Regulations, and certain alterations and improvements are now being carried out in some of the gaol premises, in order to enable the Department to give effect to further desirable changes which are in contemplation. As regards the suggestions of the late Mr. Fraser, some of them are not such as it would be desirable to adopt, and others would be impracticable.

(8.) Delegate to the Fruit Conference to be held in Brisbane:—Mr. Watson, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it a fact that no representative fruitgrower of Central Cumberland was appointed as a delegate to the Fruit Conference to be held in Brisbane?

(2.) Will he afford a reason why such an appointment was not made?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Representative fruit-growers were selected from Goulburn, Albury, and Cumberland; but the selected representative for the last-named district stated he would be unable to attend. Mr. Rhodes, a fruit-grower and preserver, has been selected in his place. Mr. Sparkes, of the Dundas Fruit-growers' Association, has also been selected.

(9.) Conveyance of Lunatics from Orange to Sydney:—Mr. Watson, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that lunatics, who may be conveyed by the afternoon train from Orange or intermediate stations to Sydney, are compelled to alight at Blacktown Junction and remain there, in charge of warders, until the next suburban train comes along, as the Orange-Sydney train does not stop at Parramatta?

(2.) Will he cause instructions to be given which will obviate the necessity for pursuing this objectionable and dangerous course?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) I am informed that the train service necessitates that passengers for intermediate stations should alight at Blacktown Station.

(2.) I will refer the matter to the Railway Commissioners.

(10.) Pay to Employees in the Government Printing Office:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it intended to pay all employees in the Government Printing Office, whether temporary or permanent, during the time the office will be closed for the Jubilee Celebrations?

(2.) Is it intended to pay all other persons in the temporary or permanent employ of the Government during the same period?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) The permanent officers of the Government Printing Office will be paid for the 21st and 22nd instant, being proclaimed public holidays, *vide Government Gazettes* of the 2nd instant and 14th ultimo.

(2.) The temporary employees will not be paid for the days referred to, in accordance with the terms of their employment. (11.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th June, 1897.

(11.) Construction of Reservoir in the Centennial Park:—Mr. McGowen asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that a reservoir is being constructed at the Centennial Park?
- (2.) What is the name of the contractor?
- (3.) Does a person of the same name occupy a position on the Water and Sewerage Board?
- (4.) Has he any connection with the firm of the contractors?
- (5.) Will the Water and Sewerage Board take over this work when completed?
- (6.) Has the Government competent Inspectors supervising this contract?
- (7.) Is it a fact that an Inspector reported that the work was not being carried out according to the specifications, which were as follows:—(a) That the work was to be grouted with neat cement; (b) that all walls were to be erected simultaneously; (c) that all bricks were to be floated into their position?
- (8.) Is it a fact that ordinary compo. is being used composed of three parts sand and one part cement in the grouting?
- (9.) Are the walls being erected simultaneously?
- (10.) Are the bricks being placed in their position in the ordinary manner, and not floated?
- (11.) Have the services of the Inspector (who contended for the specifications as above stated) been dispensed with; if so, for what reason?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) John Ahearn.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) Yes, he is one and the same person.
- (5.) Yes.
- (6.) Yes.
- (7, 8, 9, and 10.) No; work is being carried out according to specification.
- (11.) There were three Inspectors on the work at the commencement, but it was found necessary to retire one of these, who was a junior, until the work is further advanced.

(12.) Concessions to Railway Officials during Record Reign Celebration:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Are any concessions likely to be granted to engine-drivers, firemen, guards, postal or mail guards, &c., on our various railway lines during the celebrations of the approaching Jubilee Record Reign?
- (2.) Will the matter receive the attention of the Railway Commissioners, to see if anything can be done in the way of granting some concessions to these officials?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed that the Railway Regulations provide that employees are allowed a day's leave for each proclaimed general public holiday, and as holidays have been proclaimed on the 21st and 22nd instant in connection with the Record Reign, the concession referred to will be allowed. Employees who cannot take the leave for the proclaimed holidays in consequence of being required to work are allowed the holidays at some future time when they can be spared.

(13.) Public School at Kincumber:—Mr. Watkins, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—When will a tender be accepted for improvements to the Public School property at Kincumber?

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

(14.) Public School at Woodport:—Mr. Watkins, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—When will tenders be invited for addition to the Public School at Woodport?

Mr. Young answered,—Next month.

(15.) Public School at Newport, Dora Creek:—Mr. Watkins, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—When will a tender be accepted for the erection of Public School buildings at Newport, Dora Creek?

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

(16.) Dredging Work at Dora Creek:—Mr. Watkins, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will a dredge be sent to carry out necessary work at the mouth of Dora Creek?

Mr. Young answered,—So soon as one is available.

(17.) Butler's Hill, on the Wyong to Yarramolong Road:—Mr. Watkins, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Secretary for Lands,—What action has been taken to establish the deviation at Butler's Hill, on the Wyong to Yarramolong Road?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—The proposed deviation has been surveyed, and notice of its intended establishment in lieu of part of the original road was published in the *Government Gazette* of the 19th May last.

(18.) Forest Reserve, No. 14,972:—Mr. Watkins, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Was a petition, numerously signed by timber-getters of Ourimbah, presented to him, praying that portion of Forest Reserve No. 14,972, county of Northumberland, now exempted, be thrown open to the operation of timber licenses?
- (2.) Was the prayer of the petitioners refused because of a desire to protect the orchids, palms, &c., on the area in question?
- (3.) Does he consider the protection of orchids, palms, &c., of greater importance than giving timber-getters an opportunity of earning a livelihood?
- (4.) Will he reconsider the prayer of the petitioners?

Mr.

10th June, 1897.

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) The area protected is only 600 acres out of some 22,000 acres open to operation in the immediate vicinity, and was exempted from operation to protect the palms, ferns, orchids, and natural growths thereon, as a large trade in them threatens their extinction.
- (4.) Yes; but I may say the matter was very fully considered before a determination was arrived at.

(19.) Subsidy to the Canadian Mail Steamers:—Mr. Haynes asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) Has any proposal, official or not, been made to his Department respecting a subsidy to the line of Canadian mail steamers?
- (2.) What amount of money is now paid in mail subsidies by the Postal Department; if any ocean line of steamers is unsubsidised, will he name the line or lines?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) No fresh proposal of the kind has been made, nor, so far as I am aware, is such a proposal in contemplation. Contracts with this, as well as the San Francisco Company, have been in existence for many years.
- (2.) £40,967 per annum, viz., £26,967 to the P. & O. and Orient Companies (through the London office); £10,000 to Mr. James Huddart; and £4,000 to the Union Steamship Company of New Zealand (through the New Zealand Government). All other ocean lines of steamers are remunerated on the basis of the weight of mail matter carried on behalf of this Department.

(20.) Appeals under the Land and Income Tax Act:—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will the Judge hearing the appeals under the Land and Income Tax Act visit the principal towns of the Colony to hear such appeals, so that persons appealing in the country districts will not be put to the expense of coming to Sydney?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Yes, this is already provided for by regulation.

(21.) Gratuities under the Public Service Act:—Mr. McFarlane asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the Public Service Board has refused gratuities of one month's pay for each year's service to officers who have voluntarily resigned?
- (2.) Will he cause inquiry to be made why clause 62 of the Public Service Act has been departed from, which clearly states that gratuities will be paid on retirement?
- (3.) Is he aware that the Public Service Board issued a minute to the different Departments, stating that "retirements" in clause 32 of the Act included voluntary resignations?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The Public Service Board have furnished me with the following Answers:—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) The necessary inquiry will be made.
- (3.) Yes, but it does not bear the construction which the Honorable Member puts upon it.

(22.) Second-class Lavatory Carriages for the Western Line:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he see that steps are taken to have second-class lavatory carriages placed on the Western line with the least possible delay, the same as now exist on the Southern line, with the view to meet the requirements of the travelling public on long journeys?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I refer the Honorable Member to the reply given yesterday on the subject of second-class carriages and lavatory accommodation.

(23.) Land open for Selection, Parish of Eurundery, Mudgee District:—Mr. Robert Jones asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Will he allow the adjoining selectors to additionally purchase the land in the parish of Eurundery, district of Mudgee, which was notified in the *Gazette* of 26th March, 1897, to be open for ordinary conditional purchase on the 24th April, 1897, but which had previously, in January, 1897, been reserved from sale pending completion of exchange (Reserve No. 2,540)?
- (2.) Will he make inquiries before the proposed exchange is made whether it blocks several small settlers from extending their area, and completely shuts them in as well as depreciates their holdings, in consequence of their being prevented from selecting previously by the said reserve being within a special area and the price 30s. per acre?
- (3.) Will he reduce the purchase-money of the land selected by conditional purchasers within special area 8,121 to the same price as the land proposed to be exchanged to the Bank of New South Wales?
- (4.) Why were the selectors adjoining the land proposed to be exchanged not allowed the privilege of selecting at the price for ordinary conditional purchases, viz., £1 per acre; and what is the meaning of *Gazette* notice of 26th March, throwing open the land for ordinary selection on 24th April, and then on the last day notifying that it is within a reserve pending exchange.

Mr. Carruthers answered,—The unselected balance containing 586½ acres of special area 8,121, county of Phillip, parishes of Wilbetree and Eurundery, was revoked on the 24th April, 1897, being portions 14, 70, 85, 120, and 221. Portions 70, 85, and 221 are within a reserve from sale pending completion of exchange proposals. Portion 120 is within another special area, and with portion 14 is available for conditional purchase. The proposed exchange is now being dealt with by the Local Land Board, and every care will be taken in dealing therewith to conserve the public interests.

2. LICENSING LAWS:—Mr. See presented a Petition from certain residents of New South Wales, stating that, in the opinion of the Petitioners, the present measure of Sunday closing has been very beneficial in the reduction of the number of arrests for intemperance; and praying the House not to consent to any alteration of the law to provide for the opening of public-houses at certain hours on Sunday.

Petition received.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th June, 1897.

3. ATTORNEYS COSTS ACT OF 1847 AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Chapman moved, without Notice, That the Order of the Day for the second reading of the Attorneys Costs Act of 1847 Amendment Bill, which dropped on Tuesday, 8th June, 1897, be restored to the Paper, and stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday, 20th July.
Question put and passed.

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

5. BOROUGH OF CUDGEGONG CATTLE SALE-YARDS BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Robert Jones, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Jones then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the Council of the Borough of Cudgegong to purchase land within the said Borough, and to erect and maintain cattle sale-yards thereon; and for other purposes in connection therewith.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the Council of the Borough of Cudgegong to purchase land within the said Borough, and to erect and maintain cattle sale-yards thereon; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—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, 10th June, 1897.

6. MINISTERIAL PORTFOLIOS REDUCTION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Crick moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Ministerial Portfolios Reduction Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 22nd June.

7. SUPREME COURT APPEALS PRACTICE BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Crick moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Supreme Court Appeals Practice Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 22nd June.

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

(1.) Municipalities Act Amendment Bill; third reading.

(2.) Mining Laws Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee.

(3.) Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill; second reading.

9. PAPERS:—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Additional By-law of the Municipal District of Balranald, under the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880.

(2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Bindogandri, county of Ashburnham, for the Supply of Water to the Town of Parkes.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

10. CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate on the motion of Mr. Carruthers, "That this Bill be now read a second time,"—

And the Question being again proposed,—

The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

Ordered, that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for Wednesday next.

11. PUBLIC TRUSTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

Mr. Carruthers then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to regulate trusts of land for public purposes; to amend the law with respect to the reservation and dedication of Crown lands, and the resumption and exchange of land so reserved or dedicated; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to regulate trusts of land for public purposes; to amend the law with respect to the reservation and dedication of Crown lands, and the resumption and exchange of land so reserved or dedicated; and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 10th June, 1897.

10th June, 1897.

12. ARTESIAN WELLS BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to 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.

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

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

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

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to provide for the 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.

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

(2.) Mr. Smith then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to 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*,"—which was read a first time.

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

13. INTERPRETATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

14. AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION (REPRESENTATIVES' ALLOWANCE) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at a quarter-past Eleven o'clock, until Tuesday next at Four o'clock

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 22.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 15 JUNE, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Expenditure in connection with the Unemployed :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What has been the total expenditure for the months of January, February, March, and April this year for the unemployed?
- (2.) What work was done by the unemployed during those months in incurring the expenditure?
- (3.) Has any of the expenditure been incurred in employing the unemployed outside of Sydney; if so, how much?
- (4.) Has any portion of the expenditure been given as charity, or has work been executed for it all?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of the House if moved for in the usual way. No objection will be offered to the motion.

- (2.) The Public Works Committee :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What amount has been paid to the Members of the Public Works Committee for the five months ending 31st May, 1897?
- (2.) Is it a fact that the average sum paid to these members for the past five months has been about £990 per month, or £76 average per member per month?
- (3.) In view of this enormous expense, will he do all in his power to get the Bill now before this House for the reduction of the cost of this Committee passed through the Legislative Council?
- (4.) How many hours do the Committee sit on the average at each sitting?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) An exact return will be furnished if moved for in the usual manner.
- (2.) No.
- (3.) I shall not attempt to interfere with the action of the Honorable Member in charge of the Bill, believing he will use every effort possible for the purpose of having it passed.
- (4.) Not less than two. Length of sittings is regulated by pressure of business, and sittings have occasionally occupied several hours continuously. During the past six months the Committee sat four times a week as a Royal Commission, without fees.

- (3.) Legal Advice to the Taxation Commissioners :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has the Attorney-General advised the Taxation Commissioners that they are entitled to make the sixty days' grace allowed before payment of the tax relate back to their first demand of the 24th April?
- (2.) If no, by what authority do they deny that the sixty days' grace dates from the demand made on the 7th instant?
- (3.) In cases where the Taxation Commissioners have illegally collected payments, will they not have to refund the same, plus 10 per cent. interest, similar to the penalty attached to payment of arrears?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) The Attorney-General has advised that the sixty days' grace allowed by section 48 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act dates from 24th April.
- (2.) Answered by No. 1.
- (3.) The Act does not provide for the payment of interest in cases where over-payments have been made to the Commissioners.

(4.)

15th June, 1897.

- (4.) Free Railway Passes :—*Mr. Dacey*, for *Mr. Hughes*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) How many free passes have been issued during the last two months, April and May, to persons travelling on the Government Railways?
 (2.) Will he give the names of the persons (if any) to whom such passes have been issued?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I would suggest to the Honorable Member that this Question is covered by a Motion of which he has given notice.

- (5.) Cattle Condemned under the Dairies' Supervision Act:—*Mr. Perry* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In cases where cattle are condemned by Inspectors under the Dairies' Supervision Act and destroyed, and on *post-mortem* examination found not to be suffering from disease, will he inform the House how the owners of such cattle are to obtain redress?

(2.) In the event of the dairy farmers selecting a competent man to examine cattle condemned by the Inspector, will he give instructions to the Inspectors to confer with the farmers' representative, and refrain from ordering the destruction of cattle supposed to be diseased until an agreement can be come to, subject to the suspected cattle being quarantined?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) In answer to a former Question it was stated that compensation under the circumstances referred to had been asked and paid in two cases only. The method was by application to the Board of Health, backed by a report of the facts made by the Board's Veterinary Inspector.

(2.) The Board's Veterinary Inspectors do not condemn and destroy cattle except by consent of the owner. If the owner disputes the Inspector's opinion, then the legal course of laying an information is taken; thereupon the case is heard by the Bench, who make an order according to the evidence. At these proceedings any competent person, or other witness, can appear.

- (6.) Appointment of Health Officers:—*Mr. Perry* asked the Colonial Secretary,—When will the Health Officers be appointed under the Act which came into force on the 1st January, 1897?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Provision for payment of Health Officers will be made on the next Estimates, and as soon as money is available the necessary appointments will be made.

- (7.) The Unemployed:—*Mr. Whiddon* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Will he be good enough to inform the House how many men from the unemployed have been put on to work since the 1st May?

(2.) The nature of such work, and the districts to which they have been sent, up to date?

Mr. Garrard answered,—I will presently lay this information upon the Table of this House in the form of a return.

- (8.) Appointment of Dairy Expert to the Health Board:—*Mr. Perry* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he appoint some person to the Health Board who is conversant with the dairying industry, to act with and advise the present Board in matters connected with the Dairies Supervision Act?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The Dairies Supervision Act is a public health measure which has now been assiduously administered by the Board of Health during the past ten years; during that period no need for advice of the kind mentioned has appeared or been shown, and the suggested appointment is not considered necessary.

- (9.) Application of *Mr. Manton* for a Gratuity:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Chapman*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—With reference to the claims of *W. A. Manton*, late Conditional Purchase Inspector, Braidwood,—

(1.) Will all the correspondence in connection with *Mr. Manton's* application for gratuity be laid upon the Table of this House?

(2.) Is it a fact that the Public Service Board recommended him for a gratuity of a fortnight's pay for each year of the last five years of his service, completely ignoring his previous eighteen years service; if so, why?

(3.) Will immediate steps be taken to have the necessary recommendation made, so that he may receive the gratuity that the Attorney-General decided that he is entitled to as a matter of law?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Yes, if moved for by the Honorable Member in the usual way.

(2.) I understand that the gratuity recommended by the Board was in respect of *Mr. Manton's* period of service from 2nd July, 1890, the date when he received a salaried appointment on the temporary staff. Prior to that date *Mr. Manton* was paid by fees, and the 60th section of the Public Service Act expressly states that the gratuity therein provided for shall be calculated on the "salary" received. Whatever claim *Mr. Manton* may consider that he has, or that he may have, cannot certainly be dealt with by the Public Service Board under the Public Service Act.

(3.) I am informed that no such opinion has been given by the Attorney-General.

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during the month of May, 1897.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Comparative Return of result of Local Option Vote in the Metropolitan Suburban Municipalities, taken in February, 1897.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Return respecting the Employment of "The Unemployed" since 1st May, 1897.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

15th June, 1897.

3. ATTACHMENT OF WAGES ABOLITION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Attachment of Wages Abolition Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 3rd August.
4. MINING LEASES, GRENFELL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Watson moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) The number of mining leases in existence within a mile of Grenfell.
(2.) How long they have been in existence respectively.
(3.) What is the total acreage.
(4.) How many men should be employed on each lease.
(5.) How many men have been employed on these leases during each month of the past year.
Question put and passed.
5. INTERPRETATION BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Gould, read a third time, and passed.
Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act for consolidating enactments relating to the interpretation of Acts of Parliament, and for further shortening their language.*"
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 the interpretation of Acts of Parliament, and for further shortening their language,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 15th June, 1897.*
6. THE UNEMPLOYED:—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That, "in view of the terrible poverty and bitter distress at present and for some time past existing through the compulsory idleness of a large portion of our fellow citizens, the Government should at once appoint a Royal Commission" for the purpose of making inquiry into and reporting upon the various methods in vogue among different nations of dealing with the unemployed, pauper, and tramp classes of their several communities, and thereafter to make recommendations to the Government as to the most suitable means in their opinion of alleviating the present deplorable distress among the industrial classes, and preventing its future recurrence.
(2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
Mr. Garrard moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out of paragraph (1) the words "in view of the terrible poverty and bitter distress at present and for some time past existing through the compulsory idleness of a large portion of our fellow citizens, the Government should at once appoint a Royal Commission," and inserting the words "a Select Committee be appointed" instead thereof.
Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,

WEDNESDAY, 16 JUNE, 1897, A.M.

Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only seventeen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, namely, Mr. Affleck, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Cook, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Garrard, Mr. Gould, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Law, Mr. Lonsdale, Mr. Millard, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Watson, Mr. Wilks, and Mr. Young,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at six minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 23.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS.

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 16 JUNE, 1897.

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

PAPER:—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table,—Further correspondence respecting the interference by the Public Service Board with Votes for the Parliamentary Departments. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

2. QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Contract for an Artesian Well at Coonamble:—Mr. Macdonald asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What date was the contract let by the Public Works Department for an artesian well at Coonamble?
- (2.) Was the contract let privately or by public tender?
- (3.) What was the date of completion, and the rates per foot?
- (4.) Was a contract let to Messrs. Mooy Brothers, of Coonamble, for a bore at that place; if so, by whom?
- (5.) What was the date of such contract; and what was the result and the cost to the Department?
- (6.) Was any opinion given by the Government Geologist at that time as to the prospects of obtaining artesian water at Coonamble?
- (7.) Was a contract let to a contractor named Watkins for a bore at Coonamble; if so, on what date, by whom, and at what rates per foot?
- (8.) What reasons were there for not completing this contract, if let?

Mr. Young answered,—The Mines Department have furnished me with the following Answers:—

- (1.) 26th October, 1892.
- (2.) Public tender.
- (3.) 12th September, 1893. Rates:—Surface to 500 feet, 30s. per foot; 500 to 1,000 feet, 35s. per foot; 1,000 to 1,500 feet, 40s. per foot.
- (4.) Yes; by the then Secretary for Mines (Mr. Abigail).
- (5.) 8th October, 1888. Bore was abandoned by the contractors at a depth of 150 feet, owing to insufficiency of the boring plant used. Cost to the State, nil.
- (6.) Yes; the importance of a bore at Coonamble having been urged upon the then Minister (Mr. Sydney Smith) by Messrs. Cass, Allison, and a Becket, M's.P., he consulted Mr. Wilkinson, the late Government Geologist, who advised him there was every probability of the occurrence of artesian water at Coonamble. Acting upon this advice, Mr. Smith directed that tenders should be invited for bores at Coonamble and Nyngan, with a view to testing the margin of the then known cretaceous area on the east and west.
- (7.) Yes; 18th June, 1890; by the present Minister for Mines. Rates:—Surface to 1,000 feet, 25s. per foot; 1,000 to 1,500 feet, 32s. 6d. per foot; 1,500 to 2,000 feet, 35s. per foot.
- (8.) The unavoidable delay in the completion of the Nyngan bore, and the transfer of the work of artesian boring for town supply to the Public Works Department, and the letting of a contract by Mr. Lyne in the meantime, decided the Minister of the day to substitute another bore upon a travelling stock route for that at Coonamble.

- (2.) Telephone Communication between Sydney and the Illawarra District:—Mr. Neild, for Mr. Archibald Campbell, asked the Postmaster-General,—In view of the intended establishment of telephonic communication between Sydney and Newcastle, will he have the same convenience extended to the Illawarra District?

Mr. Cook answered,—The question of further extensions will be considered when it is seen how the Newcastle connection results financially.

(3.)

16th June, 1897.

- (3.) Government Metallurgical Works at Clyde:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) How many tons of auriferous ore have been treated at the Government Metallurgical Works at Clyde by the ordinary process since the commencement of the year?
 - (2.) How many tons by the cyanide process?
 - (3.) How many tons by the chlorination process?
 - (4.) How many persons have sent ore to these works during the time named?
 - (5.) Are the works now completed, and capable of treating ore by any of the processes named?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The ore treated during the present year amounted to 97 tons 18 cwt. It may be pointed out that the works are not established for the purpose of treating large parcels of minerals, but for experimental purposes only. Twenty-eight different parties have sent ore to the works for treatment during the present year. The chlorination of ores can be undertaken after this week, and the cyanide process will be put in operation a few days later, when the works will be capable of treating minerals by amalgamation, chlorination, and the cyanide process.
- (4.) Lead-poisoning at Broken Hill:—Mr. Sleath asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) At whose request was the return laid upon the Table in reference to lead-poisoning at Broken Hill?
 - (2.) From what source were the figures given in the return received?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that the whole of the return was furnished by mining managers?
 - (4.) Is he aware that when a miner is known to be suffering from lead-poisoning his chances of getting employment in Broken Hill are very slight?
 - (5.) Is he aware that miners suffering from lead-poisoning as a rule do not advertise the fact, as it would mean starvation?
 - (6.) Is he aware that in many cases of lead-poisoning the miner leaves the district, and that no record can be obtained as to the cause of his illness?
 - (7.) Has any attempt been made to find out from the men themselves the numbers suffering from lead-poisoning?
 - (8.) For what purpose was the return laid upon the Table?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) It was placed upon the Table of this House by the Department for general public information.
 - (2.) The source provided by the regulations under the Act, viz., the managers of the mines.
 - (3.) Yes.
 - (4.) I am not aware.
 - (5.) I cannot say.
 - (6.) Such cases are no doubt included in the returns furnished by the managers under the Act.
 - (7.) Yes, as far as possible.
 - (8.) It was considered of public interest, and for that reason was laid upon the Table of this House.
- (5.) Coast Hospital, Little Bay:—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the extraordinary difference in the cost of the quarters and rations of the nurses at the Coast Hospital and the institutions at Rookwood and Newington, has he taken any action to ascertain the reasons for this discrepancy; if so, what?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—Inquiry is now being made into this matter.
- (6.) Post and Telegraph Office, Captain's Flat:—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. O'Sullivan, asked the Postmaster-General,—What amount has been paid by his Department as rent for the Post and Telegraph Office at Captain's Flat during the past ten years?
- Mr. Cook answered,—£257 3s. 6d.
- (7.) Police Court and Station at Captain's Flat:—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. O'Sullivan, asked the Colonial Secretary,—What amount has been paid for rent of the buildings used as a Police Court and Police Station at Captain's Flat during the past ten years?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—Police Court, £204 13s.; Police Station, £313 1s. 3d.
- (8.) Extension of the Tramway to Willoughby:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What tenders (if any) have been received or accepted in connection with the extension of the tramway to Willoughby?
 - (2.) When does he intend to invite tenders for the completion of the work in connection with same?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) Tenders have been let for the whole of the electrical plant required.
 - (2.) Tenders will be invited for the construction of the permanent-way in about a week.
- (9.) Holidays to Members of the Police Force:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the additional duties to be performed by the police during the Jubilee celebrations, will he grant members of the Force compelled to do duty on the 21st and 22nd holidays in lieu of those days?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—This will receive due consideration.
- (10.) Proposed Weir across the Yass River:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Will he cause an examination of the Yass River, between the bridge in the town of Yass and the one on the Main South Road, near Hume's Crossing, to see if there is any place where a weir could be constructed, so as to conserve the water to supply the town?
 - (2.) If such is found to exist, will he cause an estimate of the cost of such work to be made?
 - (3.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House a report of the said examination, with estimated cost of same, when made, for the information of Members?
- Mr. Young answered,—I will refer the Honorable Member's Questions to my responsible officers for consideration and report.

16th June, 1897.

(11.) Report on Lake George by Colonel Home:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has Colonel Home yet examined Lake George for water conservation purposes; if so, what is his opinion on the same?
- (2.) Has that expert yet examined the country as far as the Eucumbene and Murrumbidgee Rivers, and reported on the suitability of these rivers as feeders for supplying Lake George with a permanent water supply or otherwise?
- (3.) If Colonel Home has reported on the same, will he state what the nature of that report is?
- (4.) If Colonel Home has not yet inspected the country named for the purpose mentioned in Question 1, will he authorise him to do so without further delay?
- (5.) Has any previous examination been made, by order of the Government, of the proposal in Question 1; if so, by whom; and what was the result of that examination, and its recommendation?
- (6.) Is the Government aware that Lake George is 2,200 feet above sea-level, and is a natural basin at the present time, but could be made a permanent reservoir for the supply of hundreds of miles of country?
- (7.) Seeing the unemployed question is causing a large amount of expenditure at present, and the carrying out of the above work, if considered a capable one, would absorb a large number of the unemployed for a considerable time, will he, if Colonel Home's report is favourable, at once apply to Parliament for a loan, for the purpose of carrying out and completing the scheme above foreshadowed?

Mr. Young answered,—I do not expect Colonel Home to furnish progress reports on the various places he has inspected; but, so soon as his detailed report on the general question of water conservation and irrigation has been received, it will be laid upon the Table of this House. As I am equally interested with the Honorable Member on this important subject, he may feel assured that no undue delay will be experienced.

(12.) Salaries of Messrs. Fitzmaurice and Letton, Telegraph Department:—Mr. Wheeler, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) What were the respective salaries prior to the advent of the Public Service Board of officers Fitzmaurice and Letton; and what annual allowance was granted each for attending to the lighting arrangements of Parliament House?
- (2.) What is now the total salary allowed each of these officers?
- (3.) Is it not a fact that officer Fitzmaurice's salary, under the existing order of things, is higher by over £30 per annum than were his salary and allowance combined prior to the Public Service Board's scheme of reorganization being carried out?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) Fitzmaurice's salary, £290 per annum; Letton's salary, £161 per annum; Fitzmaurice's allowance, £23 8s. per annum; Letton's allowance, £36 per annum.
- (2.) Fitzmaurice's salary, as graded by the Public Service Board, £350 per annum; Letton's salary, as graded by the Public Service Board, £175 per annum.
- (3.) Yes.

(13.) The *Government Gazette*:—Mr. Wheeler, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Postmaster-General,—In view of the circumstances that selectors, leaseholders, tenderers, and others have frequently to travel long distances in the country to inspect the *Government Gazette*, will he see that copies of that publication are regularly forwarded to all Receiving as well as to Post Offices throughout the Colony?

Mr. Cook answered,—All special cases are considered when brought under notice, but it is represented that the cost of supplying *Gazettes* to all Receiving Offices is not justified.

(14.) Appointment of Master of Pilot-boat "Ajax":—Mr. Fegan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Were applications called for the position of master of the steam pilot-boat "Ajax"?
- (2.) If so, when, and by whose authority?
- (3.) Were there any conditions attached to the application?
- (4.) How many applications were there for the position?
- (5.) The name of the person who received the appointment?
- (6.) The age of the person who received the appointment?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) 2nd June; the Local Marine Board, under the direction of the Marine Board of New South Wales.
- (3.) Yes; to certificated masters with the usual Departmental condition of not taking on any employees over 35 years of age.
- (4.) Eleven.
- (5.) William Crossan.
- (6.) Thirty-five years.

(15.) Public Holiday, Newcastle District:—Mr. Fegan asked the Colonial Secretary,—Was Thursday, 6th May, proclaimed a public holiday for the Newcastle District; if so, why were the Government Offices opened, with the exception of the Shipping Office?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—It is impossible to give a definite answer to this Question. If the Honorable Member will postpone it until Wednesday, I will then furnish a reply.

16th June, 1897.

(16.) Reserve Corps at Broken Hill:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that a Military Officer from Sydney has recently spent three weeks—or some such period—drilling the Reserve Corps at Broken Hill?
- (2.) What is the numerical strength of this Reserve Corps?
- (3.) What was the cost to the country of this expedition?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) Yes; the Garrison Sergeant-Major.
- (2.) Twenty-three.
- (3.) £17 4s., inclusive of railway fares.

(17.) Murray Bridge at Moama:—*Mr. Chanter* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has any suggestion been made to him by the Victorian authorities *re* the redecking of the Murray Bridge, at Moama?
- (2.) What is its nature?
- (3.) Is it intended to accept the same?
- (4.) Is it proposed to redeck the bridge with planking, or cover present planking with a layer of asphalt?
- (5.) What is the estimated cost of the work?
- (6.) When is the work to be commenced; and what period of time is to be given for its completion?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) To use iron rails and concrete with tar paving on top.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) See answer to No. 2 Question.
- (5.) £4,350.
- (6.) As soon as possible; but I am not aware what time it will take to complete—probably about five months.

(18.) Grants in connection with Jubilee Reign Entertainments:—*Mr. Cruickshank* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Have grants been given to constituencies other than the grant given for the City of Sydney, on the 22nd instant, for expenditure in connection with the Jubilee Reign entertainment?
- (2.) Is it the intention of the Government to grant a sum of money to country districts towards their Jubilee entertainments on the 22nd instant?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—With respect to the Record Reign Celebrations, no special grant has been made for the city of Sydney. A Commission was appointed to expend a stated sum authorised by the Colonial Treasurer, and has been apportioned without reference to the various constituencies.

(19.) Railway Passes:—*Mr. Cruickshank* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will the Government grant free passes by railway to inmates of the destitute asylums, to enable those wishing to do so to visit Sydney on the 22nd of June, being the commemoration of the Queen's Record Reign?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—It is not considered advisable to make such a concession as that referred to. In fact, I suppose there are very few inmates of the destitute asylums who would be able to pay a visit to Sydney if they were granted permission.

(20.) Seed-wheat to Farmers:—*Mr. Cruickshank* asked the Secretary for Mines,—If the Cabinet have yet considered the question of granting seed-wheat; if so, will seed be granted to farmers in necessitous cases?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This matter will be determined next week.

(21.) Adjournment of Parliament during Jubilee Week:—*Mr. Cruickshank* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it the intention of the Government to adjourn Parliament during the Jubilee week, in order that country Members may get to their constituencies?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Considering the present state of the public business, I do not think it would be advisable to adopt the course suggested by the Honorable Member in his Question.

(22.) Appointment of Deputy Stipendiary Magistrates:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Have the recent appointments of Messrs. Love and M'Farlane, as Deputy Stipendiary Magistrates for the Metropolitan District, been made for the purpose of ensuring their permanent promotion to the Bench as vacancies arise?
- (2.) Are these appointments the result of Departmental recommendation; or has the Board taken independent action in the matter?
- (3.) Was *Mr. Love* at any time an officer employed in the same Branch of the Works Department as was the present Chairman of the Board?
- (4.) Is it a fact that *Mr. M'Farlane's* name was omitted from the Draft Report of the Board on the Department of Justice; if so, why was this officer's name afterwards restored to the Report?

Mr. Gould answered,—The Public Service Board have forwarded to me the following replies to the Honorable Member's Questions:—

- (1.) Certainly not. When any vacancy occurs the case will be dealt with on its merits.
- (2.) The Board are alone responsible for their recommendation in this case.
- (3.) *Mr. Love* was an officer of the Public Works Department some twenty years ago.
- (4.) This was not the case. The Honorable Member is probably referring to another officer of the same name.

16th June, 1897.

- (23.) Mr. Payten, Stipendiary Magistrate, Newcastle:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) At whose instance was Mr. Payten, late C.P.S. at the Central Police Court, appointed to the office of Stipendiary Magistrate at Newcastle?
 - (2.) Was the Department of Justice consulted by the Public Service Board in the making of this appointment?
 - (3.) Did he, before submitting the Board's nomination to the Governor and Executive Council, satisfy himself that there was no Police Magistrate entitled to the appointment on the grounds of seniority and fitness, in terms of the Public Service Act?
 - (4.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House all papers relating to this matter, including applications for the position, if any?
- Mr. Gould answered,—
- (1, 2, and 3.) The appointment was made on the recommendation of the Public Service Board, after consultation with me. Mr. Payten was selected for the post on account of his having filled for a considerable time the position of a Chamber Magistrate and Clerk of Petty Sessions in Sydney, where he had gained an extensive experience of the duties devolving upon a Stipendiary Magistrate, and was considered eminently qualified by his training to fill one of the new appointments at Newcastle.
- (4.) There will be no objection to laying a copy of the papers upon the Table if moved for in the usual way.
- (24.) Mining Case at Drake to be tried at Glen Innes:—Mr. Lee asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is it true the Warden for Glen Innes and Tenterfield Districts has decided to deal with an application for six months' suspension of labour conditions on a certain gold-mine at Drake at Glen Innes Court-house?
 - (2.) Is not Glen Innes some 96 miles from Drake?
 - (3.) If No. 1 is correct, why was the case not fixed to be heard at the local Court at Drake?
 - (4.) If the case is not yet dealt with, will he instruct the Warden to hear it at Drake?
 - (5.) Will he instruct the Warden for the future to deal with all cases arising in the Tenterfield District at the nearest local Court?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I have wired for the information, and hope to be able to answer the Question on Wednesday next.
- (25.) Proposed Railway from Liverpool to Mulgoa:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will the trial survey of railway from Liverpool to Mulgoa be completed?
- Mr. Young answered,—In about twelve weeks.
- (26.) Extension of Suburban Trains to Penrith:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) When will the suburban fares be extended to Penrith?
 - (2.) Were the suburban trains promised to the Penrith people?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed that,—
- (1.) The Commissioners have already made arrangements for reduced fares to be extended to Penrith, to come into operation on and from the 1st July next.
 - (2.) The Commissioners have no intention at present of increasing the train service to Penrith.
- (27.) Government Architect's Department, Western District:—Mr. Robert Jones asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he send another officer to the Western District to assist in the proper supervision of the Government Architect's Department, the present officers having stated at the inquiry held recently at Mudgee that the work is more than the present staff can properly supervise, hence the reason for bad work, as admitted by them?
- Mr. Young answered,—I am considering the question of rearranging the working of the District Inspector's Office, with a view to ensuring better supervision.
- (28.) Friendly Societies Bill:—Mr. Robert Jones asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Will he bring in the Bill to place Friendly Societies on a better footing than at present, as promised to a deputation a few weeks back?
 - (2.) As this is very important to Friendly Societies, will he bring it forward at the earliest opportunity?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—This Bill is in course of preparation. It is rather a difficult matter, and I am now in consultation with some of the members of Friendly Societies, with a view to accomplishing some of the objects they wish to attain. I hope to be able to submit the Bill in a very short time.
- (29.) Payment of Public School Teachers Salaries:—Mr. Thomas Brown asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—In connection with the Record Reign Celebrations, have any arrangements been made for payment of Public School teachers' salaries at termination of duties instead of at end of month, as customary; and, if not, will he consider the advisableness of doing so, in order to meet the convenience of teachers desirous of taking part in the celebrations?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—No; it would not be possible to carry out this suggestion on so short a notice.
- (30.) Late Superintendent of the Carpenterian Reformatory:—Mr. Lyne asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the late Superintendent of the Carpenterian Reformatory reported that the Reformatory was overcrowded, and suggested that more room should be given at Brush Farm or elsewhere?
 - (2.) Was this course approved; or, if not, was the recommendation ignored?
 - (3.) As a consequence, did the Superintendent tender his resignation?

16th June, 1897.

(4.) Did the Minister, or any other person connected with the Department of Public Instruction, order the discharge of twenty-eight of the lads referred to, and had these twenty-eight the worse record?

(5.) Was an instruction afterwards given, and by whom, on which these lads were re-arrested and placed on the "Sobraon"?

(6.) By what authority was this action taken?

(7.) Will he lay upon the Table all instructions and papers connected with the matter and the resignation of the Superintendent?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) These premises are leased for ten years, at a rental of £500 per annum; the lease has yet seven years to run. To make the place suitable for the requirements of the Colony would need an expenditure on this private property of about £10,000, and the additional cost of resumption, if resumed. The Government, under these circumstances, has not yet decided what action to take.

(3.) Captain Murray resigned because the Government did not sanction the increased expenditure that he desired on this leasehold property.

(4.) Eleven boys were discharged on the recommendation of the late Superintendent, and twenty-eight others, which it was desired to send on board the "Sobraon," were also discharged, as it was found that, legally, the action contemplated could not be carried out. The records were, as in the case of most Reformatory boys, not good.

(5.) No.

(6.) Answered by No. 5.

(7.) Yes.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Amended By-laws of the University of Sydney.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

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

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

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. MUNICIPALITIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Neild, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Neild then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Municipalities Act of 1867.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Municipalities Act of 1867,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 16th June, 1897.*

5. SELECTION BY ARTHUR JEFFRIES, LAND DISTRICT OF DENILQUIN (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Chanter moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, letters, and other documents relating to the inquiry by the Local Land Board at Deniliquin, on the 21st May, as to the *bonâ-fides* or otherwise of Arthur Jeffries, in respect to his selection, No. 96-43, for 262½ acres.

Question put and passed.

6. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Molong, Dr. Ross, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The claim of Sam Lemon and Miss Lemon to adequate compensation for resumption of land for railway purposes." And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Dr. Ross moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

7. FORESTS AND QUARRIES BILL:—Mr. Brunker, for Mr. Sydney Smith, moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate State Forests and Timber Reserves; to provide for the granting of licenses in respect of timber, trees, bark, gums, stone, and other materials and things on State Forests and Timber Reserves; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

Question put and passed.

8. AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION (REPRESENTATIVES' ALLOWANCE) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Brunker moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

16th June, 1897.

The House divided.

	Ayes, 51.		Noes, 3.
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Edden.
Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Wheeler,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. Crick,
Mr. Younz,	Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Ferguson.
Mr. Davister,	Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. See,	Mr. Law,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Chapman,	
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Dick,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Harris,	Dr. Ross,	
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. O'Reilly,	
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Aslick,	Mr. Wood,	
Mr. Bull,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Mackay.	
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Rose,	<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Cotton,	
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Gormly,	Mr. Neild.	
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Davis,		
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Watson,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Brunker, *passed*.Mr. Brunker then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the payment of allowances to the Representatives of New South Wales at the Federal Convention.*"

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 payment of allowances to the Representatives of New South Wales at the Federal Convention,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,**Sydney, 16th June, 1897.*

9. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 17 JUNE, 1897, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

10. PUBLIC ROADS BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having taken into consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 26th May, 1897, and also the Report of the Managers on its behalf, of the Free Conference with the Legislative Assembly, with reference to the Public Roads Bill,—

No longer insists upon its amendments in clause 2, disagreed to by the Assembly, but proposes to further amend the clause by the omission of the interpretation of the word "Road" and the insertion of the following words in lieu thereof:—"Road" wherever used in this Act "includes any land proclaimed, dedicated, resumed, or otherwise provided before or after the commencement of this Act as a public thoroughfare or way, and wherever used in sections six, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty, and twenty-one of this Act also includes any land defined, reserved, or left before or after the commencement of this Act as a road in any subdivision of Crown land, or in the measurement or granting of Crown land as indicated upon the official plans of the same; but, where used in section twenty-eight of this Act, does not include any land not proclaimed or expressly or impliedly dedicated to the public as a road,"—

In which further amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

No longer insists upon its amendment in clause 5, line 18, disagreed to by the Assembly, and agrees to the Assembly's further amendment which inserts the words "after report by the" but proposes to amend such further amendment by the insertion after the word "after" of the words "inquiry and,"—in which amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

No longer insists upon its amendment in clause 7, disagreed to by the Assembly, which omits subsection (III), but proposes to amend the same to read as follows:—

"(III) a road not yet proclaimed has been formed by the expenditure of public funds, and is in use,"—

in which further amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

No longer insists upon its amendment in clause 8, line 35, but proposes to further amend the clause by the insertion after the word "appeal" in line 38 of the words "to the Land Court,"—in which further amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

No longer insists upon its amendment in clause 18.

*Legislative Council Chamber,**Sydney, 16th June, 1897.*

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

The House adjourned, at five 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. 24.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 17 JUNE, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Land Tax Assessments in the Shoalhaven District:—Mr. Morton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that the Land and Income Tax Commissioners, in sending out land-tax assessment notices to owners of land purchased in the Shoalhaven district from trustees of the Berry Estate, and which are subject to a mortgage, have not deducted from the tax upon the unimproved value a sum equal in amount to the income tax leviable for that year upon the interest derivable from the whole mortgage on the land including improvements thereon, as is provided for in subsection (1) of section 10 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act?

(2.) If so, why has the deduction not been allowed; and will he ask the Commissioners to make the deduction, without putting the land owners to the cost and worry of appeal?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) In all cases where mortgage returns were furnished giving the necessary information regarding the mortgages, the allowance under the Act was made. In other cases the allowance was not made, pending the receipt of the necessary particulars.

(2.) On the owners furnishing the necessary particulars the allowance will be made; and, in case the tax has been paid, any sum paid in excess will be refunded.

- (2.) Water Conservation Department:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What is the total cost to the country of the Water Conservation Department from its inception up to the present date?

(2.) What works have been carried out, specifying those completed from those under construction, by the Water Conservation Department during the existence of the same?

(3.) What is the total expenditure to-date for the works referred to in Question No. 2, not including Departmental expenditure?

Mr. Young answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return if moved by the Honorable Member in the usual way.

- (3.) Overtime worked in the Land and Income Tax Department:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. F. Clarke*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that, shortly after the last prorogation of Parliament, officers of the Land and Income Tax Department were ordered to work an extra hour, viz., from 4:30 to 5:30 every day?

(2.) Were these officers paid overtime for such extra service?

(3.) Is it a fact that certain skilled officers of other Government Departments were called in after their usual office hours, and paid overtime from 4:30?

(4.) Is it a fact that officers of the Taxation Department who now work overtime are paid from 4:30, whereas other officers who do not work overtime get no remuneration for the extra hour, 4:30 to 5:30?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) For some time past it has been found necessary to extend the usual office hours from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. At the earliest opportunity the usual hours will be reverted to.

(2.) No.

(3.) Yes. This was indispensable, but the services of the officers in question were purely voluntary.

(4.) Yes.

- (4.) Opening of Government Offices at Newcastle on Public Holiday:—*Mr. Fegan* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Was Thursday, 6th May, proclaimed a public holiday for the Newcastle District; if so, why were the Government offices opened, with the exception of the Shipping Office?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed that all the offices were closed excepting the Telegraph Office.

(5.)

17th June, 1897.

- (5.) Inspector of Dairy Herds appointed by the Fresh Food and Ice Company :—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the Fresh Food and Ice Company have appointed an Inspector of dairy herds, whose duty it is to examine the cows of those dairy farmers who supply the Company with milk?
 - (2.) Is he aware that, when the Inspector condemns a beast, the value is fixed before slaughtering, and that, in the event of such condemned beast proving to be free from disease, the price so fixed is paid to the owner?
 - (3.) Will he communicate with the Health Board, with a view to their Inspector being empowered to deal with the dairy farmers in the same reasonable way as the Fresh Food and Ice Company?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) Veterinary Inspectors of the Board of Health are already empowered to certify when a beast turns out on *post-mortem* examination to have been killed in error on their advice, or by order of Court on their evidence; and on receipt of an application from the owner, backed by such certificates, the Board authorises payment to him of the value of the beast fixed before slaughter.
- (6.) Distribution of Blankets by the Government :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) How many pairs of blankets have been distributed by the Government during the present winter?
 - (2.) How many different localities have received the same?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of this House in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.
- (7.) Proposed Bridge over Collegan Creek, near Deniliquin :—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has he received a petition from selectors, asking that a small bridge be erected over the Collegan Creek, near Deniliquin?
 - (2.) Did the petitioners agree to assist in the cost of construction by undertaking to construct the approaches at their own cost?
 - (3.) Has he declined to construct the bridge; if so, what are the reasons?
 - (4.) What is the estimated cost of the bridge?
 - (5.) Will he advance the settlers any sum toward the construction; if so, to what amount?
- Mr. Young* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) Yes; because the reports I received showed that the erection of a bridge should not be undertaken by the Department, but by the few persons who would be interested.
 - (4.) £350.
 - (5.) I cannot make any such promise.
- (8.) Tenders for Coal for Railway Purposes :—Mr. Nicholson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Railway Commissioners have accepted the tender for Western coal at 4s. 3d. per ton, which, with freightage at $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ton per mile, will amount to 8s. 5d. per ton?
 - (2.) Is he aware that the Metropolitan Coal Co. tendered at 6s. per ton, which, with freightage at 1s. 2d. per ton, will amount to 7s. 2d. per ton?
 - (3.) Seeing that the Metropolitan Co.'s coal is admitted to be the best for steam purposes, will he cause an inquiry to be made why the tender for Western coal was accepted?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—I am informed that the Railway Commissioners have accepted the tender of the Lithgow Collieries for the supply of coal generally, for the Metropolitan and Western lines, at 4s. 3d. per ton, that offer being considered to be the most advantageous.
- (9.) Penshurst-street, Hurstville Municipality :—Mr. Willis asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has he received a report from the Government Auditor appointed to make inquiries into the alleged misappropriation of contributions towards the formation of Penshurst-street, in the Hurstville Municipality?
 - (2.) If not, when will the report be to hand?
 - (3.) Has a copy of the report been furnished to the Hurstville Council?
 - (4.) Will he have any objection to lay the report upon the Table of this House?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1 and 2.) Yes.
 - (3.) No.
 - (4.) No, if moved for in the usual way.
- (10.) Mail Communication with Norfolk Island :—Mr. Haynes asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) As the Government have taken over Norfolk Island, what steps are intended for opening up regular mail communication with the island?
 - (2.) Have the Government taken steps to place Norfolk Island on the same footing as other islands, such as Fiji and New Hebrides, with regard to bringing their mails and their perishable products, oranges, bananas, lemons, &c., to market by steam?
 - (3.) Have the Government yet settled with respect to tenders for a Norfolk Island steam-service which were called for recently?
 - (4.) Could the Government arrange for the calling at Norfolk Island of the line of steamers now trading between Sydney and Fiji, thus establishing an inter-monthly service?
- Mr. Carruthers* answered,—This question is not based upon fact, as the Government has not taken over Norfolk Island. The subject of communication between the island and this Colony, in the interests of trade and for other purposes, is, however, under the consideration of the Government, and it is hoped, with the co-operation of the Imperial Government, to establish an efficient steam service.

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(11.) Alleged Evasion of the Beer Duty Act by Messrs. Tooth & Co.:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What was the amount of the reward paid to *Mr. Frederick Greening Ward*, the informer in the case of alleged evasion of the beer duty by Messrs. Tooth & Co. (Limited)?
- (2.) Is it proposed to take any further action against Messrs. Tooth & Co. (Limited) to recover the amount of £53 11s., or portion thereof, alleged by *John F. D. Little* to have been wrongly obtained by that company in 1892, as a refund or drawback upon 84 hogsheads of stout, a large proportion of which paid no excise duty at all?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) £50.
- (2.) No; the amount has already been recovered.

(12.) George and Harris Streets Electric Tramway:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has he decided when the construction of the George-street and Harris-street electric tramway is to be commenced?
- (2.) Has he decided whether the work is to be carried out by day labour or by contract?
- (3.) If so, which system has he decided on?
- (4.) If the work is to be done by day labour, will he secure that men recommended for employment thereon by Members of the Opposition shall have an equal chance with those recommended by Government supporters or Members of the Labour Party?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Tenders have already been let in connection with this tramway, but the construction of the roadway will not be commenced for about five months.
- (2 and 3.) I have not yet decided.
- (4.) I have never interfered to prevent such equal chance being enjoyed, nor, so far as I am aware, have any of the officers of my Department.

(13.) Extension of Leases of Euromedah and Weemobah Holdings:—*Mr. Simeon Phillips* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the lessee of Euromedah and Weemobah Holdings has applied for an extension of his leases on the ground of the continued drought in the district?
- (2.) Is he aware that the drought has broken in the district in which these holdings are situated, and that numbers of intending settlers are anxiously awaiting the throwing open of these lands?
- (3.) Is it his intention to grant the extension applied for?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—The pastoral leases expire on the 10th July and the 7th September next respectively. An application was received from the lessee asking that he should not be suddenly deprived of the use of the land, but no arrangement was made to grant him an extension of lease, there being no provision in the law providing for such extension.

(14.) Assessors under the Land Tax Act:—*Mr. Simeon Phillips* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Government to appoint permanent land assessors in connection with the Land Tax?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The appointment of permanent land assessors is contemplated, and is now receiving consideration.

(15.) Tender for Sleepers for the Manilla Railway:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has any tender for the 75,000 sleepers for the Manilla railway line been accepted?
- (2.) If so, who was the successful tenderer, and what was the price per sleeper of the accepted tender?
- (3.) If more than one tender was accepted, who are the tenderers, and the prices of the accepted tenders?

Mr. Young answered,—No; tender has not yet been accepted, but the matter is now under consideration.

(16.) Coast Hospital, Little Bay:—*Mr. Dacey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) In reference to his Answer to No. 5 of *Mr. Dacey's* Question No. 7, of 11th May, relating to the excessive hours of labour and scanty holidays of the nurses at the Coast Hospital,—“This is a matter which will receive immediate attention by the Government, with a view to the amelioration of the present conditions,”—is he aware that no change has been made, and that the injustices thus acknowledged are still going on?
- (2.) Who is responsible for this delay (now more than a month) in giving effect to this proposed “amelioration of the present conditions”?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Public Service Board:—The matter which is referred to in *Mr. Dacey's* Question was forwarded for the consideration of the Public Service Board on the 14th May. It was referred to the Chief Medical Officer for report on the 18th May, and *Dr. Thompson's* report was furnished to the Principal Under Secretary on the 1st June, and was forwarded on to the Board on the 8th idem. In his report *Dr. Thompson* points out that the change suggested would mean increasing the cost nearly double, viz., from £3,466 to £6,057, and that it would be necessary to erect additional buildings for the increased staff. He further points out that, if the principle were adopted, it could not be confined to the female staff of this hospital, but must be extended to the male staff and the staffs of all similar institutions. As will be seen, the question raised is a very large one, involving very considerable expenditure, and requiring the most careful consideration. The Board, therefore, before expressing an opinion on the subject, consider it desirable to have all the information on the subject

17th June, 1897.

subject before them, and this they are endeavouring to obtain with as much expedition as possible. The Board feel the more anxious in the matter, as the statutory duty is imposed upon them of making, with the approval of the Governor, regulations in regard to the hours of attendance of all officers coming under their jurisdiction. I may add to the information furnished by the Public Service Board, that I have consulted the Inspector-General of Insane on this subject, and he informs me that if the change suggested were carried out it would mean an increase of from £60,000 to £70,000 per annum to the cost of working of his staff.

- (17.) Amendment of the Municipalities Act:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the many complications continually arising from the defect in the present Municipalities Act, has the Government any present intention to introduce a comprehensive measure of local government to extend and amend the present powers of Municipalities?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This matter is in the hands of the Premier, and I do not know to what stage it has progressed. I am aware that the question has been under the consideration of the Premier for a considerable time, and that it was intended to introduce a Bill this Session.

- (18.) Amendment of the Trade Disputes Conciliation and Arbitration Act:—Mr. Edden asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is it his intention to introduce this Session a Conciliation and Arbitration Bill for the settlement and prevention of labour disputes?

(2.) If so, when?

Mr. Garrard answered,—The matter is receiving consideration. The final decision has not yet been arrived at as to whether the Bill should be laid upon the Table this Session.

- (19.) Action of Police under the Betting Houses Suppression Act:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What steps (if any) have been taken by the police to prevent betting on racecourses?

(2.) Is it a fact that tote and betting shops in the city are still being carried on; and, if so, will he instruct the police to take the same stringent measures in regard to these establishments as to racecourse betting?

(3.) Will any instructions given to the police convey the necessity for proceeding against the keepers of these shops, and not their employees?

(Mr. Brunker answered,—The Inspector-General of Police has furnished me with the following Answers:—

(1.) Proceedings have been taken against 326 persons for betting on racecourses during the last month.

(2.) The majority of the tote shops in the city are now closed. Proceedings have been commenced against those who continue to break the law.

(2.) Keepers of tote shops are always prosecuted when sufficient evidence can be obtained. Employees could not be permitted to break the law with impunity.

2. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—Mr. Brunker presented a Petition from J. Fordyce, M.A., Chairman of the Council of the Churches, consisting of officially-appointed representatives of the Church of England, Presbyterian, Wesleyan, Baptist, Congregational, and Primitive Methodist Churches in New South Wales, praying that there may be inserted in the Preamble of the Commonwealth Bill, now before the House, a recognition of the existence of Almighty God, and of His Sovereignty over Nations.
Petition received.
3. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Eighth Report from the Printing Committee.
4. TELEPHONE TUNNEL IN PITT-STREET (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and documents in connection with the telephone tunnel in Pitt-street, Sydney.
Question put and passed.
5. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunker moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House, at its rising this day, do adjourn until "Wednesday" next.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Neild moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the word "Wednesday" and inserting the word "Thursday" instead thereof.
Question proposed,—That the word proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
Debate continued.
Question,—That the word proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and passed.
Original Question put and passed.
6. PAPER:—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Report of the completion of Pipe-sewers and Storm-water Drains at North Sydney, and of the Easton Park Stormwater Channel.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
7. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.
8. PHARMACY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

And

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

17th June, 1897.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 18 JUNE, 1897, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had disagreed to one and agreed to the remainder of the Council's amendments.
On motion of Mr. Brunker, the report was adopted.

9. CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That the report be now adopted.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Wednesday next.
10. POSTPONEMENT:—Mr. Brunker moved, That the Order of the Day, No. 4, for the consideration of the expediency of bringing in the Forests and Quarries Bill, be postponed, to follow after Order No. 5.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 37.

Mr. Cook,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. McLenn,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Hawthorne.
Mr. Henry Clarke,	
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Tellers,
Mr. Whiddou,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Wheeler.
Mr. Millard,	

Noes, 16.

Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. See,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Price.

Tellers,

Mr. Perry,
Mr. Ewing.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

11. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Pymont Bridge*):—The Order of the Day having been read for the adjourned Debate on the motion of Mr. Young, "That it is expedient that the removal of the present Pymont Bridge, and the construction in lieu thereof of a timber bridge, with steel swing span, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in their report presented on the 6th December, 1894, be carried out,"—
And the Question being again proposed,—
The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.
Question put and passed.

12. PUBLIC ROADS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Report of the Managers of the Free Conference appointed by the Assembly,—on motion of Mr. Carruthers, 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 agreed to the resolutions adopted by the Free Conference, and reported by the Managers appointed by the Legislative Assembly.

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 taken into consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 16th June, 1897, and also the Report of the Managers on behalf of the Assembly at the Free Conference with the Legislative Council in reference to the Council's amendments in the Public Roads Bill, disagreed to by the Assembly, and insisted on by the Council,—

Agrees to the Council's further amendments in the Bill.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 18th June, 1897, a.m.

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

The House adjourned accordingly, at nine minutes after Two o'clock a.m., until *Wednesday next* at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 25.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 23 JUNE, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Castlereagh Common :—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Castlereagh Common has been taken from the people and cut up into blocks for sale without giving the people notice?
 - (2.) In what position are the Trustees in that they have had charge of this common?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that Constable Bressington, of Penrith, has the power to summon people for taking firewood and other timbers from the above common?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1.) The Castlereagh Common was revoked on the 4th January, 1896, and no protests were received against such action being taken. 1,137 acres thereof were notified for homestead selection, and 97 acres as being within suburban boundaries; the balance was reserved for camping, a gravel-pit, a flood-refuge, and for water supply.
 - (2.) The common having been revoked, the powers of the Trustees ceased.
 - (3.) Yes, under general instructions to prosecute any persons illegally removing timber, &c., from Crown lands.
- (2.) Proposed Light Railways in Drought-stricken Districts :—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. O'Sullivan, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is he aware that during the past twenty years the British Government in India have constructed 5,000 miles of what are called famine railways, the chief object of which is to carry goods into the districts afflicted with famine?
 - (2.) Will the Government endeavour to emulate this policy by constructing a number of light lines of railway into the districts of New South Wales afflicted with drought, in order to save the starving stock?
 - (3.) Is he aware that there exists in India what is technically known as the Famine Insurance Fund, by which large sums are annually set apart for the purpose of providing means for the alleviation of the distress of the inhabitants of the famine-stricken districts?
 - (4.) In view of the frequent visitations of drought in New South Wales, and the widespread distress consequent upon them, will the Government take into consideration the desirableness of establishing a Drought Insurance Fund, so that the distress caused by such afflictions may be dealt with in a prompt and effective manner?
 - (5.) Is he aware that over 3,000,000 persons are being maintained upon relief works in India owing to the famine which prevails there?
 - (6.) In view of the widespread distress in New South Wales, will the Government at once initiate a scheme of water conservation works, light railways, and other projects of a beneficial character, for the purpose of giving employment to the workless and minimising the effects of the next drought?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The matters brought under notice by the Honorable Member are so important that they require careful deliberation, and will be considered at an early date. I would, however, remind the Honorable Member that this and previous Governments have not overlooked the importance of water conservation, as witness the weirs, tanks, and artesian bores already constructed and being constructed; and no doubt further works of this character will be undertaken when the report of Colonel Home on the general subject of irrigation and water conservation is furnished; but, meanwhile, pastoralists and landholders generally, who are so vitally interested in water conservation, should use further efforts to help themselves and the Government by the storage of water.

(3.)

23rd June, 1897.

(3.) Uniforms of the New South Wales Infantry Forces:—*Mr. Frank Farnell*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it intended to again change the character of the uniforms of the New South Wales Infantry Forces by substituting scarlet for the colour now in general use?
- (2.) If so, at whose instigation is this change to be made?
- (3.) What will be the cost of re-clothing the Infantry Forces as suggested?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Major-General Commanding the Military Forces has supplied the following information:—

- (1.) No. Scarlet uniform is about to be introduced for full-dress only.
- (2.) The desire of all ranks of the Forces.
- (3.) No cost to the public; the change will be gradually carried out and paid for from Capitation Fund.

(4.) Unpaid Balances on Old Grants:—*Mr. Robert Jones* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Referring to a Question asked by *Mr. Robert Jones* a few days back as to unpaid balances on old grants, will he treat the grantees who have not paid their balances owing to the Crown the same as others who have purchased land from the Crown?
- (2.) If the old grantees do not pay up their balances, will they be charged interest on their balances the same as in the case of selectors, or forfeit their holdings—the alternative given to selectors if they do not pay up?

Mr. Brunker answered,—There are no unpaid balances due on old grants, but in those cases in which the quit-rents have not been redeemed the grants will not be delivered nor the land allowed to be brought under the Real Property Act until such has been done. I may add that inquiries have been directed to ascertain the particulars of unredeemed quit-rents, with a view to action being taken for their recovery.

(5.) The Public Works Committee:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) As the Minister, in reply to a Question by *Mr. Affleck* regarding the expenses of the Public Works Committee, said *Mr. Affleck's* figures were incorrect, will he give the total amounts of remuneration paid to the Committee from 1st January to 31st May last inclusive?
- (2.) Are the accounts of revenue and expenditure for the above five months, as issued in the *Government Gazette*, correct?
- (3.) Is he aware that these accounts show the remuneration paid to that Committee for the said five months amounted to £5,698 4s.?
- (4.) If that was the correct amount paid, what did each member of the Committee receive per month?
- (5.) If £5,603 4s. is not the correct amount, what was the correct amount paid?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1 and 5.) £2,748 12s.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) No; these accounts show the figures given in answer to No. 1.
- (4.) It was not the correct amount.

(6.) *Mr. W. McLaren*, Superintendent of Prison Industries:—*Mr. Thomas*, for *Mr. Watson*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Was *Mr. W. McLaren* Superintendent of Prison Industries in the Prisons Department?
- (2.) If so, how long did he hold such position?
- (3.) What was *Mr. McLaren's* trade or profession?
- (4.) How long had he been in the Service?
- (5.) Was *Mr. McLaren* retired by the Public Service Board on the score of economy or incompetency?
- (6.) What amount of compensation did *Mr. McLaren* receive from the Civil Service Superannuation Fund?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Eleven years and six months.
- (3.) He was appointed overseer of stonemasons when he first joined the Service.
- (4.) Thirty-two years and six months.
- (5.) *Mr. McLaren* was retired by the Public Service Board with a number of other officers of the Justice Department at the time of the reorganisation of the Service, as it was thought in his case, as in others, that better arrangements could be made to secure both efficiency and economy.
- (6.) Gratuity, £667 1s. 5d.; refund of 4 per cent. contributions to the Superannuation Fund, £157 15s. 2d.; making a total of £824 16s. 7d. *Mr. McLaren* asked, however, that his gratuity might be computed on the basis of one month's pay for each year of service at the rate of salary he was then receiving, instead of on the average of his salary during the whole term of his employment, as a concession on account of injuries received by him in 1871 whilst in the execution of his duty, but the Board could not entertain this, as it was beyond the provisions of the Public Service Act.

(7.) Financial Accounts for 1896-7:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it the intention of the Government to meet all the accruing obligations for the present month from this year's Votes?
- (2.) With the view of affording the public full financial information, will he lay upon the Table of this House at an early date a return showing the amount of obligations incurred in 1896-7, the payments for which have been postponed till the next financial year?

Mr.

23rd June, 1897.

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Yes, if presented and paid up to 30th June.
- (2.) The Honorable Member should know that, under the Audit Act Amendment Act of 1895, the claims when paid at the Treasury are chargeable to the Votes for the current year, irrespective of the dates on which the obligations were incurred. The information, therefore, cannot be given.

(8.) Cost of Jubilee Arrangements :—*Mr. Rose* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What is the estimated cost of the Jubilee arrangements?
- (2.) Will the expenditure be debited to this financial year?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) About £5,000.
- (2.) Yes, if the accounts are received and paid up to and inclusive of 30th instant.

(9.) Convictions of man named Collins :—*Mr. Robert Jones*, for *Mr. Haynes*, asked the Minister of Justice,—Will he give a statement of the previous several convictions of the man Collins, recently sentenced by Judge Gibson to three years' hard labour for stealing 1s. worth of baking-powder?

Mr. Gould answered,—*John Collins*, alias *Timothy Collins*, alias *Alfred Wilkin*, has been convicted of the following offences :—*Newcastle Police Court*, 5th February, 1891, larceny, six months' hard labour; *Tamworth Police Court*, 1st August, 1891, assault, six months' hard labour; *Maitland Circuit Court*, 6th April, 1892, stealing from the person, two years' hard labour; *Newtown Police Court*, 29th October, 1894, obscene language, £5, or three months' hard labour; *Tamworth Police Court*, 12th June, 1895, drunkenness, 5s., or twenty-four hours; *Tamworth Police Court*, 10th October, 1895, indecent language, £2, or one month, and assaulting the police, six months' hard labour, accumulative. He is reported to be a violent and dangerous criminal, and whilst awaiting trial at *Bingara* his conduct was so bad that the other prisoners declined to associate with him. He has since his last conviction been identified as a man who attempted to rob the till of an hotel at *Bingara* in December last.

(10.) Vital Statistics :—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) In view of the fact that the Vital Statistics which have just been issued are only brought up to 31st December, 1895, and that the figures thus supplied are now eighteen months old, will he endeavour to expedite the issue of the volume for the year 1896 to such an extent as may make the figures available by 30th September next?
- (2.) Is he aware that the usefulness of these compilations is much curtailed if the information is not available within a reasonable time?
- (3.) What is the reason of the extraordinary delay in the issue of these very useful volumes?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Steps have already been taken to expedite this work, and every endeavour will be made to issue the report for 1896 before 30th September next.
- (2.) It is desirable that this information should be available as early as possible, and care will be taken to ensure prompt publication in future.
- (3.) Considerable time is taken up in obtaining the necessary returns from all parts of the Colony, and afterwards in checking same, before the heavy work of tabulation can be commenced. Since this duty has been transferred to the Registrar-General, the staff engaged upon these statistics has been increased with a view to greater expedition.

(11.) Alleged Perjury in Case *Clark v. Hammond* :—*Mr. Edden* asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Did Chief Justice *Darley* state during the trial of Police-constable *Hammond* for assault on one *Thomas Clark*, in the *Sydney Domain*, on 14th March, that gross perjury was committed?
- (2.) Did Senior-sergeant *Chambers* swear that no assault (or something to that intent) was committed?
- (3.) If so, what steps do the Government intend to take in the matter?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) No. The Chief Justice stated, according to the reports of the proceedings in the newspapers, that there was perjury on one side or the other.
- (2.) Practically yes.
- (3.) None beyond those already concluded.

(12.) Assistant Registrar of Copyright :—*Mr. Robert Jones*, for *Mr. Haynes*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Does the Copyright Act empower the appointment of Assistant Registrars of Copyright with similar functions to the Registrar of Copyrights?
- (2.) Does the Acts Shortening Act empower the appointment of an Acting Registrar of Copyrights?
- (3.) Is there at present anyone performing the duties of the absent Registrar of Copyrights; if so, under what appointment, what is his designation, and how does he sign official documents?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) An Answer to this Question involves information in the nature of a legal opinion, which it is not usual to give.
- (3.) Yes; *Mr. F. M. Bladen* has been appointed by the Governor-in-Council under the provisions of section 65 of the "Public Service Act of 1895." He signs as Acting Registrar of Copyright.

(13.) Petitions for Letters Patent :—*Mr. Wheeler*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Have the arrangements under which petitions for Letters Patent, and particularly those relating to intricate subject matter, been recently altered; and, if so, by whose direction, and upon whose advice?
 - (2.) Is he aware that there is a block in the working of the Patents Office, and that many applications for patents relating to mining and metallurgical subjects have been for a very long time in suspense; and, if so, why?
- Mr.

23rd June, 1897.

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) Yes. Cases relating to metallurgy, chemistry, and electricity, instead of being referred to experts not employed in the Public Service as hitherto, are now examined by technicians in the permanent employ of the Government, and who are consequently answerable to the Public Service Board. This change was effected on the advice of the Public Service Board.

(2.) I am aware there has been some delay in dealing with a number of applications for patents for inventions relating to metallurgy which require to be referred to experts, but arrangements are being made for bringing the work up to date and preventing an accumulation in the future.

(14.) Remarks of Registrar in Bankruptcy in Case *McBurney, Wallis & Co.*:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has his attention been called to the remarks, as under, of the Registrar in Bankruptcy, when dealing with the application for certificates made by Messrs. *McBurney, Wallis & Co.*, woolbrokers, &c., “ Upon the grounds of having contracted debts without reasonable or probable expectation of being able to pay; continuing to trade after knowing themselves to be insolvent; having given undue preferences; and more especially on the ground that they unlawfully expended for their own benefit, or appropriated to their own use, over £4,000, of which they had the charge or disposition as brokers or agents only, the certificates were refused ”?

(2.) In view of this decision, does he propose to take further action?

Mr. Gould answered,—The Registrar in Bankruptcy has supplied me with the following information:—“ None of the offences mentioned are misdemeanours under the Bankruptcy Act. The above is a correct extract from my judgment. Had there been any evidence of any misdemeanour “ the Official Assignee would doubtless have applied under section 124 for committal.”

(15.) Betting Houses Suppression Act:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Minister of Justice:—In view of the fact that the provisions of the Betting Houses Suppression Act have been enforced as far as bookmakers are concerned, will he see that that provision relating to the publication in the Press of betting advertisements is also put into operation?

Mr. Gould answered,—As this matter relates to police supervision, I must refer the Honorable Member to the Chief Secretary.

(16.) Applications for Patents in 1896:—*Mr. Wilks* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) How many applications for Patents and for Certificates of Provisional Protection respectively were applied for in 1896 and in first five months of this year?

(2.) What were the total receipts of the Patents Office during the same periods, and the expenses charged against the same?

(3.) What are the duties of the Examiner of Patents; and can these be efficiently performed by one having the responsibilities of Registrar-General?

(4.) Did he recommend or countenance the obliteration of the Patents Office as a sub-department of his Ministerial Office; and, if not, by whose authority did such a change take place?

(5.) Were there any protests against the change of working in the Patents Department; and, if so, by whom?

(6.) Will he have any objection to lay upon the Table of this House all correspondence between himself and the Public Service Board and other bodies and persons in relation to change of working of the Patents Department, and the appointment of the Registrar-General as Examiner of Patents?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) In 1896 656 applications for Letters Patent were lodged at the Patents Office, and 314 for Provisional Protection. During the first five months of this year 256 applications for Letters Patent were received, and 120 for Provisional Protection.

(2.) The total receipts of the Patents Office for the year 1896 were £3,774, and for the first five months of this year £1,496. The total expenditure on account of the Patents Office for the year 1896 amounted to £1,979 15s. 4d., and for the first five months of this year to £466 18s. 7d.

(3.) The Examiner reports upon petitions for and matters relating to Patents, besides dealing with applications for amendment of Letters Patent, with protests, the registration of assignments and licenses, of patents, and matters affecting the management of the Patents Office generally. The duties can be efficiently performed by one having the responsibilities of Registrar-General.

(4.) The Patents Office has not been obliterated as a sub-Department of the Justice Department. The change which has been made in the arrangements for the performance of the duties of Examiner of Patents by the officer who also holds the post of Registrar-General was effected on the recommendation of the Public Service Board.

(5.) Yes; from *Mr. Fred. Walsh* and the Australasian Institute of Patent Agents.

(6.) There will be no objection to lay a copy of the papers upon the Table if moved for in the usual way.

2. LICENSING LAWS:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* presented a Petition from certain residents of New South Wales, stating that, in the opinion of the Petitioners, the present measure of Sunday-closing has been very beneficial in the reduction of the number of arrests for intemperance; and praying the House not to consent to any alteration of the law to provide for the opening of public-houses at certain hours on Sundays.

Petition received.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Rule of the Supreme Court in Equitable Jurisdiction.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

23rd June, 1897.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Amended Regulation, No. 37, under the Crown Lands Acts.
 - (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Binalong, county of Harden, for an Access to the Railway Station at Binalong.
 - (3.) By-law of the Municipal District of Port Macquarie.
 - (4.) By-law of the Municipal District of Berry.
 - (5.) Report of the Wollongong Fire Brigades Board for the year ended 31st March, 1897, under the Fire Brigades Act, 1884.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. APPOINTMENT OF MR. PAYTEN AS STIPENDIARY MAGISTRATE AT NEWCASTLE (*Formal Motion*):—
Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all letters, papers, and other documents relating to the appointment of Mr. Payten as Stipendiary Magistrate at Newcastle.
Question put and passed.
5. THE UNEMPLOYED (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Affleck moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) The total expenditure for the months of January, February, March, and April this year for the unemployed.
(2.) The work done by the unemployed during those months in incurring the expenditure.
(3.) The expenditure incurred in employing the unemployed outside of Sydney (if any).
(4.) The portion of the expenditure which has been given as charity, and that for which work has been executed.
Question put and passed.
6. LIMITATION TO SPEECHES (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be an instruction to the Standing Orders Committee to frame a Standing or Sessional Order, for submission to this House hereafter, for the purpose of fixing time-limits to the speeches of Honorable Members, and making distinctions in fixing same between the various classes of debate which take place in this House.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 44.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Lonedale,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Dugald Thorason,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Raymond,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Collins,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. McMillan,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Black.
Mr. Watkins,	
Mr. James Thomson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.

Noes, 32.

Mr. T. R. Smith,	Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Dick,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. See,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Willis.
Mr. Thomas,	
Mr. Cann,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Haynes.
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. Price,	
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. Lee,	
Mr. Neild,	
Mr. Wheeler,	
Mr. Robert Jones,	
Mr. Hayes,	
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

7. JUDGES RELATIVES DISQUALIFICATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Judges Relatives Disqualification Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 26th October.
8. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Wednesday next.
(2.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); resumption of the adjourned Debate on the motion of Mr. Parkes, "That this Bill be now read a second 'time';—until To-morrow.
9. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Sturt, Mr. Ferguson, 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 frequent accidents in the Broken Hill Mining District."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Ferguson moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.

23rd June, 1897.

10. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

11. PHARMACY BILL:—Ordered, on motion of Mr. Bruncker, 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 9th June, 1897, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the Pharmacy Bill,—

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 14, which proposes to omit all the words after the word "months," in line 40,—because it is considered inadvisable to prohibit the sale of drugs by Country Storekeepers especially in the remote districts of the Colony where medical aid is not procurable.

Agrees to the remaining amendments in the Bill.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 23rd June, 1897.

12. CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 24 JUNE, 1897, A.M.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Bruncker, *passed*.

Mr. Bruncker then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to vest the Church and School Lands in Her Majesty, free from all trusts and provisions affecting the same; to validate certain dealings with those lands; and to provide for the appropriation of moneys at credit of the Public Instruction Endowment Account; to make better provision for dealing with the said lands, and with the money derived therefrom; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to vest the Church and School Lands in Her Majesty, free from all trusts and provisions affecting the same; to validate certain dealings with those lands; and to provide for the appropriation of moneys at credit of the Public Instruction Endowment Account; to make better provision for dealing with the said lands, and with the money derived therefrom; and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 24th June, 1897, a.m.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-two 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. 26.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 24 JUNE, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Supply of Seed to Farmers in the Nepean and Hawkesbury Districts:—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Will he grant to poor farmers seed to plant their farms with this season within the Nepean Electorate; also within the Hawkesbury and Camden Districts?
- (2.) Is he aware that hundreds of acres already ploughed will have to remain as it is unless the Government will supply the seed, which will be paid for as soon as the crops are ready for market?
- (3.) Does he know that a great many farmers of the county of Cumberland are almost in a starving condition on account of the very severe drought just passed through; and, unless the Government grant the relief asked, a great number of people in the county of Cumberland must be placed in a very serious condition?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—It has not been decided to make any general distribution, but in well authenticated cases of real distress the Government will be prepared to issue small quantities of seed.

- (2.) Accidents in the Broken Hill Mines:—*Mr. Thomas* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) How many fatal accidents have taken place in the Broken Hill mines since 1st September, 1896?
- (2.) How many accidents, other than fatal, have been reported to the Inspector of Mines at Broken Hill since 1st September, 1896?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) Eight.
- (2.) Twenty-seven.

- (3.) Stock Inspectors visiting Queensland to investigate Tick Pest:—*Mr. Chanter*, for Dr. Ross, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) As Mr. Cowley has only been some seven or eight months in the Service, will the Minister be so good as to state how, in so short a time, Mr. Cowley's reliability has been discovered, as against officers who have been many years in the Service, and why he was selected as one of the three persons visiting Queensland to gain information *re* the tick disease?

(2.) As Mr. Whitty is only an acting Inspector of Stock (being really a Customs Officer), why was he appointed as one of the three persons for such an important duty in regard to this tick question?

(3.) Whichever way the matter is viewed, will he be good enough to explain what will be the cost of this inquiry, and what good is likely to result; and, as it is deemed advisable or necessary that three Inspectors should see the tick disease in its native element, will he consider whether all Stock Inspectors in this Colony should be similarly posted up by visiting the tick-infested area?

(4.) Will he be good enough to state what Dr. Cobb's particular profession is; is he a Doctor of Medicine, Law, or Divinity; if a Doctor of Medicine, is he registered in this Colony; in any case, what are his special qualifications as an expert on the tick question, and where obtained; has he not hitherto been engaged more particularly in connection with vegetable parasites affecting wheat, &c., and some part of his time on worms affecting sheep; and have the results of these inquiries been made available to the public; if so, of what practical value are they, and what are their relations to cattle tick and Texas fever?

(5.) Where did Dr. Cobb obtain his knowledge and experience of diseases amongst stock; or has he any veterinary knowledge to fit him for the important work he has been selected for?

Mr.

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Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Mr. Cowley passed an excellent examination before the Stock Board, and held good testimonials as to his knowledge of stock and their management. As already stated, in answer to a Question by the Honorable Member for the Lachlan, Mr. Cowley was not selected to investigate the disease, but to become practically acquainted with its appearance and symptoms, as he is stationed at one of the most important crossings on the Border.

(2.) For the same reason as Mr. Cowley.

(3.) About £200. The three Inspectors in the positions most likely to meet the disease, should it approach our Border, were sent so as to be practically acquainted with its appearance and symptoms, and with the mode of dipping practised in Queensland. It is not considered necessary to send the other Inspectors, because they are sufficiently acquainted with the disease to detect it should it reach the Border.

(4 and 5.) The Intercolonial Conference, which dealt with this matter, was quite satisfied that Dr. Cobb is competent to undertake such an investigation, and, as regards his qualification, I would refer the Honorable Member to a reply to a somewhat similar Question which was laid upon the Table of this House on the 27th April, 1895.

(4.) Wickham, Bullock Island, and Stockton Collieries:—*Mr. Lee*, for Mr. Fegan, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) When have surveys been made on behalf of the Government as to the quantity of coal taken out from the Wickham and Bullock Island Colliery, the Stockton Colliery, and the Hetton Colliery?

(2.) Will he have surveys taken as early as possible, so that the barriers between the above collieries will be left intact?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Wickham and Bullock Island, four surveys, between October, 1892, and June, 1893; Stockton, five surveys, between August, 1892, and August, 1895; Hetton, four surveys, between May, 1892, and May, 1895.

(2.) A report will be obtained, and if survey be considered necessary it will be undertaken.

(5.) Opinion of Attorney-General on Coal Mines Regulation Act:—*Mr. Lee*, for Mr. Fegan, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has he conveyed to his Inspectors of Collieries the opinion of Mr. Want, Attorney-General, on the weighing clauses of the Coal Mines Regulation Act?

(2.) If so, have the Inspectors reported on the matter to him?

(3.) If not, will he take immediate steps to have a report on the weighing clause, and request that the opinion of the Attorney-General may be carried out?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2 and 3.) Yes; the only case reported to the Department is in connection with one of the Southern collieries, when it was suggested that an amicable settlement might be arrived at between the miners and the mine-owners which would be mutually beneficial to both parties. The purport of the Attorney-General's opinion was forwarded to the representative of the miners, but so far no reply has been received from him.

(6.) Chief Inspector Atkinson:—*Mr. Lee*, for Mr. Fegan, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) When did Chief Inspector Atkinson receive his appointment?

(2.) When is Mr. Atkinson expected to arrive to take up his duties?

(3.) At what salary was he engaged or appointed?

(4.) When does his salary commence?

(5.) Is the Government paying his expenses from England?

(6.) What allowance (if any) will he receive?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) The appointment was made on 11th May, 1897.

(2.) About the end of August.

(3.) Engaged for three years at £300 per annum.

(4.) From time of departure from England.

(5 and 6.) The Government will defray the passage of himself, wife, and two children.

(7.) Accident at Block 10 Mine:—*Mr. Sleath* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to the fatal accident at Block 10 Mine, whereby William Andrewartha lost his life?

(2.) What was the cause of the accident?

(3.) Was due care exercised, and the Mining Regulations strictly adhered to?

(4.) What was the verdict of the Coroner's jury?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Ends were being changed in a flat wire winding rope, when the rope became loose and started to run down the shaft, and the portion coiled upon the surface, when being pulled into the shaft, entangled Andrewartha, who was standing on the brace.

(3.) The Chief Inspector reports the accident was purely an unforeseen one, and no Regulation was broken.

(4.) That deceased was accidentally killed through the slipping of a winding rope, which was suspended in the shaft by a clamp and slings. They added a rider that the practice of changing ends in this way is dangerous, and recommend that the rope be taken clear of the shaft in future.

(8.)

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- (8.) Accident at Tarrawingie:—Mr. Sleath asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to an accident at Tarrawingie, resulting in the death of two workmen?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the Mining Regulations were ignored in the carrying out of this work?
 - (3.) What depth was the hole where the accident occurred; and what is the greatest depth that a hole should be according to Regulations?
 - (4.) Of what material was the tamping-bar made; and what material do the Regulations provide?
 - (5.) Is it a fact that a similar accident occurred at the same place some time ago, when two or three men lost their lives?
 - (6.) Has the practice of bulling deep holes been brought before him?
 - (7.) Is it his intention to frame a Regulation dealing with this matter?
 - (8.) What was the verdict of the Coroner's jury in regard to those fatal accidents?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes. A steel jumper was used to cut out a piece of bagging which had jambed in a hole already partially charged. This was contrary to General Rule 3.

(3.) 18 feet. There is no specific depth mentioned in the Regulations, but on 18th March, 1892, a notice was served by Inspector Hebbard upon the manager limiting the depth of all such holes to 15 feet, as he was empowered to do under Regulation 4.

(4.) The tamping-bar in use was made of hardwood. The Regulations provide that no iron or steel bars shall be used unless tipped with at least 4 inches of copper. Wooden bars are nearly always used.

(5.) In 1892 two men were killed and others injured by an explosion while tamping a hole charged with rack-a-rock. An iron tamping-bar with 6 or 7 inches of copper was used. The verdict was that no blame was attached to anyone.

(6.) The practice of bulling deep holes is very general, and so far as can be ascertained there is no greater danger in firing a bulled charge than an ordinary one if proper precautions are used.

(7.) Yes, but the accident in this case was caused by an infringement of the Regulations at present in force, viz., "using a steel jumper in a hole already partly charged."

(8.) That James P. Kennedy and Henry Sawyers came to their death from injuries received at the North Quarries at Tarrawingie, on 5th June, 1897, by a premature explosion of powder, caused by using a steel jumper in a hole already containing a charge of powder. Also, that the ganger (Charles Lawson) was guilty of culpable negligence in allowing the use of the steel bar, thereby infringing the Regulations under which he was working; and, further, that the manager (James Stirling) is also guilty of negligence in not instructing the ganger (Lawson) as to the depth of the holes he was allowed to bore under the Mining Regulations, but we do not wish to return manslaughter against any person.

I have given instructions for the persons at fault to be prosecuted under the Regulations.

- (9.) Death of James Taylor, on Block 11 Mine:—Mr. Sleath asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to the death of James Taylor, on Block 11 Mine, Broken Hill?
 - (2.) Did the Coroner's jury add a rider to their verdict that Ganger Humphries, by his negligence, was partly responsible for the death of James Taylor, as he had him working in an extremely dangerous position, and that he (Humphries) should have exercised greater care in placing his men so as to avoid accidents?
 - (3.) Has any Coroner's jury returned a similar verdict against Humphries; if so, when?
 - (4.) Has any action been taken against Humphries for culpable negligence?
 - (5.) Has any protest been made against this man Humphries having charge of work; and is it a fact that accidents of a serious character are continually happening to the men working under Humphries?
 - (6.) Is it a fact that Humphries, through his negligence, met with a very serious accident to himself?
 - (7.) Is it a fact that Humphries swore at the inquest that he had never had a copy of the Mining Regulations, and that no copies were posted up in the vicinity of where the accident occurred?
 - (8.) Is it the intention of the Government to take any action in this case?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The rider was to the effect that "at the time of accident deceased was working in a dangerous position, and that Ganger Humphries should be reprimanded for allowing it."

(3.) Not that I am aware of.

(4.) Not at present; but I have called for a further report, and if culpable negligence can be shown action will be taken.

(5.) I am not aware.

(6.) I am informed that he met with a slight accident about three years ago. A "bulling" charge did not explode when expected, and, on one of the men going to ascertain the cause, Humphries is said to have called him back and went himself, when the charge exploded, inflicting slight injuries to his face.

(7.) No.

(8.) Yes.

- (10.) Betting Advertisements:—Mr. Wheeler, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the fact that the provisions of the Betting Houses Suppression Act have been enforced as far as bookmakers are concerned, will he see that that provision relating to the publication in the Press of betting advertisements is also put into operation?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The subject of the Honorable Member's Question has already received attention. Difficulties, however, have arisen which have necessitated my asking the advice of the Crown Solicitor. Until I have received that gentleman's opinion I shall be unable to give the Honorable Member a definite reply.

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(11.) Proposed Surrender of Freehold Land, near Balranald:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Was a proposal made to him last year by the proprietor of Yanga Station, near Balranald, for the surrender of freehold land in exchange for other land?
- (2.) What was the area of land proposed to be surrendered, and its distance from the town of Balranald?
- (3.) What was the area asked in exchange from the Crown; and in what part of the Colony is it situated?
- (4.) Was this matter submitted to the Local Land Board for inquiry and report?
- (5.) Did the Land Board report that this exchange would be detrimental in the interests of Balranald?
- (6.) Has he approved of this exchange; if not, what are his intentions regarding it?
- (7.) Has he any objection to laying upon the Table of this House all the papers connected with this exchange?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) 35,600 acres, including conditional purchase and freehold lands near Glen Innes and Narrabri, which towns are between 400 and 500 miles from Balranald.
- (3.) 35,600 acres, distant on an average about 15 miles from Balranald.
- (4.) Yes, to the Land Boards at Balranald, Glen Innes, and Narrabri.
- (5.) The Balranald Board, by a majority, did so report, but it appeared from the reports of the different Boards that the surrendered land was nearly twice as valuable as the land applied for, and would provide sufficient land for a far greater number of settlers.
- (6.) Yes.
- (7.) No.

(12.) Floors in Cow-bails in the Richmond River District:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to his Answers to Mr. Perry's previous Questions *re* cow-bail floors, have the Health Board decided that a floor laid with bricks has fewer interstices, and is less impervious than a well-laid hardwood floor; if so, do they intend to order bricks to be laid down as floors in factories, and timber to be taken up?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed the instructions of the Board of Health have not been varied since the Answers given to Mr. Perry's Questions, Nos. 3 and 4, of 10th June last. A suitably-laid floor of bricks, or of stone slabs properly squared, bedded, and jointed, or of concrete floated with cement, or of any impervious material, is preferable even to a well-laid hardwood floor; yet when a dairy or a factory has an accurately-fitted, well-caulked, hardwood floor in thoroughly good condition, in order to avoid all but absolutely necessary expense the owner is not required to take it up and lay one of the impervious floors mentioned instead.

(13.) Destruction of Cattle in the Ballina Electorate:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is he aware that the Government Inspector has ordered the destruction of some cattle in the Ballina electorate, and, on the owner protesting that the cattle were not suffering from disease as alleged, that the Inspector instructed the police to destroy the cattle?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following report on this matter has been received from the President of the Board of Health:—No such case can be traced in the records of this office, but, if the name of the owner be furnished, inquiry will be made.

(14.) The Statistical Register:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) In view of the fact that the volume of the Statistical Register just issued contains no information of later date than 31st December, 1895, will he expedite the issue of the volume for the year 1896 to such an extent as may make the same available by 30th September next?
- (2.) What is the reason of the delay in the issue of these most useful volumes?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The assistant Statistician has supplied the following information:—

- (1.) It will be impossible to issue the complete volume of the Statistical Register for 1896 by the 30th September, 1897, for the reason that the amended figures for the financial part will not be available before that date. At the same time it may be mentioned that the Statistician gave instructions two months ago that the book was to be issued in part form by the end of October, and these instructions will be carried out, whatever extra labour out of official hours may be involved.
- (2.) It is difficult for Honorable Members to estimate the amount of labour which it is necessary to expend upon the statistical returns before they can be brought into the form in which they are published. It is good work to complete the Statistical Register for one year by the end of the next year. It is admitted, however, that the work fell back in 1896 in consequence of the withdrawal of Mr. Coghlan's active supervision. The staff has now been reorganised by the Public Service Board, and Mr. Coghlan planned the work for the present year, and saw it begun before he left for England.

(15.) Draining of Watercourse Country below Moree:—*Mr. F. Clarke*, for Mr. Hassall, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) When is it proposed to take action with regard to the draining of the watercourse country below Moree?
- (2.) In view of the exceptionally favourable season for carrying out the work in question, will he take the necessary steps to have it dealt with at once?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—I would refer the Honorable Member to my reply on the 5th May last to his previous Question on this subject. Since then a plan has been received from the Department of Public Works, and forwarded to the Chairman of the Local Land Board, with a view to immediate action being taken by the Land Board.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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(16.) G. F. Millgate's Leases of Town Lots in East Molong:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has he yet arrived at any decision in regard to the conditions of G. F. Millgate's leases of town lots in East Molong?

(2.) Has he received any report from the Crown Lands Bailiff at Molong in the matter; if so, what action does he intend to take to compel Millgate to comply with the conditions of the special lease, or does he intend to forfeit the lease?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—The matter has been under consideration recently, but before arriving at a decision I have considered it expedient to communicate with the Mayor of Molong on the subject:—

(17.) Prosecution of Mining Companies:—Mr. Thomas asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) How many mining companies in New South Wales have been prosecuted since 17th July, 1894, for a breach of the Mining Laws or Regulations?

(2.) What are the names of the companies?

(3.) What was the particular breach for which they were prosecuted?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—None.

(18.) Rossville Estate, at Goulburn:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Rossville Estate, at Goulburn, inclusive of interest charges, has cost the country over £20,000?

(2.) Is it a fact that at the present time, or until recently, a caretaker is or was paid to look after the House?

(3.) Is he aware that the estate is overrun with briars, to the prejudice of adjoining landowners?

(4.) Does he intend to take any action to turn Rossville to some profitable account?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am aware that there is an estate at Goulburn which cost the Government a large sum of money. I do not know whether the amount is £20,000, or what was the exact amount. When I came into office this property was unoccupied, and I thought it advisable that we should utilise it so as to obtain some return, and I obtained a tenant for it. I believe that since the tenant has been in occupation the property has not been kept in that efficient repair which is absolutely necessary in the interests of the Government. It is now unoccupied, and a caretaker has been placed in charge, under the direction of officers at Kenmore, who are under the Director-General of Insane. My object will be, of course, to utilise the property as soon as I can, and it is quite possible that it may be used in connection with the general asylum.

(19.) Public Gates on Road from Eugowra to Goolagong:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that the travelling public have frequently complained of the danger arising from public gates on the road from Eugowra to Goolagong?

(2.) Will he see that steps are taken to have the gates removed without delay, in order to prevent accidents and loss of life occurring to the travelling public in having at great inconvenience to open and shut such gates?

(3.) In whose interest were the gates first erected, and at whose interest are they now retained?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—A complaint was received, but the road (which has, however, been since withdrawn from license) was not a public road. The holders of the occupation license have already been advised to remove some of the gates.

(20.) Land Tax Assessments in the Shoalhaven District:—Mr. Morton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
With reference to his replies to Mr. Morton's Question No. 1 of 17th June,—

(1.) Did not many, if not all, of the owners of the lands referred to give the necessary information regarding their mortgages by filling up the particulars of their mortgages on page 3 of Form B (1896) when sending in their Land Tax returns?

(2.) In cases where the deductions were not made, pending the receipt of the necessary particulars, were the persons who were expected to give further particulars written to and asked to supply same?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) The particulars of mortgages furnished on page 3 of Form B (1896) were found to be insufficient in all cases for the purpose of calculating the exemptions allowed by the Act. To remedy this, further returns were called for, and the further information so asked was deemed absolutely necessary.

(2.) In those cases where deductions were disallowed pending receipt of necessary particulars, the persons concerned were not written to for such particulars, but it was open to them to furnish the necessary information at their convenience. On receipt thereof the allowance would be made.

(21.) Alleged Cases of Dummying on Nanami Run:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

What is the cause of the delay in dealing with the alleged cases of dummying on Nanami Run; and will he state when the Crown Solicitor is likely to take proceedings in such cases?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—I must refer the Honorable Member to my Answer to his previous Question on the same subject, but, from what I have ascertained, the case has been and still is under the consideration of the officers of the Criminal Investigation Department.

(22.) Appointment of Mr. Donnelly as Clerk of Petty Sessions at Picton:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has Mr. D. C. J. Donnelly been appointed Clerk of Petty Sessions and Crown Lands Agent at Picton?

(2.) If so, at what salary?

(3.) Has he been promoted over the heads of a number of officers many years his senior in service in the Department of Justice?

(4.) If so, why?

Mr.

24th June, 1897.

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) £175 per annum. The salary paid to the previous holder of the office was £200 per annum.
- (3 and 4.) Mr. Donnelly was transferred from a similar position at Port Macquarie at the same salary as he was then receiving, and was not promoted.

(23.) Nanami and Trajeree Reserves, in the Molong District:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Did one Mr. Chapman at any time make a survey and report *re* Nanami and Trajeree Reserves, in the Molong District, county of Ashburnham, with the view to the same being thrown open for homestead leases; if so, when are the leases likely to be thrown open for the public?
- (2.) What is the cause of the delay?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—In the absence of papers it cannot be said, but instructions for the subdivision of the reserves for settlement in the locality in question are in the hands of the District Surveyor, who has been asked to expedite action.

(24.) Blankets supplied by the Government:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—Referring to his Answer to Mr. Rose's previous Question, will he state the number of blankets supplied by the Government during last winter and the previous one up to date?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I have already promised the Honorable Member that a return will be prepared, furnishing the information asked for in this Question. If the Honorable Member will kindly allow the matter to be delayed until I have received that return the information will be supplied.

(25.) Sale of Books from the Free Public Library:—Mr. Hogue asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) How many volumes of books from the Free Public Library were sold recently by the Trustees of that Institution to Messrs. Angus and Robertson?
- (2.) What was the amount paid to the Trustees for the said books?
- (3.) How many volumes from the Library, bequeathed by the late Mr. Justice Wise to the Public Library, were included among the books so sold to Messrs. Angus and Robertson?
- (4.) Was the sale in question made with the authority of the Minister, or without such authority?
- (5.) What reason was there for selling such books?
- (6.) Will he give orders for efforts to be made for the recovery of the books bequeathed by the late Mr. Justice Wise, and included in the batch recently sold?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) About 5,000, including old Parliamentary papers, pamphlets, periodicals, &c.
- (2.) £219, to be taken in exchange for recent books.
- (3.) By error some of these books were sent to Messrs. Angus and Robertson, but were at once recalled. Eight or nine volumes may, however, have been sold before the books were returned.
- (4.) On the authority of the Trustees.
- (5.) That there were already duplicates in the Library, the duplicates being (1) books withdrawn, as being unsuitable, from the boxes of books sent on loan to country Schools of Arts, &c.; (2) books obtained in the purchase of collections such as Stephen's, Gurner's, &c. (better copies being already in the Library); and (3) imperfect books, with maps, plates, or pages missing, and odd volumes.
- (6.) Answered by No. 3.

(26.) G. Chizletts' Selection on Nanami Run, Molong District:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Have any steps been taken to cause the forfeiture of the selection made by one G. Chizletts, on Nanami Run, Molong District, near Eugowra, county of Ashburnham, and why Chizletts' case has been treated differently to the other alleged dummy selections on Nanami Run?
- (2.) What steps (if any) does he intend to take in this case; and why is action being so long delayed in the matter?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—The same steps were taken to cause the forfeiture of the selection in question as were taken in connection with the other selections on the Nanami Run, but, as in Chizletts' case the Land Board had on a previous occasion dealt with the case under section 20 of the Act of 1884 (on which occasion the decision was in Chizletts' favour), the Board decided that it could not investigate, and decided upon the case a second time. Whether any other steps can be taken is a matter upon which the Crown Solicitor is to advise.

(27.) The Art Gallery:—Mr. Thomas, for Mr. Hughes, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Who are the contractors for the additions to the Art Gallery?
- (2.) What is the amount of contract?
- (3.) Were the materials used of the quality specified?
- (4.) Is the workmanship of the quality specified?
- (5.) Who is the Clerk of Works in charge?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Howie Brothers.
- (2.) £13,275.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) Yes.
- (5.) W. Wilson.

(28.) Telephone Tunnel in the City of Sydney:—Mr. Lyne asked the Postmaster-General,—Will he without delay obtain a report from a reliable officer from the Public Works Department upon the work done at the telephone tunnel in the City of Sydney; and, if not, will he state his reasons for not so doing?

Mr. Cook answered,—I see no necessity to do this. My reason for not doing so is that I am fully aware of the cause of these settlements, and am taking steps to obviate them as far as possible.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

24th June, 1897.

2. **TRUCK BILL**:—Mr. Young presented a Petition from certain residents of the Hastings River District, praying for the introduction and the passing into law of a Bill which will stop the practice of mill-owners paying their labourers in goods instead of money.
Petition received.
3. **EXCHANGE OF LAND, CUPPACUMBALONG RUN, QUEANBEYAN DISTRICT**:—Mr. Mackay, for Mr. O'Sullivan, Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 13th May, 1897, together with Appendix.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. **PAPER**:—Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Amended Gaol Regulations.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); resumption of the adjourned Debate on the motion of Mr. Parkes, "That this Bill be now read a second time;"—until Thursday next.
(2.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
(3.) Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday next.
(4.) Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
(5.) North Shore Bridge Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
6. **INTERPRETATION BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Bruncker, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 31.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act for consolidating enactments relating to the interpretation of Acts of Parliament, and for further shortening their language*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 23rd June, 1897.

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

- (1.) Narandera Roman Catholic Church Trustees Enabling Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable William Lanigan, of Goulburn, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church, Thomas Joseph Carroll, of Narandera, priest, Peter Sullivan, of Narandera, stationer, George Jerrom, of Narandera, draper, and John Patrick McIntyre, of Narandera, innkeeper, or other the trustees for the time being of certain lands situated in East and Twynam Streets, Narandera, to sell the said lands, and to provide for the application of the proceeds thereof*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 24th June, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

- (2.) Orange Show Ground Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the Trustees of the Orange Pastoral and Agricultural Association to mortgage certain lands granted to the said Trustees for the use and general purposes of the said Association for the purpose of enabling the said Trustees to pay off the present liabilities of the said Association, incurred in erecting the buildings and improvements now standing upon the said lands, and to effect further permanent improvements thereon; and also to sell the same lands, and to purchase other lands in the town of Orange, or in the vicinity of the said town, for the use of the said Association, and to mortgage the lands so to be purchased for the purpose of enabling the said Trustees to effect permanent improvements thereon*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 24th June, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

- (3.) Maitland Gaslight Act Amendment Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the Maitland Gaslight Company (Limited) to extend its works to, and to light and supply gas to, and carry on business in, places beyond the limits and boundaries of the towns of East and West Maitland; and to confer further powers on the said Company; and to amend the deed of settlement of the Company, and the Maitland Gas Act of 1874; and for other purposes incidental thereto*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 24th June, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

24th June, 1897.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Darlington, Mr. Schey, 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 issue by the Postmaster-General of certain new postage stamps unauthorised by law.”
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Schey moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
9. **PUBLIC WORKS ACTS FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—
MR. SPEAKER,—
The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled “*An Act to amend Part I of the Public Works Act of 1888, the Public Works Act Amendment Act of 1889, and the Public Works (Committees’ Remuneration) Act of 1889,*”—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.
Legislative Council Chamber.
Sydney, 24th June, 1897.
JOHN LACKEY,
President.
10. **PYRMONT BRIDGE BILL**:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the removal of the present Pyrmont Bridge, and the construction in lieu thereof of a timber bridge with steel swing-span, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in their report, presented on 6th December, 1891.
Question put and passed.
11. **CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,

FRIDAY, 25 JUNE, 1897, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.

12. **POSTPONEMENT**:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That Order No. 2 be postponed, to stand after Order No. 3.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 34.

Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Colton,
Mr. Young,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Lonsdale.
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Wilks,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Law,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Bavierster.
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Willis,	

Noes, 9.

Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Alexander Campbell.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Fegan.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

13. **FIELD OF MARS RESUMPTION REPEAL BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Sleath moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Debate ensued.
Question put,—That this Debate be now adjourned.
The House divided.

Ayes, 5.

Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Sleath.
Mr. Dacey.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Miller.

Noes, 35.

Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Cotton.
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Wheeler.
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Hughes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Bavierster.
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Lonsdale,	
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Harris,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Robert Jones,	

And so it passed in the negative.

Question

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

24th June, 1897.

Question put,—That this Bill be now read a second time.

The House divided.

Ayes, 37.

Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Cook,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Willis.
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Wilks,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. James Thomson,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	

Noes, 4.

Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Miller.*Tellers,*Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Sleath.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

Mr. Carruthers then moved, That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair, and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only four Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

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

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 the Bill with an amendment.

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

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Wednesday next.

14. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—Mr. Brunker moved, That the remaining Orders of the Day of Government Business, and the remaining Orders of the Day of General Business, be postponed until Tuesday next.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

15. **ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE**:—Mr. McLean moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the cost of the recent additions and alterations to the Government Printing Office under the system of day labour as compared with the cost of performing the same work by contract.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Parkes, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Ball, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Schey, and the Mover.

Debate ensued.

And Mr. Miller requiring that the Committee be appointed by Ballot,—

Question put,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the cost of the recent additions and alterations to the Government Printing Office under the system of day labour, as compared with the cost of performing the same work by contract.

The House divided.

Ayes, 29.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Cook,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Noes, 3.
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. Miller.
Mr. Young,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Carroll,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Raymond,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Ball,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Wilks,	<i>Tellers.</i>	
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Lonsdale,	
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Jessop.	
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Wheeler,		
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Chanter,		
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Willis,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Whereupon the House proceeded to the Ballot, and Mr. Speaker declared the following to be the Committee duly appointed:—Mr. McLean, Mr. Lyne, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Young, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Ball, Mr. Willis, Mr. Parkes, and Mr. Wilks.

16. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty minutes before Nine o'clock A.M., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

Act of South Wales.

No. 27.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 29 JUNE, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Reports on Wallsend Colliery:—Mr. Watkins asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House copies of all inspectors' reports on the Wallsend Colliery, made during the current year?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I have no objection, if the Honorable Member will move for them in the usual way.

- (2.) The Chief Inspector of Stock:—Mr. Carroll asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) As the Public Service Act provides that an officer of 65 years of age should be retired, and as the present Chief Inspector of Stock is over 70 years, and many as active and capable men were retired in deference to that Act, will the Board consider the case of the Chief Inspector of Stock?

(2.) Is it not a fact that the present Chief Inspector of Stock was absent from this Colony in America and other countries for about fifteen months during 1892 and 1893, and did not for another three months resume his duties as Chief Inspector, which would imply that he is not indispensable, as stock matters did not suffer in any way during his absence?

(3.) Will he be good enough to state whether the Chief Inspector of Stock was paid his salary in full during his absence, and all travelling expenses (steamship, railway, &c.); what was the amount so paid, and the benefits (if any) by reason of his travels and inquiries to this country?

(4.) As it would appear the various Stock Boards throughout the Colony were some time ago appealed to as to whether the Chief Inspector of Stock should be retained in or retired from his position, will he be good enough to have a list submitted (or, better still, the original papers themselves) showing the names of the districts, Boards, and other persons (with the number of sheep in each district) who are in favour of his retirement, a similar list of those in favour of his retention, and another list of districts (if any) remaining neutral on the question, as this officer's salary is paid from money raised by owners under the Diseases in Sheep Acts?

(5.) Will he be so good as to state where in this Colony the Chief Inspector of Stock obtained, and how long he was in obtaining, requisite practical experience of sheep and their management and diseases; is it not a fact that outside his office he has had little or no practical experience of sheep, and that any information he possesses on the subject is theoretical, or obtained from others?

(6.) Will he be so good as to state the amount of money that was lost by the country through his and his officials' incapacities with regard to the outbreak of scab in this Colony a few years ago?

(7.) As the deductions of 4 per cent. from Inspectors of Stock's salaries are in no way connected with the Estimates, being a separate matter altogether (and their own money), will he wait for the forthcoming Estimates, or refund all money so deducted at once, together with the current rate of interest, or take immediate steps to legalise the deductions, and so relieve the minds of officers affected, and permit them to make other arrangements?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) This is a matter outside the jurisdiction of the Board. The Attorney-General has decided that the Public Service Act does not apply to officers appointed under the Diseases in Sheep Act, under which the Chief Inspector holds his appointment.

(2.) Yes, during which time he was in charge of the wool exhibits at Chicago. He was subsequently sent to Great Britain and the Continent to make inquiry with respect to the Trade in Meat and other Australian Produce, and on his return was necessarily engaged for some time in the preparation of his report.

(3.)

29th June, 1897.

(3.) Yes; the usual practice was followed. The travelling expenses amounted to £383 8s. 1d. The information gained by the Chief Inspector has on many occasions been of much practical benefit to the Department. He prepared exhaustive reports, and made recommendations which have been acted upon by those engaged in the trade.

(4.) The information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of this House as soon as possible if moved for in the usual way.

(5.) He had practical experience in the management of sheep and their diseases in Scotland, and also in Victoria and in this Colony. He has since had over thirty years' experience in his present office, and has necessarily acquired a very large and extended experience, both theoretical and practical.

(6.) The information with regard to the loss occasioned by the introduction of scab in sheep in 1884 will take some time to prepare, but, if moved for in the usual way, will be laid upon the Table of the House. The Royal Commission considered that the Chief Inspector should have given more personal attention to the matter than he did, and, while no charge of incapacity was attributed to him, it was admitted that he was burdened with more work than one man could attend to, and was relieved of some of his duties.

(7.) The refund of superannuation moneys is made by the Public Service Board, and the papers on the subject have been forwarded to them, with the view of having the refunds made to all entitled to them at the earliest possible date.

(3.) Engagement of Special Train by Messrs. Lassetter & Co.:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Have Lassetter & Co. engaged a special train for goods to be run to the Riverina District—say Jerilderie—in July next?

(2.) If so, how many trucks is this train to be?

(3.) If this special train is to be run for Lassetter & Co. in July, will they be allowed to drop trucks from it at several stations, or will all the trucks be left at Jerilderie?

(4.) What will be the cost to Messrs. Lassetter & Co. per truck of 6 tons for this special train in classes?

(5.) What is the usual cost per truck-load in the same classes as the goods to be sent by Lassetter & Co., these goods being galvanized iron, wire, sugar, &c., and 1, 2, and 3 classes?

(6.) If no arrangement has yet been made with Lassetter & Co., will the Commissioners decline to depart from their regular published rates, so as to prevent any Sydney firm from destroying the general country storekeeper's business in Riverina?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed no such special train has been arranged.

(4.) Railway Employees Annual Holiday Passes:—*Mr. Watson*, for Mr. Griffith, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that it is the intention of the Railway Commissioners to curtail the privileges of their employees with regard to the granting of their annual holiday passes?

(2.) Is it intended by the Commissioners to make the proposed curtailment without first notifying the same in the *Government Gazette*?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed that it has been found desirable to make a modification in connection with the issue of annual passes which it is not necessary to notify in the *Government Gazette*.

(5.) Holidays to Railway Officials:—*Mr. Cruickshank*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it a fact that alterations are being made in the Railway Department by the Railway Commissioners that will interfere with and lessen the number of holidays granted to railway officials; if so, to what extent?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed that the number of holidays granted to the railway employees are not being lessened.

(6.) Salary of the Chief Commissioner for Railways:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In view of the decease of the Chief Commissioner for Railways, will the Government take action to repeal Act 52 Vic. No. 5, by which the salary of the Chief Commissioner was raised from £2,500 per annum to £3,000 per annum, solely with a view to the engagement of the late Mr. Eddy?

(2.) Is it the intention of the Government to go outside of Australia to find another Commissioner for Railways?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Owing to the brief period which has elapsed since the death of the Chief Commissioner, the Government has so far considered it indelicate to take any action; the matter, however, will be dealt with so as to avoid any public inconvenience.

(7.) Proposed Exchange of Frontage to Salisbury Creek, Northern District:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it intended to effect the proposed exchange of frontage to Salisbury Creek, in the Northern District, and which comprises an area of land admirably adapted for farming, for land of a very indifferent character at the back of the run?

(2.) What is the area of Crown lands suggested to be exchanged, and what is the area which will be obtained in return?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) No such exchange has been contemplated.

(2.) The Local Land Board has just reported on a proposed exchange on Salisbury Pastoral Holding, at Uralla, but the Board's report has not yet been considered. It is presumed that, perhaps, the Honorable Member's Question may be intended to refer to this exchange.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th June, 1897.

(8.) Examination of late Chief Commissioner for Railways at Adelaide Federal Convention :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Were not the late Chief Commissioner for Railways and other high railway authorities examined before the Financial Committee of the Adelaide Federal Convention?
- (2.) When will he lay a copy of the evidence then taken, and paper then tabled, upon the Table of this House?
- (3.) If these papers are not tabled, is there any way by which Honorable Members will be able to obtain the valuable information which presumably guided the Convention Delegates in their decisions on this matter?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am aware that the late Chief Commissioner for Railways was examined by the Finance Committee of the Federal Convention in Adelaide, but I am not aware what course of procedure was adopted with reference to the papers. They were in the possession of the Clerk, who presumably took charge of them. I shall be glad, not only for the information of the Honorable Member but for the information of the House generally, to make inquiry with a view to having these papers laid upon the Table at an early date.

(9.) The Adelaide Federal Convention :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) When will he lay upon the Table copies of the various papers on financial matters, &c., which were read before or presented to the Adelaide Federal Convention?
- (2.) If these papers be not laid upon the Table, is there any means by which Honorable Members may obtain the information, and so not labour under the disadvantage of discussing the various provisions of the Constitution now before the House in the absence of the bulk of the figures and information which were before the Delegates, and presumably guided them to most important decisions?
- (3.) Was not every information of the kind submitted to this House when it was asked to deal with the Bill of the 1891 Convention in Sydney?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I can only give to this Question the reply which I gave to the last Question. I do not yet know what the course of procedure has been with regard to the papers dealt with by the Convention. I do not yet know what information has been received or what information has been laid upon the Table of this House.

(10.) Subsidy to the Salvation Army :—Mr. Ashton, for Mr. O'Reilly, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the Victorian Government grants to the Salvation Army an annual subsidy of £600, and also an annual capitation allowance of 10s. for all boys and girls admitted to the Industrial Schools of the Salvation Army?
- (2.) Is he aware that the Governments of Queensland and New Zealand also allow the Salvation Army an annual grant of £500, while the Tasmanian Government contribute a £ for £ subsidy?
- (3.) In view of the excellent work done for the State by this religious body, will the Government of New South Wales grant the Salvation Army an annual subsidy equivalent to that of Victoria?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I have no knowledge of the practice of the Governments of the other Australian Colonies as to the granting of subsidies to the Salvation Army. An application was made to me a short time ago upon the subject referred to in the Honorable Member's Question. I thought that the matter was closely connected with the question of State aid, and that it, therefore, required greater deliberation than I was able to devote to it at the time.

(11.) The Condemned Man Butler :—Mr. Ashton asked the Minister of Justice,—Is there any objection on the part of the Government to permit, in the interest of criminology, a *post-mortem* medical examination of the brain of the condemned man Butler?

Mr. Gould answered,—I am advised that no good purpose would be served by such an examination.

(12.) Value of Land from Dawes Point to Head of Darling Harbour :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What is the value of the land and improvements from Dawes Point to the head of Darling Harbour, held as freehold, that would be required for Railway purposes if a line was constructed that way?
- (2.) What is the unimproved value of the same?
- (3.) What is the unimproved value as accepted by the Commissioners of Taxation, for Land Tax purposes, from Dawes Point to the head of Darling Harbour?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—It would be impossible to answer this Question without more definite information as to the properties included in the above description.

(13.) Spring Vale Travelling Stock Reserve, near Quirindi :—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. Griffith, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) With reference to the reply to Mr. Griffith's Question of 9th instant, has he yet decided as to whether he will or will not proceed with the sale by auction of the Spring Vale Travelling Stock Reserve near Quirindi, which was advertised for sale in the *Government Gazette*?
- (2.) With regard to the travelling stock reserve adjoining Mr. A. A. Dangar's Mooki Springs Homestead, is it his intention to exchange this for another piece of land; if so, why?
- (3.) In view of the fact that this latter is excellent agricultural land, and only 30 miles from Quirindi, will he consider the advisability of throwing it open for homestead selection?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) The land has been withdrawn from sale, and the Member for the District, Mr. Levien, informed on the 19th instant.
- (2.) Yes; as it consists of a narrow strip of land varying in width from 20 to 40 chains, with a length of over 4 miles, and is, therefore, unsuitable in form for an independent holding.
- (3.) According to the District Surveyor's report, the land consists mainly of second-class grazing country, almost wholly surrounded by land alienated to Messrs. Dangar Brothers, and, therefore, does not appear to be suitable for homestead selection.

29th June, 1897.

(14.) Land Tax Assessments in the Shoalhaven District:—Mr. Morton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
With reference to his replies to Mr. Morton's Question No. 20, of 24th June,—

(1.) In cases where the deductions have not been allowed, how are the landowners to know that further particulars are required?

(2.) Will he ask the Commissioners to write to the landowners in question, and inform them that further particulars are required?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) By inquiry at the Taxation Department, where the necessary forms will be furnished upon application.

(2.) If the Commissioners are furnished with the names of the persons interested, inquiry will be made and the matter attended to.

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. Young laid upon the Table, Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Bega, county of Auckland, for Bridge over Bega River, at Bega.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 8th June, 1897,—“Supply of “Uniforms.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. PYRMONT BRIDGE BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 32.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to sanction the removal of the present Pyrmont Bridge, and the construction in lieu thereof of a timber bridge with steel swing-span, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in their report, presented on 6th December, 1894.

Government House,

Sydney, 24th June, 1897.

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

4. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for The Hume, Mr. Lyne, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The effect of the Tariff provisions of the Customs Duties Act of 1895.”
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

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

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 30 JUNE, 1897, A.M.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 30.

Mr. F. Clarke,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Henry Clarke,	
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Kelly.
Mr. Wright,	
Dr. Ross,	
Mr. Hassall,	
Mr. Chapman,	
Mr. Perry,	
Mr. FitzGerald,	
Mr. Ewing,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Raymond,	
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. Travers Jones,	
Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. T. R. Smith,	
Mr. See,	
Mr. Levien,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. McLaughlin,	
Mr. M. T. Phillips,	
Mr. Hayes,	
Mr. O'Sullivan.	

Noes, 53.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Young,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Millen,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Lec,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Ashton,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Hughes.
Mr. Wilks,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Robert Jones,	
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Afleck,	Mr. Haynes.
Mr. Whiddon,	

And so it passed in the negative.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th June, 1897.

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

(1.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote for "Survey of Lands—Contingencies," to supplement the Vote for "Land Agents, Appraisers, &c.—Contingencies."

(2.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "To meet adjustments of Salaries on "revision by the Public Service Board," to supplement the Vote for "Reorganization of the "Public Service."

(3.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote for "Salaries, Acting Supreme Court "Judges," to supplement the "Contingencies Vote of the Attorney-General's Department."

(4.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the amounts voted under Schedules A and B, "Roads and Bridges," and "Harbours and Rivers," respectively, to supplement the Votes for "Government Architect" and "Dredge Service."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at six minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 28.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 30 JUNE, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Bridge over Parramatta River at Newington:—*Mr. Fegan*, for Mr. Frank Farnell, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has any decision been arrived at in the matter of the proposed erection of a bridge over the Parramatta River at Newington; if so, will he have any objection to stating it?

Mr. Young answered,—No decision has been arrived at. The matter is under consideration.

(2.) Discovery of Telluride Ore:—*Mr. Parkes*, for Mr. Newman, asked the Secretary for Mines,—If, in view of the interest excited in Europe, America, and New South Wales at the discovery of telluride ore, it being very valuable and little known to the mining community of this Colony, he will cause samples to be obtained from West Australian Government as early as possible, and specimens distributed to the Wardens of the various gold-fields of New South Wales, for the inspection and instruction of the mining community, who are at present quite ignorant of its appearance geologically?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The Western Australian Government will be communicated with, and if samples can be obtained they will be distributed to the principal mining centres of the Colony.

(3.) Application for Warrant by Mr. W. Reid:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. O'Sullivan, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Did a Mr. W. Reid apply to the Justice Department, or to any of its officials, for a warrant for the arrest of a Bank Manager in Queensland?

(2.) Was such warrant refused; and, if so, why?

(3.) Did Mr. Reid also apply to the Warden and Police Magistrate in the Queanbeyan District for assistance in the matter of obtaining justice in his case against the Bank Manager; and, if so, why was such assistance not granted?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) A warrant was issued by the Clerk of Petty Sessions, Queanbeyan, who is a Magistrate, but it was cancelled subsequently.

(3.) Yes; Mr. Reid placed the matter before the Police Magistrate and Warden who visits Queanbeyan, and was informed that he must show substantial grounds for the issue of a warrant. The question whether or not a warrant should be granted is entirely one within the discretion of the Magistrate, and the Department cannot interfere in the exercise of such discretion.

(4.) Australian Agricultural and Peel River Companies:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Have the Australian Agricultural Company paid their Land Tax; if so, what was the total amount paid?

(2.) Have the Peel River Company paid their Land Tax; if so, what was the total amount paid?

(3.) What is the total acreage of the Australian Agricultural Company's freehold?

(4.) What is the total acreage of the Peel River Company's freehold?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—It would be very undesirable, and contrary to the express provisions of the Act, to disclose the information asked for.

(5.)

30th June, 1897.

- (5.) Betting Houses Suppression Act:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Are premises Nos. 239, 241, and 245, Pitt-street, city, known to the police as betting-shops; and, if so, what are the names of the proprietors?
 - (2.) Have the proprietors or employees of any of these shops been proceeded against under the Betting Houses Suppression Act; and, if so, when, and what are the names of persons so dealt with?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that betting lists are exhibited on these premises, and open to public inspection, and that considerable cash wagering takes place as a result?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that the proprietor of No. 245 is a noted racecourse bettor; and have any proceedings yet been taken against him either for racecourse betting or as keeper of a betting-shop?
 - (5.) Is it a fact that numbers of fines inflicted for racecourse betting are still unpaid; and, if so, how many?
 - (6.) Will he instruct the police to take stringent measures for the suppression of shop-betting, and the enforcement of fines inflicted in regard to betting of any kind?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table a return showing the information asked for.

- (6.) Gold sent from Wyalong, Temora, and Cootamundra Gold-fields:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Travers Jones, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) What number of miners were employed on the Wyalong gold-fields; and what amount of gold was sent from there, by escort, when last returns were furnished by Mining Registrar?
 - (2.) What number of miners were employed on the Temora gold-fields; and what amount of gold was sent from there, by escort, per last returns?
 - (3.) What number of miners were employed on the Cootamundra gold-fields; and what amount of gold was sent from there, by escort, per last returns?
 - (4.) What number of miners were employed on the Gundagai gold-fields; and what amount of gold was sent from there, by escort, per last returns?
 - (5.) What number of miners were employed on the Adelong and Tumut gold-fields, and the amount of gold sent from there, by escort, per last returns?
 - (6.) What number of miners were employed on the Tumbarumba gold-fields; and what amount of gold was sent from there, by escort, per last returns?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of the House in the shape of a return.

- (7.) Complaints respecting Construction of the Lands Office Buildings:—Mr. Fegan asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he lay upon the Table a return, showing the number and particulars of complaints, and date of such complaints, made by Clerk of Works to the Colonial Architect's Office as to the carrying out of contracts for construction of the Lands Office buildings, having regard to quality of materials used as well as method of construction, together with the names of contractors?

Mr. Young answered,—I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will let me know which Lands Office building he refers to.

- (8.) Omnibus Drivers:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Are any steps likely to be taken to reduce the number of hours omnibus drivers at the present time are compelled to work?
 - (2.) Is he aware that they have to work often twelve and fifteen hours a day, and in all kinds of weather?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) If it is the Honorable Member's desire to be informed whether it is the intention of the Government to introduce any legislation on this question, the reply is "No."
- (2.) I am not aware.

- (9.) Molong Marble:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has he lately received any report from Mr. Roberts, an Inspector of Public Works, in reference to the quality of the Molong marble; if so, is it fit to be used for public works, or is it inferior to the imported article?
 - (2.) In future, in the construction of public works, will he see that Colonial marble is used in place of the imported article?
 - (3.) Will he have any objection to lay a copy of Mr. Robert's report upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Mr. Roberts reported, *inter alia*, that the marble generally in this district is of excellent grain and figure.
- (2.) Colonial marble, where practicable, will be used.
- (3.) No objection, if moved for in the usual way.

- (10.) Sale of Books from the Free Public Library:—*Mr. Howarth*, for Mr. Hogue, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) In reference to the recent sale of books by the Trustees of the Free Public Library to Messrs. Angus and Robertson, was a list of the books so sold kept by the Librarian; and, if so, will there be any objection to lay the said list upon the Table of this House for the information of Honorable Members?
- (2.) How many of the books, to be given in exchange for the 5,000 volumes sold by the Trustees, have been delivered; and will there be any objection to laying a list of such books upon the Table of this House for the information of Honorable Members?
- (3.) Has the usual discount been allowed in connection with the books to be so supplied?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that no list was taken.
- (2.) I am informed that none of the books have been delivered.
- (3.) It will be allowed.

(11.)

30th June, 1897.

- (11.) Register of Transfers of Conditional Purchases to Married Women :—Mr. M. T. Phillips asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) In view of the opinion given by the Crown Solicitor, advising the Department of Lands not to register transfer of conditionally-purchased land to married women, what does the Minister intend doing with the transfers that have been lodged and registration refused?
 - (2.) Will he, under these circumstances, cause the said transfers to be returned to the parties who lodged them, together with the stamp duty and other fees paid at the time of lodging same?
 - (3.) Have any transfers of conditionally-purchased land been registered to married women prior to the Crown Solicitor's opinion; if so, have they been declared illegal?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1.) The transfers will be held by the Department, but the fees paid thereon will be refunded.
 - (2.) Upon application the transfers will be returned to the parties who lodged them.
 - (3.) Yes; but, so far as the Department is aware, they have not been declared illegal.
- (12.) Crown Lands Agent at Gundagai :—Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Crown Lands Agent at Gundagai did, on or about the 16th June last, refuse to register a transfer of conditional purchase 68-363, Gundagai District, and also a transfer of conditional purchase 73-7,883, Gundagai District, from Charlotte Keogh to Annie Matilda Davis, on the ground that the latter is a married woman?
 - (2.) If so, has he given instructions to the several Crown Lands Agents to refuse to register transfers of conditional purchases to married women in all cases?
 - (3.) If such instructions have been given, has he obtained the advice of the Law Officers of the Crown as to the legality of his action?
 - (4.) If he is advised that there is anything in the Land Acts preventing the registration of any married woman as the holder of a conditional purchase on which all conditions (except that of the payment of the balance of the purchase money) have been performed, will he undertake to introduce a short Bill at once, providing for such registration, in order to prevent inconvenience in the future?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1.) I am not aware.
 - (2.) The Crown Lands Agents have been instructed to refuse to accept transfers to married women excepting in cases where the transferees have acquired the land in a representative capacity?
 - (3.) Yes.
 - (4.) The question is not so much one of legislation, but as to what is or is not the separate estate of a married woman. This the Court alone can determine, and in consideration of the policy of land legislation in respect of the rights of married women, and the possibilities of land being acquired through their intervention beyond the limits contemplated by law, I have decided to adhere to what appears to me to be its provisions.
- (13.) Broken Hill Water Supply :—Mr. Cann asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Have monthly samples of the Broken Hill water supply been taken and sent to the Board of Health for analysis, in compliance with the Chairman of Board of Health's report on the same?
 - (2.) Will he state whether these samples still show the water to be unfit for a domestic supply?
 - (3.) Is he aware that typhoid fever is unusually prevalent in Broken Hill; and has it been connected with the bad water supply?
 - (4.) Will he call for a report on the matter?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1 and 2.) The only recommendation of the kind referred to which has been made by the President of the Board of Health was contained in his communication dated 5th February last; it was that the Broken Hill Water Company should be called upon to take such steps as might seem sufficient to them to purify the water, and that thereafter the result should be watched by monthly analyses; the Company has been required to purify its water before delivering it to consumers, but has not yet carried out its plans, and consequently the monthly analyses mentioned have not been begun.
- (3 and 4.) No special prevalence of typhoid fever at Broken Hill has been reported, but inquiry will be made.
- (14.) Broken Hill Water Supply Company :—Mr. Cann asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has he had a satisfactory reply from the Broken Hill Water Supply Company yet?
 - (2.) As a reasonable time in which to have had a reply has elapsed, what action does he now propose to take to cause the company to purify the water for domestic purposes?
- Mr. Young* answered,—
- (1.) I received a copy of a report on filtration from the company, dated the 18th instant, and I have informed the secretary that I expect a further communication by the 10th proximo.
 - (2.) I shall be glad to show the papers to the Honorable Member if he will call at my office.
- (15.) Coal Shipped at the Newcastle Dyke :—Mr. Fegan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) How many tons of coal have been shipped at the Newcastle Dyke for the year ending 1896; also for the first five months of the present year?
 - (2.) The names of the various collieries whose coal has been shipped at the Newcastle Dyke and Government wharfs?
 - (3.) The quantity of large coal shipped by each colliery?
 - (4.) The quantity of small coal shipped by each colliery?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—If the Honorable Member will kindly move for this information in the usual way there will be no objection to afford it.
- (16.) Mining Accident Fund :—Mr. Fegan asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has he taken any steps in connection with the establishment of any fund, in accordance with the motion of Mr. Thomas (Member for Alma) last Session, in providing for accidents in Mines?
 - (2.) If so, would he inform the House what steps (if any) have been taken?

Mr.

30th June, 1897.

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) A circular was issued to Wardens and Inspectors instructing them to communicate to the mine-owners of their district and the employees the terms of the resolution, with a view to elicit from them an expression of opinion as to whether they were favourable to the establishment among themselves of such a fund. A deputation from the miners in the Northern District subsequently waited upon me on this subject. I agreed that a Conference should be held between the owners and some of the men to discuss the matter. I purpose visiting Newcastle towards the end of next month, when I shall try to arrange the Conference.

(17.) Railway Employees attending Funeral of late Chief Commissioner for Railways:—*Mr. Neild*, for Mr. Rigg, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Railway workmen who attended the funeral of the late Chief Commissioner are to lose pay for the time occupied in so doing?

(2.) Will he, under the very exceptional circumstances, and considering the unprecedented respect exhibited towards the late Chief Commissioner Eddy, recommend to the Commissioners that payment be made to them for the time absent?

Mr. Brunker answered,—As regards the Honorable Member's inquiry as to the men being paid, I am informed that it is not the custom to allow pay under such circumstances, and that it is not desirable to make an exception in this instance. Indeed, such a course would entirely destroy the value of the token of respect, and, moreover, there is every reason to believe that the men as a body do not desire it. I was pleased to see the large attendance of Railway men at the funeral of the late Mr. Eddy. It was a spontaneous and magnificent token of respect, which is most fully appreciated by all.

(18.) Freestone in Howie's Contract, Art Gallery:—*Mr. Fegan*, for Mr. Hughes, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Was the freestone in Howie's contract, Art Gallery, specified to be of the best quality Pymont stone, or any other approved quarry?

(2.) Was the workmanship specified to be of the best quality?

(3.) Is it not a fact that the freestone is of a most inferior quality, being the top-rock Pymont quarry, and of a shaley character?

(4.) Is it not a fact that the workmanship is of a most inferior quality?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) No inferior stone has been placed in position, but, since answering the Honorable Member's previous Questions on this subject, I have caused an inspection to be made by the senior officer of the Branch, and now find that some of the stone on the site is not of the class specified, and have given orders that it be rejected.

(4.) No.

(19.) Wealth and Progress for 1895:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) On what date was the first volume of Wealth and Progress for 1895 issued?

(2.) On what date will Volume 2 be published?

(3.) When will the first (or full) volume for 1896 be published?

(4.) Is there any means by which Honorable Members may obtain the very valuable information comprised in these volumes prior to their official publication; if so, what?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) On the 12th May last.

(2.) Probably before the end of August.

(3.) Before the end of the present year.

(4.) There are no means by which Honorable Members may obtain the information comprised in these volumes before the books are issued. The "Wealth and Progress of New South Wales" and the "Seven Colonies of Australasia" are not mere stereotyped works in which the alterations consist in the insertion of later figures. No new edition is undertaken without careful consideration and amendment of the text, with the object of making the books of greater usefulness to the public, and the results of this careful revision may be seen in a comparison of the various issues.

(20.) Employment of Mr. Wright in Department of Lands:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is a Mr. Wright employed by his Department in connection with the work of draining the Terragong Swamp, near Kiama?

(2.) If so, what position does he occupy, and what is his salary?

(3.) How long has he been so employed?

(4.) How long is it anticipated that his employment will be continued?

(5.) Under what section of the Public Service Act was he engaged to do this work?

(6.) Did the Public Service Board deal with the appointment in any way?

(7.) If so, in what way?

(8.) Did they sanction Mr. Wright's appointment?

(9.) If not, why were the provisions of the Public Service Act evaded in this instance?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Supervising Engineer, with a salary at the rate of £600 per annum.

(3.) About one month.

(4.) About five months longer.

(5 to 9.) The Public Service Board approved of Mr. Wright's appointment on the 29th ultimo.

(21.)

30th June, 1897.

(21.) Treatment of Ores at the Clyde Government Metallurgical Works:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Mines,—Can refractory ores be treated now at the Clyde Government Metallurgical Works, either by the cyanide or chlorination process?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Refractory ores can now be treated at these works. Ores already at the works are now being treated by chlorination, and the cyanide process will be in operation next week.

(22.) Examination of the late Mr. Eddy at the Adelaide Federal Convention:—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Was the late Mr. E. M. G. Eddy, Chief Commissioner for Railways, examined on railway and financial matters at the Adelaide Convention?

(2.) If so, what has become of his statements or evidence?

(3.) Were his statements suppressed?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed by Mr. Webb, Clerk of this House, who occupied the position of Clerk to the Finance Committee of the Adelaide Convention, that the late Mr. Eddy was examined by that Committee, as also were the Railway Commissioners of Victoria and South Australia; that the Finance Committee reported to the Constitutional Committee, and submitted its proceedings, but that such proceedings, the evidence, documents submitted, &c., were not laid upon the Table of the Convention or made public.

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Report of Trustees of the Australian Museum for the year 1896. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—Return respecting Betting Shops.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return to an Order, made on 9th June, 1897—"Receipts under the Diseases in Sheep Act."

(2.) Return to an Order, made on 15th June, 1897—"Mining Leases, Grenfell."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—By-laws of the Municipal District of Coonamble, under the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. AMENDED LIFE ASSURANCE ENCOURAGEMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Willis moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Life Assurance Encouragement Act of 1862, to further encourage and protect Life Insurances and other like provident arrangements for insurers and their families.
Question put and passed.

4. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill postponed until Wednesday next.

5. ADJOURNMENT:—

(1.) Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Paddington, Mr. Neild, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The necessity for the appointment of a Select Committee or Royal Commission to report upon the true intent of the financial clauses of the Commonwealth of Australia Bill, and their effect upon the fiscal policy of New South Wales."

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

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

Point of Order:—Mr. Young submitted that the Bill referred to in the Notice was already an Order of the Day for consideration to-day, and that the discussion of this motion, if permitted, would anticipate the consideration of that Order of the Day. He thought that this Notice of Motion was clearly out of Order for the reason given.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker supported the objection taken, and ruled that it would be an abuse of the rules of Parliament to allow the motion to be debated.

(2.) Mr. Nicholson then moved, That, in accordance with the authority given in subsection (d) of the 49th Standing Order, a second motion for the adjournment of the House be now entertained.
Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 40.

Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Cann,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Sehey,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. See,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Price,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Rose,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Carroll.
Mr. Perry,	
Mr. McFarlane,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. M. T. Phillips,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. James Thomson,	Mr. Chapman.

Noes, 31.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. McMillan,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Jessep.
Dr. Graham,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Knox.
Mr. Mahony,	
Mr. Millard,	
Mr. Anderson,	
Mr. McLean,	
Mr. Moleworth,	
Mr. Harvey,	
Mr. Harris,	
Mr. Lee,	
Mr. O'Reilly,	
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Whereupon

30th June, 1897.

Whereupon Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for The Lachlan, Mr. Carroll, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz. :—"The failure of the Government to make provision for an adequate supply of water in the Central and Western Divisions of the Colony."

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

6. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Extension of the Railway into the City of Sydney*):—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of extending the railway system of the Colony from the present terminus at Redfern into the City, including the erection of a large central station in the north-western division of the Park fronting St. James' Road.
- Debate ensued.

Interruption.

7. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker (*on the ground of the urgency of this matter*) reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

- (1.) Borough of Cudgegong Cattle Sale-yards Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the Council of the Borough of Cudgegong to purchase land within the said Borough, and to erect and maintain cattle sale-yards thereon; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th June, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

- (2.) Pharmacy Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having had under consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 23rd June, 1897, in reference to the Pharmacy Bill,—does not insist upon its amendment disagreed to by the Assembly in this Bill.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th June, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

8. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Extension of the Railway into the City of Sydney*):—The Debate on the motion of Mr. Young, on this subject,—interrupted by the proceedings recorded in entry No. 7 above,—resumed.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 1 JULY, 1897, A.M.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 38.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Young,	Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Morton,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Jessep.
Mr. Wheeler,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. O'Reilly,	
Mr. Dick,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Fegan.

Noes, 14.

Dr. Ross,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Neild,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Nicholson.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Watson,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

9. MUNICIPAL LOANS BILL:—

- (1.) Mr. Brunker moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable the Councils of Municipalities constituted by the division of a Municipality to borrow for the repayment of their respective proportions of the debts and liabilities of the divided Municipality.
- Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

- (2.) Mr. Brunker then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to enable the Councils of Municipalities constituted by the division of a Municipality to borrow for the repayment of their respective proportions of the debts and liabilities of the divided Municipality,*"—which was read a first time.
- Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th June, 1897.

10. **ADJOURNMENT** :—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Motion, by leave, withdrawn.
11. **POSTPONEMENTS** :—The remaining Notices of Motions and Orders of the Day of Government Business, and the remaining Orders of the Day of General Business, postponed (*by consent*) until To-morrow.
12. **DAY LABOUR—RAILWAY DEVIATIONS** :—Mr. McGowen moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon day labour as compared with the contract system in connection with "Government works."
(2.) That such Committee consist "of" Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Millen, Mr. Whiddon, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Sleath, Mr. Watson, and the Mover.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Young moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the words "Government works" paragraph (1), and inserting the words "the railway deviations" instead thereof.
Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
Debate ensued.
Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.
Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.
Mr. Garrard moved, That the Question be further amended by leaving out all the words after the word "of" paragraph (2), and inserting the words "Mr. Cook, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Robert Jones, Mr. Cann, Mr. Harris, Mr. Nelson, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. Hayes, and the Mover" instead thereof.
Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.
Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.
Question then,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon day labour as compared with the contract system in connection with the railway deviations.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Cook, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Robert Jones, Mr. Cann, Mr. Harris, Mr. Nelson, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. Hayes, and the Mover,—put and passed.
13. **CONSTRUCTION OF THE TELEPHONE TUNNELS** :—Mr. Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon all matters connected with the construction of the telephone tunnels in the City of Sydney.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Cook, Mr. Bavister, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Robert Jones, Mr. Cann, Mr. Harris, Mr. Nelson, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. Hayes, and the Mover.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
14. **ADJOURNMENT** :—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at thirty-one minutes after Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 29.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 1 JULY, 1897.

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

ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. Brunker, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Pharmacy Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 33.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to establish a Board of Pharmacy; to regulate the carrying on of the business of a Pharmacist; to provide for the examination and registration of Pharmacists; and for purposes incidental to the above objects*,"—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, 1897.

(2.) Public Works Acts Further Amendment Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 34.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend Part I of the Public Works Act of 1888, the Public Works Act Amendment Act of 1889, and the Public Works (Committees' Remuneration) Act of 1889*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,
Sydney, 30th June, 1897.

(3.) Narandera Roman Catholic Church Trustees Enabling Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 35.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable William Lanigan, of Goulburn, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church, Thomas Joseph Carroll, of Narandera, priest, Peter Sullivan, of Narandera, stationer, George Jerrom, of Narandera, draper, and John Patrick McIntyre, of Narandera, innkeeper, or other the trustees for the time being of certain lands situated in East and Troynan Streets, Narandera, to sell the said lands and to provide for the application of the proceeds thereof*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,
Sydney, 30th June, 1897.

(4.)

1st July, 1897.

(4.) Orango Show Ground Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 36.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the trustees of the Orango Pastoral and Agricultural Association to mortgage certain lands granted to the said trustees for the use and general purposes of the said Association, for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to pay off the present liabilities of the said Association incurred in erecting the buildings and improvements now standing upon the said lands, and to effect further permanent improvements thereon; and also to sell the same lands, and to purchase other lands in the town of Orango, or in the vicinity of the said town, for the use of the said Association, and to mortgage the lands so to be purchased for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to effect permanent improvements thereon.*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 30th June, 1897.

(5.) Public Roads Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 37.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend and consolidate the law relating to the opening, closing, and survey of roads; to make provision for the disposal of unnecessary roads and of lands resumed or withdrawn but not required for roads, and of certain other lands; for the prevention of the obstruction and injury of roads; for the alignment and the alteration of the alignment of streets in Municipalities; for granting leave to place public gates in certain cases; and for other matters of the like nature; and for that purpose to amend the Act 4 Wm. IV No. 11, the Public Gates Act of 1875, and the Crown Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889.*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 30th June 1897.

(6.) Maitland Gaslight Act Amendment Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 38.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the Maitland Gaslight Company (Limited) to extend its works to, and to light and supply gas to, and carry on business in, places beyond the limits and boundaries of the towns of East and West Maitland; and to confer further powers on the said company; and to amend the deed of settlement of the said company; and the Maitland Gas Act of 1874; and for other purposes incidental thereto.*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 30th June, 1897.

(7.) Borough of Cudgegong Cattle Sale-yards Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 39.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the Council of the Borough of Cudgegong to purchase land within the said Borough, and to erect and maintain cattle sale-yards thereon; and for other purposes in connection therewith.*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 1st July, 1897.

2. TRUCK BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Garrard, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 40.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th Section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to regulate the payment of wages and contracts in respect of wages; to provide that such payments shall be made in money only; to regulate the sale and supply of goods to workmen; to regulate deductions and payments in respect of fines, bad or negligent work, and injury to the property of employers, and contracts in respect of the same; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

Government House,

Sydney, 30th June, 1897.

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

3.

1st July, 1897.

3. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Cyclists Travelling by the North Shore Ferry:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) Is it a fact that cyclists travelling by the North Shore Ferry Company's steamers are compelled to use the horse-ferry service only?

(2.) What shelter, if any, is provided at the Fort Macquarie Dock, either by the Government or the North Shore Ferry Company, for this class of traffic?

(3.) Is it a fact that at times, wet or dry, these steamers only run every half-hour, and that cyclists are exposed to the weather while waiting?

(4.) In view of the very great inconvenience, particularly to ladies, suffered by the present conditions, will he either endeavour to make arrangements with the North Shore Ferry Company for some better provisions of transit for this traffic, or cause a shelter-shed to be erected near the dock for the convenience of those compelled to wait?

Mr. Brunker answered,—It is considered that ferry companies, in their own interest, should make such provision for the travelling public generally as would ensure their patronage. If they do not the loss must be that of the companies—the Government lease the wharfs, but do not control the business.

(2.) Holidays to Officers of the Post and Telegraph Departments:—Mr. Schey asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Are the officers of the Post and Telegraph Departments allowed one day's holiday in lieu of each proclaimed public holiday, which their duties prevent them from taking on the respective days on which such holidays occur?

(2.) Are such officers permitted to accumulate such days, and have them added to their annual leave, if they make application for such to be done?

Mr. Cook answered,—It has not been the rule in this Department, where so many officers are required to work on public holidays, to allow every officer a day's leave in lieu of each proclaimed public holiday that he is required to be on duty, but as far as practicable the leave has been allowed when it has been required for urgent reasons. Officers have not been allowed to accumulate such days and have them added to their annual leave. A proposal that officers who are required to be in attendance on all public holidays throughout the year be allowed an extra week's leave annually, instead of individual days in lieu of each holiday, as provided for under existing regulations, is now under the consideration of the Public Service Board.

(3.) Railway Commissioners:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the vacancy caused by the death of the late Chief Commissioner for Railways, will the Government consider the advisability of so amending the Act 51 Vic. No. 35, as to provide for two Commissioners only in future, instead of three, as now provided by the Act named?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Honorable Member may rest assured that the subject referred to in his Question will have the full and careful consideration of the Government when the proper time arrives.

(4.) Suppression of Betting:—Mr. McElhone asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that, at a meeting of the Stipendiary Magistrates, held in Sydney, it was decided to fine all the persons convicted of betting after the 1st June a penalty of £50 for the first offence, and to send them to gaol for second and succeeding offences?

(2.) Have the said Magistrates inflicted a penalty of £50 on any persons found guilty of betting after 1st June, or sent the parties to gaol for second offences after same date?

(3.) Is he aware that betting-shops have lately and are now carrying on betting as briskly as ever?

(4.) Do the Government intend to do anything to suppress the betting-shops; and if the present Act does not enable them to suppress betting-shops, &c., will they without delay bring in an Act stringent enough to carry out the intention of Parliament against betting?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) At the meeting referred to it was decided that for the future any person convicted for keeping a "tote" shop shall for the first offence pay a penalty of £50, in default imprisonment for three months with hard labour; and for a subsequent offence shall be imprisoned in the first instance for six months with hard labour. Any person laying "doubles," for first offence to pay a penalty of £25, in default one month's imprisonment with hard labour; for a subsequent offence £50, in default three months with hard labour.

(2.) Yes; one person was fined £50. There is no case where direct imprisonment has been ordered for a second offence since the 1st of June.

(3.) This Question was answered in the return which was laid upon the Table of this House last evening.

(4.) I have been in communication with the Inspector-General of Police with reference to this matter for some time past. The police are doing everything they can to suppress these betting-shops, and I have no doubt that some action will shortly be taken which will have the desired effect.

(5.) Referendum Bill:—Mr. Thomas asked the Colonial Secretary,—When does the Government purpose introducing the Referendum Bill in the Legislative Council?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Bill referred to in the Honorable Member's Question will be dealt with as soon as the state of public business will permit.

(6.) Police Superannuation Fund:—Mr. Wilks asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Police Superannuation Fund does not contain sufficient funds to pay pensions due, and that the vouchers for pensions payable on 1st proximo have been returned by the Treasury to the Inspector-General on account of there being insufficient money to the credit of this Fund?

(2.) What provision is the Government making to pay the pensions due to the number of aged, infirm, and disabled pensioners totally dependent on this Fund?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am fully aware of the condition of the Fund to which the Honorable Member refers, but I know of nothing to cause me to entertain any doubt as to the payment of the pensions during this week.

(7.)

1st July, 1897.

- (7.) Telegraph-line Repairers :—*Mr. Chanter*, for *Mr. F. Clarke*, asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the various gangs of men working throughout the Colony as telegraph-line repairers are granted holidays at Christmas, Easter, &c., only on condition that they are docked a day's pay for every day of leave?
 - (2.) How long has this practice been in vogue; and by whom and upon whose recommendation instituted?
 - (3.) Is it not a fact that many of these men have been working in their present positions for years?
 - (4.) Will he consider the advisability of having the long-service men in these positions placed on the permanent staff, or, failing that, to allow all the gangs the regulation leave always granted to permanent officers of the Government Departments?
 - (5.) What extra expenditure would the latter course involve in the year?
- Mr. Cook* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) It has always been the practice for the last thirty-nine years, and was done on the recommendation of the late Superintendent of Telegraphs.
 - (3.) In some cases they have.
 - (4.) The matter is now under the consideration of the Public Service Board.
 - (5.) About £136 per annum.
- (8.) Bogan Scrub Relief Works :—*Mr. Rose* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What amount has been expended on the Bogan Scrub relief works up to date?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—The payments from the vote for this service, including advances to the Honorable the Secretary for Lands and the Honorable the Minister for Public Instruction, amount to £36,678 7s. 6d.
- (9.) Bogan Relief Works :—*Mr. Rose* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—What is the number of persons employed as superintending staff, and clerks, overseers, &c., in connection with the Bogan relief works?
- Mr. Garrard* answered,—Thirty-one.
- (10.) Experimental Farms :—*Mr. Rose* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) The cost of each experimental farm up to 1896?
 - (2.) The cost of each for 1896?
 - (3.) When experts are being appointed to important positions in connection with the management of these farms, are they first examined as to their fitness; and, if so, who are the Board of Examiners?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—This information will take some time to prepare, but if the Honorable Member will move for it in the usual way it will be laid upon the Table of this House.
- (11.) Junction Silver-mining Co. :—*Mr. Thomas* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has the Mines Department served notices, through their Inspector at Broken Hill, on the Junction Silver-mining Co., requesting them to provide more suitable accommodation for changing, drying, and bathing?
 - (2.) Have the notices been complied with?
 - (3.) Have the Junction Mine officials written to the Mines Department in respect of those notices; and, if so, what was the purport of those communications?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2 and 3.) The Manager of the company wrote on the 18th ultimo, stating that the defects pointed out are being attended to.
- (12.) Land between Dawes' Point and the head of Darling Harbour :—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) To whom belongs the freehold land between Dawes' Point and the head of Darling Harbour, that would be required for the city railway construction, referred to by the Public Works Committee in their report on the City Railway Extension?
 - (2.) What is the value at present of the said land with improvements?
 - (3.) What would be the value of the same land without improvements?
- Mr. Young* answered,—There is no information in my Department which would enable me to reply to these Questions.
- (13.) Amending Fire Brigades' Bill :—*Mr. Ball* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he introduce an amending Fire Brigades' Act this Session to relieve the fire brigades from the disabilities under which they at present labour to compel Fire Insurance Companies to contribute to the support of fire brigades?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—A Fire Brigades' Bill will be introduced this Session.
- (14.) Sydney Lands Office Buildings :—*Mr. Thomas*, for *Mr. Fegan*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he lay upon the Table a return, showing the number and particulars of complaints, and date of such complaints, made by the Clerk of Works to the Colonial Architect's Office as to the carrying out of contracts for the construction of the Sydney Lands Office buildings, having regard to quality of materials used as well as method of construction, together with the names of contractors?
- Mr. Young* answered,—Whatever papers are recorded in the Department on this matter will be laid upon the Table of this House if moved for in the usual manner.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1st July, 1897.

- (15.) Land and Income Tax Assessment Act :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is it the intention of the Government to do anything under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act to enable the Members of this House or the public to know how the lands of the Colony have been taxed for Land Tax purposes; if not, why?
 (2.) Will not secrecy of these values prevent the proper value being obtained for taxation purposes?
Mr. Bruncker answered.—It is intended that the assessed unimproved value of taxable lands should be available at the earliest possible date for reference. It is, however, not considered desirable to afford information to the public of the total value or area of the land held by any single individual, or the amount of tax payable or paid, or any other similar particulars of a confidential character.
4. AMENDED LIFE ASSURANCE ENCOURAGEMENT BILL :—Mr. Willis, pursuant to leave granted yesterday, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Life Assurance Encouragement Act of 1862; to further encourage and protect Life Insurances and other like provident arrangements for insurers and their families.*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 20th July.
5. PAPERS :—Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—
 (1.) Abstract of Crown Lands, authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 (2.) Abstract of Lands resumed for Public Cemeteries, under the Public Works Act of 1888, 51 Victoria No. 37, and the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, 44 Victoria, No. 16.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
6. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Ninth Report from the Printing Committee.
7. MOLONG MARBLE (*Formal Motion*) :—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, correspondence, and reports made by Mr. Roberts, an Inspector of Public Works, in reference to the quality of the Molong marble in the construction of public works undertaken by the Government.
 Question put and passed.
8. WALLSEND COLLIERY (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Watkins moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all reports made by the Government Inspectors on the Wallsend Colliery during the present year.
 Question put and passed.
9. CLOSING OF BRANCH ROAD, DOUBLE BAY (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a *précis* of papers in connection with the closing of Branch Road, Double Bay.
 Question put and passed.
10. CLOSING OF WHALING ROAD, NORTH SYDNEY (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a *précis* of papers in connection with the closing of Whaling Road, North Sydney.
 Question put and passed.
11. EXCHANGE OF LAND ON YANGA STATION, NEAR BALRANALD (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Chanter moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with the exchange of land on Yanga Station, near Balranald.
 Question put and passed.
12. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
 (1.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); resumption of the adjourned Debate on the motion of Mr. Parkes, "That this Bill be now read a second time";—until Thursday next.
 (2.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
 (3.) Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
 (4.) North Shore Bridge Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
 (5.) Mining Laws Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Wednesday next.
13. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Woronora, Mr. Nicholson, 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 acceptance by the Railway Commissioners of the tender of the Lithgow Colliery Companies for the supply of coal for the railways of the Colony."
 And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
 Mr. Nicholson moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and negatived

1st July, 1897.

14. **TRUCK BILL**:—Mr. Garrard moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate the payment of wages, and contracts in respect of wages; to provide that such payments shall be made in money only; to regulate the sale and supply of goods to workmen; to regulate deductions and payments in respect of fines, bad or negligent work, and injury to the property of employers, and contracts in respect of the same; and for other purposes in connection therewith. Question put and passed.
15. **COAL MINES REGULATION ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL**:—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896, for the purpose of limiting the working hours in mines of coal and shale. Question put and passed.
16. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (Railway from Moree to Inverell)**:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that a line of railway from Moree to Inverell, as referred by the Legislative Assembly to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out. Debate ensued. Question put. The House divided.

Ayes, 41.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Hughes,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Haseall,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Ferguson.
Mr. Cook,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Mahony,	
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Kelly.
Mr. Anderson,	

Noes, 17.

Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Pyers
Mr. Ewing,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. FitzGerald,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Sec,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Davis,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Nicholson.

*Tellers,*Mr. Black,
Mr. Moore

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

17. **MUNICIPAL LOANS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Brunker moved, That this Bill be now read a second time. Debate ensued. Question put and passed. Bill read a second time. On motion of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment. On motion of Mr. Brunker, the report was adopted. Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
18. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn. Debate ensued. Question put and passed. The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-five minutes after Eleven o'clock, until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 30.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 6 JULY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Appointment of Mr. Urquhart:—*Mr. McGowen*, for Mr. Watson, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Has a Mr. Urquhart been appointed successor to Mr. McLaren (late Superintendent of Prison Industries) under the title of Director of Prison Labour; if so, at what salary?
 (2.) Prior to his appointment in the Prisons Department, what trade or profession did Mr. Urquhart follow?
 (3.) Has Mr. Urquhart acquired any mechanical knowledge since entering the Service to qualify him for the position he now holds; if so, in what branches?
 (4.) What are the industries in the Department controlled by the Director of Labour?
 (5.) Was not the position of Superintendent of Prison and Industries abolished by the Public Service Board with a view to economy?
 (6.) Are not the duties of Director of Labour identical with those formerly performed by the late Superintendent of Prison Industries?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Yes; £300 per annum.
 (2 and 3.) Warehouseman; five years with large firm of soft goods, and ten years in this Department, seven of which he acted as assistant and principal storekeeper, where all kinds of prison manufactures passed through his hands.
 (4.) All; which comprise mat-making, shoe-making, tailoring, tinsmithing, brush-making, hat-making, carpentry, &c.
 (5 and 6.) I understand that the arrangements which were made in connection with this particular appointment were part of the scheme which had for its object the efficiency and economy of the Department, and were in accord with the general policy adopted by the Board in connection with the reorganisation of the Prisons Department. The duties of Director of Labour are not identical with those of the late Superintendent of Prisons' Industries.

- (2.) Jubilee Relief Works:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) What amount has been expended on Jubilee relief work up to date?
 (2.) How much longer are the Government going to carry on their sand-shifting policy at Centennial Park?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) £1,059 7s. 11d.
 (2.) The completion of the road giving access to the Centennial Park and the improvements to the building sites at Kensington will be finished in a few weeks.

- (3.) Petitions for Letters Patent:—*Mr. Hassall*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Justice,— Referring to his Answers to Questions of Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, No. 13, of 23rd June last, will he explain (a) how and in what manner are such experts or technicians answerable to the Public Service Board; and (b) was the advice of the Public Service Board sought in the matter, and, if so, by whom; and, also (c), whether the Public Service Board have upon their own motion or by request given advice upon the administration of other Acts of Parliament for which he is responsible to this House, and, if so, in what cases?

Mr. Gould answered,—(a) Being on the Permanent Staff of the Civil Service, they are answerable under the Public Service Act in the same way as other Civil Servants; (b) no advice was sought; it was simply a matter of rearrangement in connection with the question of the Votes for Contingencies.

(4.)

6th July, 1897.

- (4.) Petitions for Letters Patent:—*Mr. Hassall*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Justice,—
Referring to his Answers to Questions of Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, No. 13, of 23rd June last, will he state what action was directly responsible for the delay in dealing with a number of applications for patents; and if any officer or officers are to blame, have he or they been reprimanded?
Mr. Gould answered,—Arrangements have now been made by which the matters referred to will be fully disposed of within the next two or three weeks. No one can be blamed for the delays, which are not likely to occur again, and which were to a certain extent unavoidable under the circumstances.
- (5.) Jubilee Celebrations:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) What amount was spent by the Government in regard to the Jubilee Celebrations?
(2.) What amount was saved by the Public Service Board by non-payment of temporary officers of Departments for the Jubilee holidays, 21st and 22nd June?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—
(1.) It is estimated the expenses in connection with the Jubilee Celebrations will be about £5,000.
(2.) The information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.
- (6.) Suppression of Betting:—*Mr. McElhone* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
(1.) Is he aware that several new betting-shops in the vicinity of King and Pitt Streets have been started during the last few days?
(2.) If the present Act against betting does not give the police sufficient power to suppress betting-shops, &c., will he, without delay, bring in a short Act to give the police the necessary power?
(3.) Is it a fact that the police in Victoria have far more power than in Sydney, and that far heavier fines are inflicted in Victoria than in Sydney, and that persons resorting to betting-shops are fined in Victoria, whilst here only the keepers of the shops are subject to a fine?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police:—
(1.) No new betting-shops have been recently opened in the streets mentioned.
(2.) The existing Act is sufficient for the suppression of tote-shop and racecourse betting, if adequate penalties are imposed.
(3.) The Victorian law is more effective for some forms of gambling than ours, and I understand that the penalties inflicted by the Victorian Magistrates have been more severe than in this Colony. I am not aware of the course pursued with regard to persons resorting betting-shops.
- (7.) Dismissal of Temporary Hands, Government Printing Office:—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
(1.) Were several papers omitted from the Return to Order, of 12th May last, referring to the dismissal of temporary hands from the Government Printing Office?
(2.) If so, by whose authority were these papers omitted?
(3.) If it is a fact, will he take steps to have all the papers laid upon the Table of this House, in conformity with order of 12th May last?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed by the Treasury Department that all the papers would seem to have been laid upon the Table of the House. If, however, the Honorable Member will state what further papers he requires, an endeavour will be made to trace them.
- (8.) Special Endowment to Municipalities:—*Mr. McFarlane*, for Mr. Cruickshank, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it the intention of the Government to grant the special endowment of 5s. in the £ to Municipalities this year?
Mr. Young answered,—I would suggest that this Question be asked of the Honorable The Acting Premier.
- (9.) Gratuities to Civil Servants:—*Mr. McFarlane* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has he yet ascertained the reason why the Public Service Board has refused to allow gratuities to Civil Servants who have been retired or voluntarily resigned?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am now considering this matter, and hope to bring it before the Cabinet at an early date.
- (10.) Proposed North Coast Railway:—*Mr. Price* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
(1.) Have any surveys been made in connection with the proposed North Coast Railway; if so, on what dates, and what routes?
(2.) Will he add to the following list of new railways, viz., Condobolin to Euabalong, Narrabri to Pilliga, Byrock to Brewarrina, The Rock to Green's Gonyah, and Coolamon to Ariah, which he proposes to submit to the Public Works Committee, that portion of the North Coast line between the main Northern line and the Manning, or any other portion of the North Coast line; if not, when does he intend to proceed with the consideration of the proposals for the construction of the North Coast Railway?
Mr. Young answered,—
(1.) Yes; several surveys have been made.
(2.) Matter will receive consideration.
2. LICENSING LAWS:—*Mr. Molesworth* presented two Petitions from certain residents of New South Wales, stating that, in the opinion of the Petitioners, the present measure of Sunday-closing has been very beneficial in the reduction of the number of arrests for intemperance; and praying the House not to consent to any alteration of the law to provide for the opening of public-houses at certain hours on Sundays.
Petitions received.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th July, 1897.

3. **TRUCK BILL**:—Mr. Young presented a Petition from certain residents of the Hastings River District, praying for the introduction and the passing into law of a Bill which will stop the practice of mill-owners paying their labourers in goods instead of money.
Petition received.
4. **CONSOLIDATION OF THE LAND LAWS**:—Mr. Carruthers (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Draft Crown Lands Consolidation Bill, laid upon the Table of this House during the Session of 1896, be referred to the Select Committee now sitting on "Consolidation of the Land Laws."
Question put and passed.
5. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Emu Gravel and Road-metal Company's Tramway Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 23rd November.
(2.) Co-operative Colliery Tramway Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 23rd November.
(3.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Wednesday, 14th July.
6. **FRANCHISE EXTENSION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Neild moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Point of Order:—Mr. Crick requested Mr. Speaker to decide whether this Bill, which seemed to involve expenditure in the taking of a new Roll, was in order, not having been initiated by a Message from the Governor.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Speaker ruled that, under the 23rd section of the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act, this Bill would not necessarily require the collection of a new Roll. He thought the Bill was in order.
Debate continued.
Question put,—That this Bill be now read a second time.
The House divided.

Ayes, 22.

Mr. Hawthorne,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Garrard,	
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Waddell.
Mr. Anderson,	
Mr. McCourt,	
Mr. Whiddon,	
Mr. M. T. Phillips,	
Mr. Mahony,	
Mr. Hogue,	
Mr. Parkes,	
Mr. Ashton,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Rose,	
Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Griffith,	
Mr. Wilks,	
Mr. Collins,	
Mr. Newman,	
Mr. Schey,	

Noes, 44.

Mr. Cook,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Haynes,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. McElhone,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. T. R. Smith,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Carroll,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. James Thomson.
Mr. Wright,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Fegan.

And so it passed in the negative.

7. **JUVENILE SMOKING SUPPRESSION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Dr. Ross moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.
Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only sixteen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, namely, Mr. Affleck, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Collins, Mr. Cook, Mr. Fegan, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Garrard, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Neild, Dr. Ross, Mr. Schey, Mr. Thomas, and Mr. Willis,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at twenty-six minutes before Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 31.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 7 JULY, 1897.

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

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

(1.) Authorising the transfer of amounts from the Votes for "Legislative Council" and "Legislative Assembly" respectively, to supplement the Vote for "Legislative Council and Assembly" for the year 1896-7.

(2.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from item 230 of 1896-7, to supplement item 176 of 1896-7.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Cost of Lock and Weir on the Darling River:—Mr. Perry asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it true that the lock and weir on the river Darling, the formal opening of which was celebrated on Monday, 5th July, cost a sum of £21,000?

(2.) If so, was the work first referred to the Parliamentary Committee on Public Works for report, in accordance with the provisions of the Act?

(3.) Has the question of locking the river Darling generally been referred to the Public Works Committee?

(4.) And, if so, what is the nature of their report?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The work was not referred to the Committee for report, nor was it necessary under the Public Works Act, the Departmental estimate of cost being under £20,000. The tender of Kerle and Kerle was accepted to complete the work for £18,868 11s. 8d., but they failed to carry out their contract satisfactorily, and the Government had to incur considerable expense in completing the work at a total approximate cost of £21,000.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) I must refer the Honorable Member to [the Committee's report, which was presented to Parliament in August last.

(2.) Honorary Justices of the Peace at Wagga Wagga:—Mr. Howarth, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to a statement that the Honorary Justices of the Peace at Wagga Wagga have refused to sit on the Bench and adjudicate during the absence on duty of the local Police Magistrate?

(2.) If public inconvenience has been caused by their action, will he take steps to have the names struck off the Commission of the Peace of those who refuse to act, and have others appointed?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Inquiry is being made into the matter.

(3.) Protection of Kangaroos:—Mr. Howarth, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that in South Australia kangaroos are protected by Act of Parliament from 1st November to 30th April?

(2.) Will he have a similar measure introduced into and passed by Parliament?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Before giving a definite reply to this Question, I shall have to consult the Secretary for Mines, whose Department has to deal with this matter.

(4.)

7th July, 1897.

(4.) Applications under the Patents Law Amendment Act:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) How many applications for leave to amend specifications under the Patents Law Amendment Act, 1895, have been filed, stating in respect to each when filed, dealing with what patents, when notified to the public, and when dealt with?

(2.) Has there been unnecessary delay in either matters; and, if so, will he ascertain whether this results from the fact that the Patents Department requires a chief who can take all the responsibilities, and devote all his time to the position?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) Three applications for leave to amend under the Patents Law Amendment Act of 1895 have been made. They are at the present time before the Patents Office.

(2.) There has been no unnecessary delay. The gentleman now occupying the position of Examiner of Patents is quite able to deal with all matters requiring his attention.

(5.) Free Passes to Railway Employees:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. T. R. Smith*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Were Railway men allowed station to station free passes during their holidays all over the railway lines of the Colony prior to the 1st July instant?

(2.) Were they also allowed the same privilege over the lines of Victoria and other Colonies?

(3.) Were Railway men getting their holidays on 30th June last allowed free passes as per Question No. 1?

(4.) Are Railway men getting free passes on 1st July and since, when asking for pass (say to Sydney return), only allowed to go to Sydney and back one trip, although their holidays extend for one month?

(5.) Is there a great deal of uneasiness existing among the Railway men with regard to the discontinuance of the usual holiday passes, by which they were allowed to travel on any of the lines during their holidays free?

(6.) How many years have the Railway men been allowed the above privilege?

(7.) Will he see that nothing is done that will place Railway men in a worse position than they were before the passing of the Railway Act?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1 to 3.) I am informed that it was the practice to allow station to station passes prior to the 1st instant, but it has been found desirable for several reasons to amend the arrangement. All station passes are not allowed in the other Colonies.

(4 and 5.) The Commissioners have been approached by the Junee employees, and find that the instructions given by them have been misunderstood. The decision given in February last was that "holiday passes should be for single journeys only to and from stated stations," but it is not intended to limit the issue to one station only during the currency of the holiday leave, and the journey may be broken.

(6 and 7.) There has been no interference with the Railway Act.

(6.) Deficit during Financial Year 1896-7:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Colonial Secretary,—What is the deficit on the transactions of the financial year 1896-97?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—It would hardly be fair for me to anticipate the Treasurer's Financial Statement. The accounts for the year, however, have now been published in the *Gazette*, and the Honorable Member can see by a perusal of the Treasurer's cash statement, together with the published returns, that there is no deficiency.

(7.) False Declarations:—*Mr. Howarth*, for *Mr. E. M. Clark*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has he at any time stated that he is prepared to prosecute any person who has made a false declaration in a process of dummyism, notwithstanding the fraud can only be exposed by the assistance of such declarant?

(2.) Will he afford the same protection to such persons as is given in other Departments of the Government to those by whose agency crime is traced and nefarious practices exposed?

Mr. Gould answered,—The question of criminal prosecutions is a matter resting with the Crown Law Department. It is the practice of the Lands Department to report the facts of a case to the Crown Law officers, so that they may advise on or take the necessary action. I have no power to interfere in the way that the Honorable Member suggests in Question 2; nor am I disposed, if I had the power, to shield self-confessed perjurers.

(8.) Broken Hill Mines:—*Mr. Sleath* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has his attention been called to the unnecessary work done on the Broken Hill mines on Sunday?

(2.) Has he obtained any report in regard to same?

(3.) Is it a fact that the Central and Block 10 Mines called in all their employees on Sunday, 20th June?

(4.) Is it a fact that the two mines referred to were shut down on Monday and Tuesday, the 21st and 22nd June?

(5.) Is it a fact that on nearly every mine at Broken Hill the miners were compelled to work on Sunday, the 20th June, and that they were also compelled to take holidays without pay on the Monday, Tuesday, and in some cases the Wednesday, following?

(6.) What action does he intend to take in reference to this matter?

Mr. Gould answered,—I have no information with regard to this matter, which seems to be one for the consideration of the Chief Secretary, under whom the police are placed.

(9.)

* 7th July, 1897.

(9.) Applications for Patents :—Mr. Wilks asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Referring to the fact that, as shown by his Answers to Mr. Wilks' Question No. 16, of 23rd June last, inventors and others interested with them have paid £2,794 4s. 8d. for 1896, and £1,030 1s. 5d. for first five months of 1897, over and above the cost of the Patents Office, what does he propose to do with such surplus?

(2.) Will he take steps so that inventors and others interested with them should not specially contribute to the State without compensation?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) The whole of the revenue receivable is paid to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue of the Colony, with the appropriation of which I have no power to interfere.

(2.) The inventors and others interested with them receive substantial benefit by the issue of patents, under which they have secured to themselves the exclusive use of their inventions.

(10.) Railway Communication with Balmain :—Mr. Wilks asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Do the Government intend at an early date to introduce a system of railway communication between the main trunk line and Balmain?

(2.) If not, will the Government oppose the construction of a line by private enterprise?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) This matter has not yet received consideration.

(2.) This will depend entirely on the character of the scheme submitted.

(11.) Free Passes on the Cable Trams :—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it a fact that a number of ladies are using free passes on the cable trams; if so, who are the persons in question, and on what grounds have the passes been issued?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed that it is not the fact.

(12.) The Jubilee Expenditure :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—What amount has been paid for Jubilee expenditure incurred during the last financial year out of the said year's Votes?

Mr. Brunker answered,—£2,474 16s. 1d. This amount, however, is exclusive of any expenditure incurred by the Commission appointed to carry out the illuminations and other Jubilee celebrations in Sydney, which will not, I understand, exceed £5,000.

(13.) Proposed Railways :—Mr. Collins asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When submitting the Narrabri to Pilliga railway proposal to the Public Works Committee, will he ask that body to obtain evidence as to the advisableness of extending the railway to Walgett?

Mr. Young answered,—In view of the very full inquiry always made by that body on matters submitted to them, I feel sure this would be quite unnecessary.

3. CONSTRUCTION OF DEEPWATER HARBOUR AT PORT KEMBLA :—Mr. Affleck presented a Petition from the Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation, Limited, referring to the Notice of Motion given by Mr. Young for commencing the construction of a deepwater harbour at Port Kembla by constructing the eastern breakwater only; representing that the Petitioners fear that the Bill, for the introduction of which authority is sought, if passed, will greatly increase the difficulty which they have hitherto experienced in the completion of the work of harbour construction which they have in view; and praying that, previous to the adoption of any resolution affirming the desirability of commencing the construction of a harbour at Port Kembla, the Petitioners may be heard by Counsel at the Bar of the House in explanation of their objects and position.
Petition received.

4. PAPERS :—

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Report on proposed Weir across the Yass River for the Supply of Water to the Town of Yass.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Rule of the Supreme Court (In Divorce Jurisdiction).

(2.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(3.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from Sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

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

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

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

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

(2.) By-laws of the Municipal District of West Narrabri.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for The Clarence, Mr. McFarlane, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The necessity for taking immediate steps to prevent the influx of Asiatics.”

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

7th July, 1897.

6. PUBLIC TRUSTS BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to regulate trusts of land for public purposes; to amend the law with respect to the reservation and dedication of Crown lands, and the resumption and exchange of land so reserved or dedicated; and for purposes incidental to the above 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, 1897.

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Deputy President.

PUBLIC TRUSTS BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 7th July, 1897.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 2, clause 4, line 20. Omit "not exceeding with existing trustees a total of seven"
 Page 2, clause 4. After line 29 insert "In the case of trusts existing at the commencement of this Act the power hereby conferred on the Governor shall not be exercised beyond the appointment of one such trustee if the majority of the existing trustees shall object in writing to such additional appointment"
 Page 2, clause 4, line 31. Omit "and divest them of any estate therein"
 Page 2, clause 4, line 32. Omit "shall"
 Page 2, clause 4, line 33. Omit "go to"
 Page 2, clause 4, line 34. Omit "go to"
 Page 2, clause 4. At end of clause add "The removal of any trustee shall divest the trustee so removed of any estate in the land subject to the trust:
 "Provided always that in any trust created after the commencement of this Act the total number of trustees shall not exceed seven."

Examined,—

ARCH. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the Message be taken into consideration in Committee of the Whole To-morrow.

7. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Draft Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Lee reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

8. FIELD OF MARS RESUMPTION REPEAL BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Carruthers, passed.

Mr. Carruthers then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to apply the provisions of the Crown Lands Acts to certain land described in the Schedule to the Field of Mars Common Resumption Act of 1874; to declare that certain of the said land shall be Crown lands; and to repeal the said Act.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to apply the provisions of the Crown Lands Acts to certain land described in the Schedule to the Field of Mars Common Resumption Act of 1874; to declare that certain of the said land shall be Crown lands; and to repeal the said Act,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th July, 1897.

9. MUNICIPAL LOANS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Bruncker, passed.

Mr. Bruncker then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable the Councils of Municipalities constituted by the division of a Municipality to borrow for the repayment of their respective proportions of the debts and liabilities of the divided Municipality.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Councils of Municipalities constituted by the division of a Municipality to borrow for the repayment of their respective proportions of the debts and liabilities of the divided Municipality,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th July, 1897.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 32.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 8 JULY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Prosecutions under the Betting Houses Suppression Act:—*Dr. Ross*, for Mr. McElhone, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) During the last and present weeks have a large number of bookmakers been fined up to £50 for cash betting on various racecourses?

(2.) Have few (if any) keepers of betting-shops or tote-shops been fined during the last or present week; if so, for what reason?

(3.) Have the keepers of the principal shops in Sydney neither been prosecuted nor fined under the Betting Act; and can he give any reason why keepers of betting-shops are not prosecuted and fined the same as cash bettors?

(4.) Will he give instructions to the Inspector of Police to have all keepers of betting-shops prosecuted alike with cash bettors?

(5.) Is he aware that, whilst betting was in full swing in betting-shops the last few days, and the shops full of people, that policemen were walking about in front of the shops, and took no steps to put a stop to the betting?

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

(1.) Yes, eleven on racecourses within the Metropolitan area.

(2.) Four have been fined during the last and present weeks, and there are several cases now pending.

(3.) Several of the keepers of the principal shops have been prosecuted and fined. No exception has been made when the necessary legal proof was procurable.

(4.) The police are fully instructed.

(5.) There are constantly members of the force on duty in the vicinity of tote-shops, but, although it often appears obvious to them that betting is carried on, the necessary evidence to warrant proceedings is now more difficult to obtain than formerly, when lighter penalties were inflicted, and can only be procured by police in private clothes, who have to purchase tickets through the agency of civilians.

- (2.) Tender for Erection of Railway Station at Warren:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. F. Clarke, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has a tender been accepted for the erection of the railway station at Warren; if so, whose tender, and for what amount?

(2.) Was the lowest tender accepted?

(3.) Was the lowest tender that of J. T. Munton?

(4.) What reason existed for rejecting his tender?

(5.) Is it a fact that Munton's cheque accompanying tender was presented by the Department at the Bank upon which it was drawn, and duly honored?

(6.) Is it a fact that the cheque of the second lowest tenderer was returned to him?

(7.) Is it also a fact that after the tenders had been opened by the Board, and the various prices disclosed, the second lowest tenderer wrote a letter to the Department, offering to do the gravelling for sheep and cattle yards for nothing?

(8.) Was it on account of this letter that his tender was accepted?

(9.) Has he any objection to lay all papers and correspondence in connection with this case upon the Table of this House?

Mr.

8th July, 1897.

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes; W. Mitchell. £2,026.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) No.

(4.) Because it was not the lowest.

(5.) Yes.

(6.) Yes.

(7.) Mr. Mitchell wrote on the same day that tenders were received, stating that his offer included gravelling of the yards. Without this letter, however, he would have been bound to carry out the gravelling for his lump sum, while Munton distinctly stated in his tender that he had not included gravelling.

(8.) This letter was of course duly considered before a tender was accepted.

(9.) No objection if moved for in the usual way.

(3.) Men Employed by the Zoological Society:—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) How many men are employed by the Zoological Society in attending to the menagerie?

(2.) How many days and hours do the men work in each week?

(3.) What wages do the men receive per week?

(4.) What salary does the Secretary receive, and what are his hours of attendance?

(5.) Will he state the number of positions held by the Secretary, together with the salary attached to each position?

(6.) How many animals and birds has each man to look after, and how many hours are allotted for the work?

(7.) Did a number of animals and birds die through neglect, owing to men being otherwise employed?

(8.) Is a great nuisance caused by the manure and putrid matter lying in a corner of the Society's grounds?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—As I understand that it will take some time to prepare this information, I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will move for a return in the usual way, when it will be furnished.

(4.) Special Endowment to Municipalities:—Mr. McFarlane, for Mr. Cruickshank, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Government to grant the special endowment of 5s. in the £ to Municipalities this year?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—This matter will receive consideration when the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 1897-1898 are being prepared.

(3.) McSharry Arbitration Case:—Mr. Ashton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Over how many sitting days have the proceedings in the McSharry Arbitration Case extended?

(2.) What are the fees paid to the arbitrators and counsel for the Commissioners respectively?

(3.) What is the daily amount of other fixed expenses incurred?

(4.) What are the total disbursements of the Crown on account of costs up to date?

(5.) Are the expenses of the arbitration, other than counsel's fees, being defrayed jointly by the parties to the case, pending the final award, or by the Crown?

(6.) Can he give any idea as to when the case is likely to conclude, and of the ultimate total cost of the arbitration?

(7.) What is the amount of money involved in the issues being arbitrated upon?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) 186 to the 7th July.

(2, 3, and 4.) During the continuance of the arbitration it would be very inadvisable to disclose what are the expenses of the Crown.

(5.) Yes.

(6.) About the end of August.

(7.) £150,000.

(6.) Record Reign Celebrations:—Mr. Dacey, for Mr. Watkins, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Who had charge of the fireworks display in Sydney in connection with the Record Reign Celebrations; what was the amount paid for the display?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Mr. J. F. Scott, South Head. No money has yet been paid to him.

(7.) Mr. Herbert, Governor of Darlinghurst Gaol:—Mr. Carroll asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Did the Public Service Board so far determine to retire from the Public Service Mr. Herbert, the Governor of Darlinghurst Gaol, that he had packed his belongings for removal, and that his successor was selected; if so, for what reason?

(2.) Is it also a fact that the Board has so far altered its decision as to retain him in his post; if so, for what reason was this altered determination come to?

Mr. Gould answered,—The question of the retirement of Mr. Herbert is, I understand, now under the consideration of the Public Service Board.

(8.) Computation of Pensions to Retired Civil Servants:—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Are broken periods of service not included in calculating amounts payable as pensions to officers retired from the Public Service?

(2.) Are pensions based upon the last three completed years of service?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) The Crown Solicitor has advised that a previously terminated service cannot legally be taken into consideration in computing the period of service for a gratuity or pension.

(2.) Yes; upon the average annual amount of salary or emoluments other than forage, equipment, or travelling allowances received by such officer during the three years preceding retirement, in accordance with section 48 of the "Civil Service Act of 1884."

(9.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

8th July, 1897.

- (9.) Alleged Nanami Dummying Cases :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) What action does he intend to take in regard to the alleged Nanami dummy cases, in which Conditional Purchase Inspector Battye was implicated?
 - (2.) Why is the matter being so long delayed, in face of the facts that were elicited at the inquiry made by the Board appointed to inquire into the case?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—My honorable colleague refers the Honorable Member to his Answer to the Honorable Member's previous Question on the same subject, but, from what my honorable colleague ascertained, the case has been, and still is, under the consideration of the officers of the Criminal Investigation Department.
- (10.) Cost of Land Valuations under the Land and Income Tax Act :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What amount has he paid away up to date for valuing lands for purposes of land-taxation?
 - (2.) Have all the expenses incurred during the financial year 1896-97, in administering the Land and Income Taxes, been duly debited to the said year?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—The information will be laid upon the Table in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.
- (11.) Public Accounts for the Year 1896-7 :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Have the Government paid any amounts during the financial year of 1896-97, that they were not legally compelled to pay for that year?
 - (2.) Have the Government redeemed £150,000 worth of Treasury Bills for the financial year of 1896-97, in accordance with the Treasury Bills Deficiency Act of 1895?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—
- (1.) No restrictions were placed upon the payment of accounts at the Treasury during the financial year 1896-7, and, as a matter of fact, the normal expenditure for the last week of the year was largely exceeded.
 - (2.) A reference to the annual statement, as published in the *Government Gazette* of 1st July instant (page 4673), will show that the requirements of the Act mentioned are complied with.
- (12.) Broken Hill Mines :—*Mr. Watson*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has his attention been called to the unnecessary work done on the Broken Hill mines on Sunday?
 - (2.) Has he obtained any report in regard to same?
 - (3.) Did the Central and Block 10 Mines call in all their employees on Sunday, 20th June?
 - (4.) Did the two mines referred to shut down on Monday and Tuesday, the 21st and 22nd June?
 - (5.) On nearly every mine at Broken Hill were the miners compelled to work on Sunday, the 20th June, and also compelled to take holidays without pay on the Monday, Tuesday, and in some cases the Wednesday, following?
 - (6.) What action does he intend to take in reference to this matter?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—In view of the information afforded me last night by the Honorable Member for Wilcannia, the Inspector-General of Police has been instructed to make inquiries in regard to this matter.
- (13.) Mr. Lawless, Inspector of Police :—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) When was Mr. Lawless promoted to the rank of Inspector of Police?
 - (2.) What was his age at the time of promotion?
 - (3.) Will he state the grounds upon which the promotion was made?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—The following Answers have been received from the Inspector-General of Police :—
- (1.) 1st April, 1893, without increase of pay; confirmed 1st January, 1897.
 - (2.) 62.
 - (3.) Upon recommendation for general efficiency and length of service.
- (14.) Coast Hospital, Little Bay :—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is he aware that not the slightest amelioration of conditions has taken place in relation to the nurses at the Coast Hospital, although his promise to this effect was given some two months since?
 - (2.) What person or body is responsible for this delay?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—
- (1.) I am informed that an extra driver has been appointed in order that members of the female staff may be driven to the tram terminus at Botany when going on leave.
 - (2.) I have previously pointed out that a much larger question is involved in this matter than the honorable gentleman was probably aware of when he first put the Question. The Chief Medical Officer has expressed the opinion that some extension of leave to the nurses is properly desired by the Medical Superintendent and the Matron, and might judiciously be granted. I find that the Public Service Board entirely concur with these officers, and with their help they will as quickly as possible prepare regulations which will give effect thereto, but so many interests have to be taken into account that it is impossible to compass this without the fullest inquiry, which is now being made.
- (15.) Closing of Shops on Sundays :—Mr. Hughes asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Under what Act are shops other than hotels compelled to close on Sundays?
 - (2.) What is the penalty for non-compliance?
 - (3.) Does the recent order to the Police Department apply to all Sunday trades?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—The Inspector-General of Police has furnished the following information :—
- (1.) 4 Wm. IV, No. 7, section 10, for city; 2 Vic. No. 2, section 10, for country towns.
 - (2.) Section 10 fixes a fine not exceeding £3 nor less than £1, but modified by subsequent Act, under which penalty is in discretion of Justice, *vide* sec. 26, 19 Vic. No. 24.
 - (3.) There was no such order. The police officers were informed that all persons trading on Sundays contrary to law were to be warned that the law would be enforced.

8th July, 1897.

2. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS**:—Mr. Ewing, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendix, and Plans, relating to the proposed Duplicate Main from Prospect to Potts' Hill.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
3. **PAPERS**:—
Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Correspondence, &c., respecting the discharge of thirty-nine boys, and the resignation of the late Superintendent of the Carpenterian Reformatory.
(2.) Report of the Sydney Grammar School for the year 1896.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Egelabra 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 Ellengerah Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other Holdings.
(3.) Correspondence respecting a scheme for the Temporary Employment of the Unemployed, submitted by Mr. Chas. O'Neill, M.I.C.E., during the years 1894–5.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. **PRINTING COMMITTEE**:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Tenth Report from the Printing Committee.
5. **JUVENILE SMOKING SUPPRESSION BILL (Formal Motion)**:—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Order of the Day for the second reading of the Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill, which lapsed by the House being counted out on Tuesday, the 6th July, 1897, be restored to the Paper, and stand an Order of the Day for the 17th August.
Question put and passed.
6. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); resumption of the adjourned Debate on the motion of Mr. Parkes, "That this Bill be now read a second time";—until Thursday next.
(2.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
(3.) Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
(4.) North Shore Bridge Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
(5.) Illegitimacy Disability Removal Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 20th July.
(6.) Liens on Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill; second reading;—until Thursday next.
7. **MOREE TO INVERELL RAILWAY BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Deputy-Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
By Deputation from His Excellency.
JOHN LACKEY,
Deputy-Governor. *Message No. 41.*
In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Deputy-Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Moree to Inverell.
Government House,
Sydney, 8th July, 1897.
Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
8. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Yass, Mr. Affleck, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The manner in which the Land and Income Taxes are being administered by the Commissioners of Taxation." And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Affleck moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Point of Order:—Mr. Gould took exception to Mr. Affleck being allowed to discuss the subject of the administration of the Acts under which the taxes are being collected, while the Notice given referred to the administration of the taxes, and not to the administration of the Acts.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Speaker said that, although the objection was highly technical, yet he was bound to sustain it, the rule being imperative that nothing outside the subject of the Notice could be discussed.
Question,—That this House do now adjourn,—put and negatived.
9. **CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Draft Bill.

And

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

8th July, 1897.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 9 JULY, 1897, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.

10. PUBLIC TRUSTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Carruthers Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.
On motion of Mr. Carruthers, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to regulate trusts of land for public purposes; to amend the law with respect to the reservation and dedication of Crown lands, and the resumption and exchange of land so reserved or dedicated; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 9th July, 1897, a.m.

11. TRUCK BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate the payment of wages, and contracts in respect of wages; to provide that such payments shall be made in money only; to regulate the sale and supply of goods to workmen; to regulate deductions and payments in respect of fines, bad or negligent work, and injury to the property of employers, and contracts in respect of the same; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

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

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

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to regulate the payment of wages and contracts in respects of wages; to provide that such payments shall be made in money only; to regulate the sale and supply of goods to workmen; to regulate deductions and payments in respect of fines, bad or negligent work, and injury to the property of employers, and contracts in respect of the same; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

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

12. PYRMONT BRIDGE BILL:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the removal of the present Pyrmont Bridge, and the construction in lieu thereof of a timber bridge with steel swing-span, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in their report, presented on 6th December, 1894.

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

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

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

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to sanction the removal of the present Pyrmont Bridge, and the construction in lieu thereof of a timber bridge with steel swing-span, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in their report, presented on 6th December, 1894.

Mr. Young moved, That the resolution be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Resolution read a second time, and agreed to.

- (2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the removal of the present Pyrmont Bridge, and the construction in lieu thereof of a timber bridge with steel swing-span, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in their report, presented on 6th December, 1894,*"—which was read a first time.

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

13. REAL PROPERTY (CROWN LANDS) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

8th July, 1897.

14. LICENSING ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould 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 enable Licensing Courts and Licensing Magistrates to grant or refuse any application for a brewer's or spirit merchant's license; to provide that the business of the holder of any such license shall be carried on only on premises described in the license or in an indorsement made thereon by such Court or Magistrate; to enable a married woman who has obtained a protection order or judicial separation, or a woman whose marriage has been dissolved, to obtain a publican's or colonial wine license; and for those purposes and purposes incidental thereto to amend the Licensing Acts, 1882-83.
Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.
Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only two Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.
The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Fegan and Mr. Lonsdale.
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 enable Licensing Courts and Licensing Magistrates to grant or refuse any application for a brewer's or spirit merchant's license; to provide that the business of the holder of any such license shall be carried on only on premises described in the license or in an indorsement made thereon by such Court or Magistrate; to enable a married woman who has obtained a protection order or judicial separation, or a woman whose marriage has been dissolved, to obtain a publican's or colonial wine license; and for those purposes and purposes incidental thereto to amend the Licensing Acts, 1882-83.
On motion of Mr. Gould, the Resolution was read a second time and agreed to.
15. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Orders of the Day of Government Business, and General Business, postponed until Tuesday next.
16. MUNICIPALITIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That a Committee be appointed to inspect the Journals of the Legislative Council with relation to any proceedings upon the Municipalities Act Amendment Bill, and to make report thereof to the House.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Waddell, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Edden, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Simcon Phillips, and the Mover.
Question put and passed.
17. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-four minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 33.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 13 JULY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Experiments on Worms at Moss Vale by Dr. Cobb :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Will he be so good as to state what amount of money Dr. Cobb's experiments on worms at Moss Vale cost the country, from what fund such money was paid, and whether the results of his labours in that inquiry have been made available to the public; if so, by what means, where obtainable, what benefits will the country derive, and how long has the information been in hand?
- (2.) Will he be so good as to supply Answers asked for in Questions Nos. 4 and 5, by Dr. Ross, on Thursday, 24th June, referring to Dr. Cobb's qualifications in veterinary knowledge, as the Answers do not supply the information required?
- (3.) Referring to Answers to Dr. Ross's Question No. 3, sub-question (2), of 24th June, is it not a fact that Mr. Whitty has not passed the requisite examination as a Stock Inspector; if so, why was this gentleman selected to proceed to Queensland on the tick question; and was he selected, as stated, for the same reason as Mr. Cowley?
- (4.) Is it not a fact Mr. Cowley is a surveyor by profession, and has had very little practical experience of stock, their management, and diseases?
- (5.) Will he lay upon the Table the examination and other papers referring to Mr. Cowley's qualifications, and also a statement of the number of marks obtained by him out of the stated maximum?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) The cost of Dr. Cobb's investigations on worms, fluke, and other parasites in live stock, amounts to £577 for the past five years, and is charged to the Vote for Imported Stock. Investigations of this kind necessarily involve long study, and his observations have extended over a period of five years. The first portion of the report will be published in the *Agricultural Gazette* in a few weeks, other portions in a few months, and the remainder as the time he has to devote to other important matters will admit.

(2.) The Honorable Member is mistaken in supposing Dr. Cobb is doing work as a veterinary surgeon. He obtained his knowledge of the diseases of stock through extensive study and observation, and more particularly through his own investigations, which have extended over many years. At two stations in this Colony—Moss Vale and Bathurst—laboratories under his direction are specially devoted to the diseases of stock. In connection with these he has got together by far the largest collection of Australian parasites ever made. These parasites he carefully studied, and through such study discovered many hitherto unknown facts, not a few of which are already being turned to practical account. He was the discoverer of the Australian intermediate host of the dreaded sheep fluke. He has prepared one of the most complete reports on the sheep fluke ever written, most carefully illustrated from his own material, and containing many hitherto unknown facts, with a full exposition of the remedial measures that should be adopted.

(3.) As already stated, he had not passed an examination, but is possessed of a practical knowledge of stock and their management. He was selected to proceed to Queensland in order to obtain personal knowledge of the symptoms of the disease, as he was at a crossing in the Coast District, and was selected for the same reasons as Mr. Cowley.

(4.) Yes, but, as previously stated, he produced satisfactory references from stockowners to the Stock Board of Examiners that he had a practical knowledge of stock and their management, and he satisfied the Board as to his knowledge of diseases of stock in the Colony and elsewhere.

(5.) The only record retained in the Department is a statement of the marks gained by Mr. Cowley in the several subjects, which total 825½ out of a possible 1,000.

(2.)

13th July, 1897.

- (2.) The Chief Inspector of Stock :—Mr. Carroll asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Will he state whether the Questions asked by Mr. Carroll about the Chief Inspector of Stock, as to his age, capabilities, and suggested retirement, were answered by that officer himself, or by his advice?
 - (2.) Will he cause Answers to Mr. Carroll's Questions to be given without referring the same to the officer immediately concerned?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I obtained the information from official sources, and accept the full responsibility of the Answers given.
- (3.) Agricultural Societies :—*Mr. Edden*, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) The number of Agricultural Societies in the Colony?
 - (2.) The number of Agricultural Societies not in receipt of subsidy through insufficient membership?
 - (3.) The largest amount of subsidy paid to any one country society during 1896?
 - (4.) The name of such society?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) 130.
 - (2.) 33.
 - (3.) £419 0s. 8d.
 - (4.) Murrumbidgee Pastoral and Agricultural Association, Wagga Wagga.
- (4.) Lectures on Bee Culture by Mr. Gale :—*Mr. Kelly*, for Mr. F. Clarke, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is he aware that application has been made to his Department for the services of Mr. Gale to lecture on bee culture?
 - (2.) Has any definite reply been given up to date to such application?
 - (3.) Is there any officer now in his Department who is an acknowledged authority on bee culture?
 - (4.) If not, will he consider the advisability of temporarily and periodically securing the services of Mr. Gale to lecture when required at various centres throughout the Colony?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) Yes, an application has been made.
 - (2.) Yes, on the 24th April last, to the effect that Mr. Gale is not now in the Service, and that the communication had been referred to the Public Instruction Department.
 - (3.) No.
 - (4.) The matter will be considered.
- (5.) North Coast Railway :—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. F. Clarke, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Have any official reports been obtained on the proposed North Coast Railway?
 - (2.) If so, has he any objection to lay all such reports, printed or otherwise, upon the Table of this House?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) No objection if moved for in the usual manner.
- (6.) Road Vote for 1896-7 :—*Mr. Waddell*, for Mr. F. Clarke, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has any part of the annual Road Vote for the year 1896-7 been written off as unexpended?
 - (2.) If so, how much, and in what particular districts?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) No; but the sum of £2,081 9s. 4d. remained unexpended, which has lapsed in terms of the amended Audit Act.
 - (2.) The amount is so small, and spread over so many districts, that it would hardly be worth the time spent and the cost involved in preparing the return.
- (7.) Death of a Scholar at the Longueville Public School :—*Mr. Howarth* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Did the boy Frank Barnes, a scholar at the Longueville Public School, die from enteric fever on 8th June, 1897?
 - (2.) Was the wife of the teacher of that school ill during May, 1897; if so, what was the nature of that illness?
 - (3.) Are the closets at the above school cesspits or dry-earth pans?
 - (4.) Were the closets erected as far back as 1881, and never emptied since?
 - (5.) Did the Nuisance Inspector on three occasions complain about these cesspits; and was no notice taken of his complaints?
 - (6.) Do the closets fill with water in the rainy seasons, and drain to a creek from which dairy cattle drink?
 - (7.) Will he cause the pits to be filled, and substitute the earth-pan system instead?
 - (8.) Will he lay all papers and correspondence between the local Health Officer and the Public Instruction Department, and the local authority and Board of Health, upon the Table of this House?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—
- (1.) I am not aware.
 - (2.) I am informed that the teacher's wife had influenza.
 - (3.) Cesspits.
 - (4.) (a) Yes; (b) No.
 - (5.) Two letters were received from the Council Clerk on the subject, and the request was declined.
 - (6.) No.
 - (7.) It is not necessary, and I may add that there is no proper provision for the emptying of earth-pans in this locality.
 - (8.) If the Honorable Member thinks the matter is of sufficient public interest, he might move for the production of the papers in the usual way.

13th July, 1897.

(8.) Withdrawal of District Allowance from Public Officers:—Mr. Willis asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Since the establishment of the Public Service Board, have officers of the Service living in remote towns out west been deprived of the special "district allowance" hitherto legitimately given them?

(2.) Will he ask the Public Service Board to reconsider this retrenchment?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Public Service Board have under consideration a scheme which it is hoped will equitably meet every case of the kind referred to by the Honorable Member.

(9.) Evidence of Dr. Robertson on the South Coast Harbour Scheme:—Mr. Nicholson asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is the Dr. Robertson, who gave expert evidence on the South Coast Harbour scheme, the same gentleman who reported on the Tarangaba mine some years ago?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Dr. Robertson, who gave evidence on the South Coast Harbour scheme, is the Engineer to the Mount Kembla and other collieries. The Taranganba mine is in Queensland, and there is nothing in this Department to show who reported upon it.

(10.) Stamps in aid of the Consumptives' Hospital:—Mr. Dick asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) With reference to the issue of £4,000 worth of stamps in aid of the Consumptives' Hospital, will he order the destruction of the plates after £4,000 worth have been struck off; and will he guarantee that no further issue bearing the same device shall be permitted?

(2.) How many each of 1s. and 2s. 6d. Consumptives' Hospital stamps are to be issued?

(3.) Will the sale thereof absolutely stop on 31st August, or prior, if the quantity be exhausted?

Mr. Cook answered,—

(1.) The value of the issue is £3,250, not £4,000. It is the intention to adhere to the public announcement, dated 26th June last, in the *Government Gazette*, as regards limiting the sale of the issue to two months.

(2.) 40,000 of the one shilling and 10,000 of the two shillings and sixpence value have been issued.

(3.) The sale will of course stop when the supply is exhausted, or at the end of a period of two months, so far as the Department is concerned.

(11.) Expenditure out of Loan Votes:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) The amount of money that has been expended out of Loan Votes during the last six months?

(2.) Would he furnish a list or enumerate the respective amounts, and for what permanent public purpose the money was so expended?

(3.) The amount of the last Loan Vote, and how much remains unexpended?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) £828,666 6s. 8d.

(2.) The information required has been published in the Quarterly Returns, as per Supplements to the *Government Gazette*, No. 262 of 1st April, 1897, and 518 of 1st July instant.

(3.) The amount authorised by the last Loan Act was £2,271,376, of which £1,724,511 9s. 3d. remained unexpended on 30th June last.

(12.) Statue of the late Sir Henry Parkes in the Centennial Park:—Mr. Crick asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In view of the great national services and historic name of the late Sir Henry Parkes, will he take the necessary steps to prevent the perpetration of an insult to his memory and a humiliation to the country by the erection of a cheap, inferior, and unfaithful statue in the Centennial Park—a park of which he was the originator?

(2.) If a statue is to be erected to the memory of the deceased statesman, will he see that it is one worthy of the late veteran's services, and worthy of the country for which he did so much?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The action taken by the Government with regard to this matter was never intended as a tribute to the memory of the late lamented Sir Henry Parkes. There is no one, I suppose, who recognises the valuable services of the deceased statesman to this country more than I do. In the erection of a monument to his memory I should, of course, see, as far as I am concerned—and I am sure every one of my colleagues concur with me—that it was one worthy the occasion. Some action was taken as to a statue which was offered to the Government, but nothing definite has been done in regard to that matter.

(13.) Recommendations of the Electoral Commissioners:—Mr. Crick asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it the intention of the Government to give effect to the recommendations of the Electoral Commissioners, and thus carry out the law?

(2.) Is he aware that under present circumstances several electorates are much too large, while others are below the requisite number of voters?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) It is not the intention of the Government to take any action in the matter at present.

(2.) Yes. The reason for not taking any action at present is that there are several other electorates to be considered by the Commissioners, who expect to have an opportunity to undertake that duty almost immediately.

(14.) Appointment of Mr. Donald:—Mr. Crick asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Who appointed Mr. Donald, a late Member of this House, to his position as overseer of the construction of the telephone tunnels?

(2.) What salary is Mr. Donald in receipt of?

Mr. Young answered,—This work was not carried out by my Department, but my honorable colleague the Postmaster-General has furnished me with the following Answers:—

(1.) Mr. Donald was in May, 1895, appointed clerk of tunnel contract works at £4 per week by the Postmaster-General, on the recommendation of Messrs. McCredie Brothers, the engineers in charge.

(2.) The salary was augmented in September, 1895, to £6 per week, owing to increased responsibilities attendant upon the day-labour system.

13th July, 1897.

- (15.) Abatements under the Civil Service Act of 1884:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) For the eleven years which elapsed after the passing of the "Civil Service Act of 1884" (*i.e.*, from 1st January, 1885, to 31st December, 1895) was the abatement of 4 per cent. from the pensions of retired officers, prescribed by section 55 of that Act, remitted, the amount of such abatement being in each case voted on Estimates, and then carried to the credit of the Civil Service Superannuation Fund?
 - (2.) In the year 1896 were some of the oldest officers in the Public Service, *viz.*, the late Mr. Fraser, Mr. W. W. Stephen, Mr. H. Newcombe, Mr. R. Pearson, and others, summarily retrenched at the instance of the Public Service Board; and were they the first who were compelled to suffer the abatement referred to; and did this cause, from their very length of service, a considerable reduction in the pensions which would have accrued to them had the course adopted with respect to officers retired during the eleven preceding years been followed?
 - (3.) What was the reason for this sudden distinction, resulting in such a serious loss to the officers referred to in the first part of the preceding question, being made between them and those (nearly in every case considerably their juniors) retired between 1st January, 1885, and 31st December, 1895?
 - (4.) Will the Government consider the justice and propriety of placing those officers retired in 1896 on the same footing, with regard to the remission of the abatement on the pensions, as their junior fellow officers retired during the eleven previous years, or, at any rate, those who, having entered the Service previously to the Constitution Act, had a vested right to the full pensions conferred by Schedule B to that Act, but on which it is understood there is at present no vacancy?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) Yes, in special cases such as (1) when the services of an officer were dispensed with by the Government, and (2) when an officer retired after serving an exceptionally long period.
 - (2, 3, and 4.) The matter referred to by the Honorable Member is not determined by the Public Service Board, but by the expressed provisions of the Public Service Act (see sec. 59).
- (16.) The Registrar-General—The Registrar of Trade-marks:—Mr. Haynes asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) What are the specific duties of (a) the Registrar-General, (b) the Registrar of Trade-marks, and (c) the Examiner of Patents?
 - (2.) Who was the former occupant, and who is the present occupant of these offices, and at what remuneration for each?
 - (3.) Does the present occupant fill any other positions in the Public Service, and what are the specific duties and emoluments of such positions?
 - (4.) What time per week is devoted by the present occupant to each of the respective duties set out in Answers to the three previous Questions?

Mr. Gould answered,—The duties of the Registrar-General are the administration of the Real Property Act, including certain duties previously performed by the Examiners of Title, the Deeds Registration Acts, the Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages Acts, the Limited Companies and No-Liability Companies Acts, the Trade Marks Act; those of the Examiner of Patents are the carrying out, under the Minister of Justice, of the Patents Acts. No previous Registrar-General performed all the duties now performed by the present Registrar-General, who does not fill any other position in the Public Service, and who is only paid a salary in respect of the position of Registrar-General. In consequence of the varying and peculiar nature of the duties, no time can well be fixed for each of them.

- (17.) Assistant Registrar of Copyright:—Mr. Haynes asked the Minister of Justice,—Referring to replies to Mr. Haynes' Question, No. 12, of 23rd June, 1897, will he kindly explain how the appointment, under the provisions of section 65 of the Public Service Act of 1895, of Mr. F. M. Bladen to perform the duties of the absent Registrar of Copyrights constitutes him "Acting Registrar of Copyrights," or authorises him to sign such title?

Mr. Gould answered,—The words of section 65 of the Public Service Act speak for themselves, and no explanation of them should be necessary. Mr. Bladen has been appointed under that section to perform and exercise the duties, obligations, rights, and powers of the Registrar of Copyright (Mr. Anderson) during that officer's temporary absence from the Colony. His appointment is, therefore, not permanent.

2. PAPERS:—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table,—Copies of Minutes of His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council,—
- (1.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Contingent Vote for "Medical Adviser to the Government," to supplement the Contingent Vote for "Coast Hospital."
 - (2.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote for "Lunatic Patients," to supplement the Contingent Vote for "Hospitals for the Insane Generally."
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parishes of Uranaway and Wallanthery, counties of Blaxland and Nicholson, for the construction of the Willandra Weir, on the Lachlan River.
 - (2.) Return to an Order, made on 1st July, 1897,—"Molong Marble."
 - (3.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Mungulgan, county of Rous, for a Bridge over Caffall's Creek.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Brunswick, county of Rous, for providing Access to Siding at Tyagarah, on the Lismore to Tweed Railway
 - (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Cungegong, county of Harden, for improving the Grades and Curves on the Great Southern Railway near Frampton.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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3. CONSTRUCTION OF THE TELEPHONE TUNNELS:—Mr. Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Select Committee now sitting on "Construction of the Telephone Tunnels" have leave to make visits of inspection in connection with the inquiry.
Question put and passed.
4. LAND AND INCOME TAXATION DEPARTMENT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Crick moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) How many clerks are now employed at the Land and Income Taxation Department.
(2.) How many of the number, whose services have been continuous since the passing of the Public Service Act, have been transferred from other Government Departments.
(3.) If the remaining clerks are engaged only temporarily, under section 37 of the Public Service Act.
(4.) If the persons referred to in paragraph 3 are engaged under section 37 of the Public Service Act, and have completed their term of nine months' service yet.
(5.) Whether, in the cases of those temporarily employed under section 37, the Ministerial head of the Department has obtained the sanction of the Public Service Board for their re-engagement for two further terms of three months, *vide* subsection of section 37.
(6.) Whether, in cases where temporary officers have been employed for nine months, it has been intimated, in accordance with section 38 of the Public Service Act, to the Public Service Board the desirability of continuing such employment until the completion of the public work or scheme on which they are engaged.
(7.) How long may the temporary officers referred to in paragraph 3 anticipate receiving employment in the Taxation Department.
(8.) Whether any of the temporary officers, irrespective of those transferred from other Departments, whose services have been continuous since the passing of the Public Service Act, are eligible for permanent employment in the Taxation or any other Department under the control of the Public Service Board.
Question put and passed.
5. RESUMPTION OF LAND FOR RAILWAY PURPOSES AT SOUTH LISMORE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. Ewing, moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with the resumption of land for railway purposes at South Lismore, No. 96—839-212.
Question put and passed.
6. DEDUCTIONS FROM SALARIES OF TEMPORARY OFFICERS DURING JUBILEE HOLIDAYS (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the amount of deductions from the salaries of the temporary officers of Public Departments in respect to the Jubilee holidays, 21st and 22nd June.
Question put and passed.
7. HYDE PARK, SYDNEY (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of the *Government Gazette* notices of 6th October, 1810, and all other papers, documents, and Government Orders relating to the dedication or setting apart, for purposes of recreation and amusement, of the area of land in the City of Sydney now known as Hyde Park.
Question put and passed.
8. REAL PROPERTY (CROWN LANDS) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Brunker read a third time, and *passed*.
Mr. Brunker then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to 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.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, That the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for 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,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 13th July, 1897.*
9. BALLOTING FOR SELECT COMMITTEES:—Mr. Cann moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Standing Orders Committee be requested to consider the question of preparing a Standing Order to the following effect, to stand new Standing Order 346:—
(a) When a ballot for a Select Committee shall have been demanded by any Member, Mr. Speaker shall announce to the House that nominations shall be received by the Clerk of the Assembly up to the close of the present sitting; but if the demand for a ballot shall have been made after 10 p.m., then Mr. Speaker shall announce that such nominations will be received up to the close of the first succeeding sitting day. Counts-out shall not be considered a sitting day for the purposes of this Standing Order.
(b) No Member shall be a candidate unless nominated in writing by six Members of the Assembly.

(c)

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- (c) After the expiration of the time announced by Mr. Speaker, if more shall have been nominated than are required for service on such Select Committee, Mr. Speaker shall (after announcing to the House the names of those Members who have become candidates) cause to be circulated to Members present in the Chamber on the next succeeding sitting day ballot-papers containing the names of Members who have been nominated; and Members present shall vote by striking out the names of candidates they do not wish to vote for, and hand the ballot-paper to the Clerk of the Assembly. All such papers not containing the full number required for service on such Committee shall be counted as informal.
- (d) All those candidates who shall have received an absolute majority of the votes cast shall be declared elected. Any candidates not receiving 10 per cent. of the votes cast shall be struck off the ballot-paper; the balance of the candidates shall be re-submitted, as provided in sub-section (c), Mr. Speaker announcing the remaining number required to constitute the Committee.
- (e) The ballot shall be conducted without interruption to the ordinary business of the House, except so much time as required by Mr. Speaker to announce what is required by the ballot or the result.
- (f) This Standing Order not to apply to Select Committees appointed for drawing up Addresses.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Hogue moved, That the Question be amended by adding to paragraph (f) the words "or to "Select Committees on Private Bills."

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

Debate continued.

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

The House divided.

Ayes, 13.

Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Carroll.

Tellers,

Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Hogue.

Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. See,

Noes, 42.

Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. J. O. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Bell,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Davis,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Millard,

Mr. Millen,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Haynes.

Tellers,

Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Moore.

And so it passed in the negative.

Original Question put,—and Division called for,—but there not being Tellers on the part of the Noes, no Division could be had, and Mr. Speaker declared the Question to have been resolved in the affirmative.

10. PAPER :—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table a letter from the Honorable the Acting Premier, referring to the presentation of the Congratulatory Address from the Parliament of New South Wales to Her Majesty the Queen on the completion of the sixtieth year of Her Reign.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
11. APPOINTMENT OF A PUBLIC TRUSTEE :—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, the time has arrived when, to protect widows and orphans from the rapacity of fraudulent trustees and executors, a public trustee should be appointed.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
12. ALIENATION OF CROWN LANDS :—Mr. Ball moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, it is not desirable to encourage any further alienation of the Crown Lands of this "Colony"; and, in view of the advantages and benefits likely to accrue to the settlers and the people generally from the liberal and equitable provisions of the 1895 Act, the Minister for Lands should make all Crown lands in future available only on the perpetual leasehold system, or settlement and improvement leases, as provided for in the 1895 Land Bill.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Afleck moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "Colony".
Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
Debate continued.
Mr. Waddell moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday next.
13. CASE OF STAFF-SERGEANT W. JIFFKINS :—Mr. Waddell moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Case of Staff-Sergeant W. Jiffkins," brought up on 26th August, 1896, be now adopted.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

13th July, 1897.

14. REAPPRAISEMENT OF CONDITIONAL PURCHASES AND CONDITIONAL LEASES;—Mr. Waddell moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House,—

(1.) The right of reappraisal which has been given to conditional purchasers within special areas under clause 36 of the 1895 Land Act should be extended to all resident *bonâ fide* holders of ordinary conditional purchases.

(2.) The provision contained in clause 35 of the 1895 Land Act for the redetermination of the rentals of conditional leases should be made immediately applicable.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday, 17th August.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty 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. 34.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 14 JULY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Report on Loss of Stock for the Years 1896-7 :—Mr. Willis asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has he received any report from the Chief Inspector of Stock in reference to the loss of stock in the Colony for the years 1896 and 1897; if not, will he call for such a report, showing (a) the approximate losses of grown sheep, horses, and cattle; (b) the approximate losses of lambs during the period named?
 - (2.) Will he, when such report is ready, lay same upon the Table of this House for the information of Honorable Members?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) The report of the Chief Inspector of Stock shows that there was no decrease in the number of stock in 1896, but an increase—in horses of 1,569, in cattle of 19,939, and in sheep of 701,103. It would now be scarcely possible to obtain the details which the Honorable Member asks for. The returns for 1897 will be obtained as quickly as possible.
- (2.) Yes.

- (2.) Working Hours of Railway and Tramway Employees:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Do the Railway Commissioners intend reducing the hours of labour of engine-drivers, firemen, shunters, coal-stagers, fettlers, and all other labouring men working on the railway lines of the Colony, to eight hours per day?
- (2.) Is it a fact that all tramway officials, drivers, firemen, fettlers, conductors, and other labouring men, are to have the eight-hour privilege extended to their department?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed that the Railway Commissioners do not contemplate altering the very favourable conditions of employment which exist in the Railway and Tramway Service.

- (3.) Lusk's History of New South Wales :—Mr. Hassall, for Mr. O'Sullivan, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Was the sum of £450, seven years ago, awarded to Mr. H. H. Lusk, for a History of New South Wales for school purposes?
- (2.) Was the book set up in type at the Government Printing Office; and has the type been kept standing ever since?
- (3.) What is the cost of the history up to date?
- (4.) Was the history revised by Messrs. Maynard and Bridges, the adjudicators in the competition for the prize?
- (5.) Was the history further revised by Mr. Metcalfe, school-teacher?
- (6.) Did the Honorable W. H. Suttor also revise the history?
- (7.) Were further revisions made by Mr. Caldwell, school-teacher, and ex-Judge Windeyer?
- (8.) Is the history now undergoing a sixth revision at the hands of Mr. Finney, another school-teacher?
- (9.) How many more revisions of the history are to take place before it is published?
- (10.) Can he state when it is probable that the history will be issued to the schools; and when the issue takes place will the book be known as "Lusk's History"?

Mr.

14th July, 1897.

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) (a) Yes; (b) No.
- (3.) £995.
- (4.) No.
- (5.) Yes, partly.
- (6.) No.
- (7.) (a) Yes, an officer in the Department; (b) No.
- (8.) Yes.
- (9.) None.
- (10.) I cannot say at present.

(4.) Proficiency-money earned by the Submarine Miners:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the members of the Company of Submarine Miners of the Engineer Corps have been refused payment of the proficiency-money earned by them for the past year?
- (2.) What sum is, under Regulations, withheld from the members of the said Company as proficiency-money?
- (3.) By whom has the payment in question been refused?
- (4.) What is the reason for the refusal to pay the sum due to the members of the said Company?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) The Regulation being doubtful, the matter is being investigated by the Finance Committee.
- (3 and 4.) Answered by No. 1.

(5.) Road between Otford and the Bulli Pass:—Mr. Nicholson asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What amount of money was voted on last year's Estimates for maintaining the Main South Coast Road between Otford and Bulli Pass for year ending 30th June, 1897?
- (2.) The amount of money expended on that portion of road during same period?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) The Vote for the Main South Coast Road on the 1896-7 Estimates was—For Road outside Municipalities, £5,590; for Road within Municipalities, £3,316; total, £8,906. No special Vote was taken for that part of the road referred to, as it is provided for in the general Vote for the road.

(2.) This information will be supplied in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.

(6.) Fisheries Bill:—Mr. E. M. Clark, for Mr. Howarth, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) When does he intend proceeding with the Fisheries Bill?
- (2.) Is it his intention to have that Bill passed before the close of the present Session?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am only awaiting a favourable opportunity to proceed with the measure.

(7.) Creameries liable under the Income Tax:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Alexander Campbell, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Do the Taxation Commissioners now say that creameries where butter is not manufactured are not liable for Income Tax?
- (2.) If so, will he see that where Income Tax has been charged in such cases the amount is refunded with 10 per cent. added, the same as is charged when the tax is not paid within the prescribed time?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) In cases where income from profits from the sale of cream has been included in the taxpayers' returns refunds will be made, upon application, of the proportionate amounts paid in excess; but there is no provision in the Act for the additional allowance of 10 per cent. as indicated.

(8.) Employees of the Goat Island Magazine:—Mr. Hassall, for Mr. Schey, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What number of hours per day are the men connected with the Goat Island Magazine supposed to work?
- (2.) Are these hours frequently exceeded?
- (3.) If so, what is the scale of pay allowed for such overtime work?
- (4.) What are their meal hours; and are the men allowed the prescribed time for meals?
- (5.) Is it a fact that these men are frequently kept on duty for sixteen hours in one day?
- (6.) Are these men, or any of them, required to work on Sundays?
- (7.) If so, what pay or allowance is made them for such extra duty?
- (8.) Are these men, or any of them, required to work on public holidays?
- (9.) If so, what pay or allowance is made to them for such extra duty?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) The men connected with the Goat Island Magazine work on an average nine hours per diem. According to Regulations recently issued by the Public Service Board, their hours of attendance, will now be fifty-nine hours per week, including meal hours.

(2.) These hours are very seldom exceeded.

(3.) Overtime pay is not allowed. Any overtime worked is made up by extra leave.

(4.) The meal hours allowed are two hours per diem for five days, one hour on Saturday. Owing to the nature of the service meals cannot always be taken at regular hours.

(5.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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- (5.) Every eighth day each man in turn takes boat duty from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., being relieved for meals—equal to thirteen hours, and three meal hours.
- (6.) Yes. Watch and boat duty in turn on Sundays.
- (7.) Full pay is allowed for Sundays and holidays on or off duty.
- (8.) Yes. Watch and boat duty in turn on holidays. Other work very seldom.
- (9.) Full pay is allowed for public holidays whether on or off duty.
- (9.) Military Forces:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—When does the Government intend to place our Forces on a proper footing, it being acknowledged that the present Volunteer Act does not meet existing requirements?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—A Bill has been prepared, and will be considered at the earliest possible date.
- (10.) Wagga Wagga Experimental Farm:—*Mr. Hassall*, for Mr. Alexander Campbell, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) What has been the expenditure incurred and the receipts from the Wagga Wagga Experimental Farm, for the year ending 30th June, 1897?
 (2.) What has been the total expenditure on and receipt from same farm from its establishment to 30th June, 1897?
Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of this House in the shape of a return.
- (11.) Officers' Mess-rooms:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—What amount of money has been expended on the Officers' Mess-rooms since 1st January, 1890?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—This information is being prepared, and will be laid upon the Table as soon as possible.
- (12.) Changing-houses at the Junction Mine:—*Mr. Ferguson* asked the Secretary for Mines,—Are the changing-houses at the Junction Mine in conformity with the Mining Regulations; if not, will he cause the Inspector to compel the manager to comply with the Regulations?
Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—It was stated by the manager of the company on the 18th ultimo that he was attending to the defects pointed out by the Inspector, who will be further communicated with on the subject.
- (13.) Gratuities to Employees dismissed from the Government Printing Office:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has the question of gratuities to so-called casual employees dismissed from the Government Printing Office, or other public Departments, been submitted to the Government by the Public Service Board as to the principles underlying the action of the Board in regard to claimants; and, if so, what decision (if any) has been arrived at on the matter?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—
 (1.) Yes.
 (2.) The matter has not yet been finally settled.
- (14.) Report on Darling's Shaft, Block 13, Broken Hill:—*Mr. Thomas* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Will he obtain a full report from the Inspector of Mines at Broken Hill of the falling-in of No. 1 south stopes at Darling's Shaft, Block 13, at the time when Messrs. Doyle, Harris, Gard, and Sandford were working there?
 (2.) Will he lay the report when obtained upon the Table of this House?
Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Yes.
- (15.) Railway Refreshment-room at Molong:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When are the necessary steps likely to be taken to provide better accommodation for the travelling public, and to enlarge the railway refreshment-room at Molong?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed the Railway Commissioners recently approved of some small alterations to provide better accommodation at the refreshment-rooms in question, and the work will be put in hand shortly.
- (16.) Distribution of Blankets in Molong:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Has any application lately been made respecting the supply of blankets to alleged poor persons in Molong; if so, by whom?
 (2.) Have any blankets been supplied; if so, how many, and to whom?
 (3.) Will he state, or make inquiries, if any of the so-called poor have refused to take the blankets when offered to them; and for what reason?
 (4.) How many blankets have been distributed in Molong, and how many families have received the same?
 (5.) Is it usual or customary to ignore the services of the Bench of Magistrates and police in such cases for some irresponsible body?
 (6.) In how many districts in the Colony have applications been made for the supply of blankets; and the number so supplied?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—
 (1 and 2.) Twenty-five pairs of blankets were supplied on the application of the Molong Progress Committee.
 (3 and 4.) Inquiry will be made.
 (5.) No; but the Progress Committee having applied for the blankets, they were forwarded to them.
 (6.) The information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.

14th July, 1897.

- (17.) Tubercular Disease in the Human Family:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Can any scientific explanation be offered to account for the great increase of tubercular disease in the human family?
 - (2.) Do the statistics of other countries show a similar increase during the last ten years?
 - (3.) Do the British and American authorities regulate the meat and milk supply, so as to suppress the sale of diseased meat and milk?
 - (4.) If this means of checking the spread of consumption in the human family is a failure, will the authorities find out the chief causes of the same?
 - (5.) Are tubercular children (or those alleged to be suffering from tubercular disease) allowed to mix with the healthy in our institutions and in day-schools?
 - (6.) Will the Government declare a suitable area (say 20 miles square), and compel all those suffering from imported consumption to reside within this area?
 - (7.) Is the Government aware that at a meeting of the medical profession in Sydney tubercular disease has been declared worse than leprosy?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1 and 2.) According to available statistics tuberculosis among the human family is decreasing, probably in consequence of the efforts of sanitarians.
- (3 and 4.) American authorities regulate the supply of milk in many towns and states, and there is some regulation of the meat supply of a similar local character, with a view to prevent the sale of diseased meat and milk. In England the proceedings of the Royal Commission on tuberculosis, which reported in April, 1895, having been brought to a close, a second Commission, which is now sitting, was forthwith appointed. The first Commission had inquired into and established the circumstances under which consumption can be communicated by means of meat and milk. The second Commission was appointed to ascertain by what executive machinery further propagation of that disease in those ways could be best prevented.
- (5.) Yes.
- (6.) This proceeding is unnecessary for the prevention of consumption; it is entirely unnecessary to isolate consumptives.
- (7.) No. No information to that effect has been received.

- (18.) Post Office in Union-street, Pyrmont:—Mr. Davis asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) Has there been any inspection of the premises at present occupied as a Post Office in Union-street, Pyrmont, within the past twelve months?
- (2.) If so, was the report submitted by the Inspector considered satisfactory by the Department?
- (3.) When will the present lease expire?
- (4.) Has the Department concluded any fresh agreement with the lessor of the present premises?
- (5.) If so, for what period?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) Yes, in June last.
- (2.) No determination has yet been arrived at pending a visit to the locality by myself.
- (3.) 11th August next.
- (4.) Yes.
- (5.) Three months only from the 12th August next.

- (19.) George-street Asylum, Parramatta:—Mr. O'Reilly asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is he aware that two years ago the Government promised to remove the old men in George-street Asylum, Parramatta, to more suitable and safer quarters?
- (2.) Is he aware that 1,150 old men are at present confined within an area of about 2 acres?
- (3.) Is he aware that the epileptic patients—150 in number—are now daily cooped up within a walled yard 100 feet square?
- (4.) Is he aware that the George-street Asylum is an old woollen-mill, five stories high, built of highly inflammable materials, and with no adequate provision against fire?
- (5.) Will he see that these old men are promptly removed to safer and more suitable quarters?
- (6.) Is the matter still under consideration?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) I am not aware of any such promise, but the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works has sent in recommendations with regard to this matter which involve a large expenditure of public money, and are now under consideration.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) There are only forty epileptic patients in this institution, and when it is considered safe for them to leave their dormitories they are allowed to use the ordinary recreation ground.
- (4.) It is officially reported that there is very little danger from fire in this building; and provision for extinguishing fire is made on every floor. I may state that a report was obtained from the Superintendent of Fire Brigades on this subject. I myself had some doubt in the matter, and the report to which I refer enables me to give the reply I now do.
- (5 and 6.) Answered by No. 1.

- (20.) Endowment to Municipalities:—Mr. Cruickshank asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Government to grant the special endowment of 5s. in the £ to Municipalities this year?

Mr. Brunker answered,—If the Honorable Member refers to the reply which I gave to a Question dealing with this subject, on the 8th instant, it will furnish him with an Answer to the Question which he has asked to-day.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

14th July, 1897.

- (21.) Arrest of Chinamen at Rockdale:—Mr. Crick asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Is he aware that fifteen Chinamen were arrested last week for being in a betting-house at Rockdale?
 (2.) Under what law were these Chinese arrested?
 (3.) Does this same law apply to people of this Colony other than Chinese?
 (4.) If so, why is it not so applied to the English gambling dens in Sydney, where gambling of a character worse than these Chinese were indulging in is carried on every day of the week?
 Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police:—
 (1.) Yes.
 (2.) Games and Wagers Act, 14 Vic. No. 9.
 (3.) Yes.
 (4.) It is difficult to obtain evidence requisite to support the prosecution for keeping a common gaming-house, but the matter is under consideration, and legal advice is being sought on the point.
- (22.) Gambling by Chinese:—Mr. Hughes asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Is there any Act dealing with gambling as carried on in the Chinese gambling dens?
 (2.) If so, why has he not set it in motion?
 Mr. Brunker answered,—The law deals with all classes alike, and is enforced when practicable.
- (23.) Protection for Mines at Broken Hill:—Mr. Thomas asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Will he inquire of the Inspector of Mines at Broken Hill whether the chute into which Thomas Sampson fell on Thursday, the 24th June, had no covering but a flat sheet of iron; and that as Thomas Sampson and his father needed such a piece of iron for their work took it away, not knowing that it covered a chute, thus causing Thomas Sampson to fall in?
 (2.) If this is so, will he inquire why the necessary guards and rails were not around the chute?
 Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Yes.
- (24.) Free Passes on the Tramways:—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Secretary,—On what grounds were free passes for the trams issued to the following ladies:—Mrs. Manning, Mrs. Goodlet, Mrs. Slattery, Mrs. McMillan, Mrs. Garran, and Lady Windeyer?
 Mr. Brunker answered,—As I have already intimated, free passes are not issued. It may be added that the ladies referred to, who give their services gratuitously for the purpose of inspecting Cottage Homes for State Children, and the homes of boarded-out children in country districts, are allowed season tickets for the railways and tramways, the cost of the tickets being debited to the State Children's Relief Department.

2. MUNICIPALITIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Neild brought up a report from the Committee appointed to inspect the Journals of the Legislative Council, with relation to any proceedings upon the Municipalities Act Amendment Bill.
 And the same having been read by the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker, as follows:—
 The Committee appointed to inspect the Journals of the Legislative Council with relation to any proceedings upon the Municipalities Act Amendment Bill, and to make report thereof to the House, report,—
 That they have inspected the printed Minutes of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council accordingly, and have found the following entry:—

" THURSDAY, 1 JULY, 1897.

- " 6. MUNICIPALITIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Lees moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 " Debate ensued.
 " Question put.
 " The House divided.
 " Ayes, 8.
 " Mr. King,
 " Mr. Pulsford,
 " Dr. Garran,
 " Mr. D. O'Connor,
 " Mr. Hughes,
 " Mr. Groville.
 " Tellers,
 " Mr. Macintosh,
 " Mr. Lees.
- | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Mr. R. E. O'Connor, | Mr. Hoskins, | Dr. Cullen, | Mr. Suttor, |
| Mr. Cox, | Mr. Dalton, | Mr. Hoskins, | Dr. MacLaurin. |
| Mr. C. G. Heydon, | Mr. Humphery, | Mr. Dalton, | Tellers, |
| Dr. Bowker, | Mr. Long, | Mr. Humphery, | Mr. Day, |
| Mr. Webb, | Mr. Moses, | Mr. Long, | Sir Arthur Renwick." |
| Mr. Vickery, | Dr. Norton, | Mr. Moses, | |
| Mr. Lee, | Mr. T. H. Smith, | Dr. Norton, | |
| Mr. Pigott, | Mr. Trickett, | Mr. T. H. Smith, | |
| Mr. Charles, | Mr. Kater, | Mr. Trickett, | |
| Mr. F. J. Smith, | | Mr. Kater, | |

Back Library,
 Sydney, 14th July, 1897.

JNO. C. NEILD,
 Chairman.

Mr. Neild moved, That the report be now received.
 Question put and passed.

3. PAPER:—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 19th May, 1897,—“Expense from Votes for 1896-7 on Works undertaken in 1895-6.”
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Yass, Mr. Affleck, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The manner in which the Land and Income Taxes Acts are being administered by the Commissioners of Taxation.”
 And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
 Mr. Affleck moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and negatived.

14th July, 1897.

5. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892, the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894, and the Hunter District Water Supply (Partial Duplication) Act, 1895; and for other purposes,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 14th July, 1897.*

ARCH. H. JACOB,
Deputy President.

HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 14th July, 1897.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 1, clause 1, line 8. *Omit "1896" insert "1897"*
 Page 2, clause 2, line 8. *Omit "1896" insert "1897,"* and wherever occurring in clauses 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 23, 25, 27, 30, 32, 42, 45, and Schedule A.
 Page 3, clause 6, line 12. *Before "The" first occurring insert "Subject to the provisions of section "sixty-four of the Principal Act"*
 Page 3, clause 6. *Omit subsection (a) and subsection (b) down to and inclusive of "provided" first occurring in line 33, insert the following new subsections:—*
 "*(a) Where property has frontage to, or abuts on, a street or public highway, along "which, throughout the whole length of such frontage, a water-pipe of the Board is "laid, so much of the property as is situate within a distance of four hundred and "forty yards from the water-pipe shall be subject to the rate, although the property "may not be actually supplied with water from any main or conduit:*
 "*(b) Where property has frontage to, or abuts on, a street or public highway, along "which throughout part of the length of such frontage a water-pipe of the Board is "laid, so much of the property as is situate within a distance of four hundred and "forty yards from the water-pipe measured in a direction at right angles to such "pipe shall be subject to the rate, although the property may not be actually "supplied with water from any main or conduit:*
 "*(c) Where property has no frontage to a street or public highway along which a water-pipe of the Board is laid, but a main or service-pipe is laid to some part of the "property, so much of the property as is situate within four hundred and forty "yards from the water-pipe laid in the street or public highway measured in a "direction at right angles to such pipe shall be subject to the rate, although the "property may not be actually supplied with water from any main or conduit: "*
 Page 3, clause 6, line 34. *Omit "subsection (a)" insert "subsections (a) and (b)"*
 Page 3, clause 6, line 38. *Omit "(b)" insert "(c)"*
 Page 3, clause 7, line 40. *Omit "ratable"*
 Page 3, clause 7, line 41. *Omit "the" insert "a"*
 Page 3, clause 7, line 46. *After "may" insert "upon the application of such first-named owner "or occupier"*
 Page 4, clause 9, line 28. *After "premises" first occurring insert "at"*
 Page 4, clause 9. *After subsection (c) insert the following new subsection:—*
 "*(d) In respect of premises such as railway or tramway lines, piers, wharves, jetties, "stations, yards, buildings, and the land used in connection with same at five per "centum per annum on the capital value thereof"*
 Page 4, clause 9, line 37. *After "deductions" insert "in subsections (b) and (c)"*
 Page 4, clause 9, line 38. *Omit "such" insert "the"*
 Page 5, clause 10, line 39. *Omit "on the Board by leaving the same"*
 Page 5, clause 10, line 41. *Omit "fourteen" insert "twenty-eight"*
 Page 5, clause 10, line 43. *Omit "fourteen" insert "twenty-eight"*
 Page 5, clause 10, line 45. *Add "s" to "hand"*
 Page 5, clause 10, line 45. *After "vice-president" insert "and the appellant"*
 Page 7, clause 10, line 10. *Omit "fourteen" insert "twenty-eight"*
 Page 8, clause 14. *At end of clause add*
 "*(d) the debit balance (if any) on the general account for the preceding year.*
 "*Provided that where the general account for the preceding year shows a credit balance "such surplus shall be deducted from the annual sums so to be provided for"*
 Page 9, clause 21. *At end of clause add "On service of another notice demanding payment on "the person then in occupation of such property, and liable to pay the rate, charge, or "sum, and, on failure to comply therewith, the president or vice-president may issue a "warrant under his hand to the bailiff, constable, or other person named therein to levy "such rate, charge, or sum, with costs not exceeding the scale prescribed in Schedule B "hereto, by distress and sale of the goods and chattels then being on the property, "subject to the rate, charge, or sum, and in the occupation of the person aforesaid. "Provided that no such distress shall authorise the seizure or sale of any bedstead, "bedding, culinary articles in domestic use, or tools of trade. In the event of any "such distress not realising sufficient to pay the amount levied, together with costs as "aforesaid, the president or vice-president may from time to time cause further and "other distress to be made as aforesaid until the full amount of the debt then due and all "costs as aforesaid have been fully paid, or may recover the amount due with costs as "aforesaid from the person liable to pay the said rate, charge, or sum."*

Distress and
sale.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

14th July, 1897.

Page 9. *After* clause 21, *insert* the following new clauses:—

Out of the moneys arising from the sale of the goods and chattels the bailiff or other person executing the warrant shall first pay the costs aforesaid, and shall then pay the amount for which such distress and sale were made, and pay over the surplus (if any) to the person whose goods have been sold. Disposal of proceeds of sale.

The warrant of distress may be in the form or to the effect of Schedule C hereto, and in all cases where a distress may lawfully be made, every police constable shall, upon being so required by any bailiff or other person distraining, aid in making a distress or sale, pursuant to such warrant, and for refusing so to do shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds: Form of warrant of distress.

Provided that to save expense and simplify the collection of moneys due to the Board in respect of one or more properties owned or occupied by the same person, the president or vice-president may include the amounts due to the Board from any one person in one warrant, or the Board may sue for the same in one action at law.

Any warrant issued shall be a good and sufficient authority to the person executing the same, or to his assistant, to remain on the premises during the interval between the making of the distress and the sale of the goods and chattels seized, whether such authority be expressed in the warrant or not, and every distress and sale in pursuance of a warrant shall, subject to the provisions of the Hunter District Water and Sewerage Acts, 1892-97, be conducted and carried out as nearly as practicable in accordance with the provisions of the Act fifteenth Victoria number eleven, or any Act regulating distress for rent and replevins. Warrant authorises bailiff to remain on premises.

The Board may appoint some competent person to be its bailiff for the purpose of levying rates, charges, or sums due to the Board by distress and sale; and any bailiff so appointed shall have power and authority to sell by public auction any goods and chattels seized under any warrant of distress as aforesaid without taking out any license as an auctioneer.

Page 9, clause 23, line 15. *Before* "recover" *insert* "levy or"

Page 9, clause 23, line 15. *Before* "recovering" *insert* "levying or"

Page 9, clause 24. *Omit* clause 24, *insert* the following new clause:—

All rates, charges, costs, and expenses imposed or incurred by the Board after the commencement of this Act, if unpaid, shall remain a charge upon the property for two years from the time such sums first become payable; and if, at the expiration of the time named, the owner of such property remains unknown to the Board after diligent inquiry made, the Board shall, within three months from such date of expiry, publish a notice in the *Gazette*, and in a newspaper circulating in the district in which the property is situated, containing particulars of same, and of the sums due thereon, and upon publication of such notice the said sums shall remain a charge on the said property until payment thereof, and may be subsequently recovered from any person who is the owner at the time such action for recovery is taken, together with interest at the rate of 5 per centum per annum from the date on which such sums first became payable, and full costs of action. Rates and charges to be a charge on property.

Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the Board, in the event of the property becoming occupied after the publication of any such notice, recovering from the occupier thereof the sums due in respect of such property.

Page 10, clause 32, line 37. *After* "address" *insert* "within the Colony"

Page 10, clause 32, lines 38 and 39. *Omit* "or his agent or the mortgagee (if any) within the Colony"

Page 10, clause 32, line 39. *Omit* "are" *insert* "is"

Page 10, clause 32, line 55. *After* "years" *insert* "or in case of vacant lands for a term not exceeding twenty-one years"

Page 11, clause 32. *Omit* all the words from "Provided" in line 1 to "Court" in line 5, both inclusive, *insert*:—

"Upon the application of any person who, but for the provisions of this section, would be entitled to the possession of such property, the Supreme Court or a Judge thereof may, upon satisfactory proof of title and upon payment into Court of any such rates, costs, charges, and expenses then due and unpaid, order the Board to deliver up to the applicant possession of such property, and to pay over to the applicant any such surplus as aforesaid:

"Provided that the rights of a lessee of the Board under this section shall not be affected by any order made as aforesaid; but that, on the making of the order, the lessee shall attorn to the applicant."

Page 11, clause 32, line 15. *After* "property" *insert* "and that the Board cannot, by letting or continuing to let, realise sufficient revenue to provide for all expenses payable in respect of such property, and for the rates, charges, or other sums of money then lawfully due and owing to the Board or to accrue due in respect thereof"

Page 11, clause 33, line 42. *Omit* "six" *insert* "seven"

Page 11, clause 33, line 49. *Omit* "six" *insert* "seven"

Page 12, clause 33, line 3. *Before* "notify" *insert* "after deducting from the total amount thereof the difference between the revenue and expenditure of the Board for the same period determined as hereinafter provided shall"

Page 12, clause 33, lines 3 and 4. *Omit* "the local newspaper" *insert* "in one or more local newspapers circulating in some water or sewerage district"

Page 12, clause 34, line 9. *Omit* "seven" *insert* "eight"

Page 12, clause 35, line 15. *Omit* "the" *insert* "some water or sewerage"

Page 12, clause 36, line 26. *Omit* "three" *insert* "six"

Page 12, clause 36, line 29. *Omit* "six" *insert* "seven"

Page 12, clause 36, line 33. *Omit* "six" *insert* "seven"

Page 12, clause 36, line 36. *Omit* "six" *insert* "seven"

Page 12, clause 38, line 50. *After* "July" *insert* "one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven"

Page 12, clause 38, line 53. *After* "works" *insert* "notified as hereinbefore provided up to the end of the preceding year"

Page 13, clause 39, line 9. *Omit* "five" *insert* "eight"

Page 14, clause 45. *After* line 29 *insert*:—

The Board shall, as soon as practicable after the publication in the *Gazette*, cause all by-laws to be published in one or more local newspapers circulating in some water or sewerage district.

14th July, 1897.

Page 15. *After* Schedule "A" *insert* the following new Schedules:—

" SCHEDULE B.

" *Table of Costs.*

- " For every warrant of distress two shillings.
 " For every levy one shilling.
 " For man in possession one shilling per hour for the first three hours, and if longer detained six shillings per day or part of a day.
 " For inventory, sale, commission, and delivery of goods, not exceeding one shilling in the pound on the net proceeds of the sale.

" SCHEDULE C.

" *Warrant of Distress.*

" NEW SOUTH WALES } To _____ constable at _____, or bailiff (as
 " TO WIT. } the case may be).
 " WHEREAS _____ of _____ in New South Wales,
 " has been rated at the sum of _____ per annum for the water rate [*or* charge
 " *or* is liable to pay the sum of _____ due to the Hunter District
 " Water Supply and Sewerage Board] as the occupier [*or* owner] of certain property situate
 " in _____ street in _____ and now occupied by
 " _____; and whereas the sum of _____ being due and payable
 " on account of the said rate, charge, or sum [as the case may be] on the
 " day of _____ in the year of our Lord one thousand _____ hundred and
 " _____, and was duly demanded by _____ the collector of rates for
 " _____ on the _____ day of _____ in the year _____ of the said
 " _____ who has not yet paid the same. These are therefore to require and authorise you
 " forthwith to levy the said sum of _____ together with costs of the presents by distress and
 " sale of the goods and chattels found by you in the said property according to law, and that you
 " certify to me on the _____ day of _____ what you shall do by virtue of this warrant.
 " Given under my hand this _____ day of _____ in the year of our Lord, one
 " thousand _____ hundred and _____

" President [*or* Vice-President] of the

Examined,— " Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board."

W. J. TRICKETT,

Deputy Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the Message be taken into consideration in Committee of the Whole on Wednesday next.

6. MOREE TO INVERELL RAILWAY BILL:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Moree to Inverell. Question put and passed.
7. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,

THURSDAY, 15 JULY, 1897, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

8. COAL MINES REGULATION ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—
 (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896, for the purpose of limiting the working hours in mines of coal and shale.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
 Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.
 The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896, for the purpose of limiting the working hours in mines of coal and shale.
 On motion of Mr. Smith, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
 (2.) Mr. Smith then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896, for the purpose of limiting the working-hours in mines of coal and shale*,"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Thursday, 22nd July.
9. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at ten minutes before Six 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. 35.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 15 JULY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Appointment of Railway Commissioner:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) Have the Government yet appointed a Deputy Railway Commissioner, as provided for by section 7 of the Government Railways Act?

(2.) If not, when do they propose to appoint such Deputy?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Under the circumstances the Attorney-General advises that no Deputy can be appointed under the 7th section of the Act.

(2.) Deductions from School Teachers' Salaries:—Mr. Hogue asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is he aware that discontent prevails among male teachers at the inequalities caused by the deductions made from their salaries on account of residence not being proportionate to the individual value of those residences?

(2.) Are any steps being taken to remedy those inequalities, so as to provide that the deduction from teachers' salaries shall not be more than the annual value of the residence provided for them by the Department?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The matter is under the consideration of the Public Service Board.

(3.) Payments to Guardians of State Children:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—Was the amount due to the Guardians of State Children at the end of the last financial year paid out of the revenue of the said year?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Claims for the maintenance of State children for the quarter ending 30th June would not be payable until the beginning of July; consequently the expenditure forms a charge against the revenue for the current year.

(4.) Railway Revenue:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—Does the railway revenue for 1896-97, and published at £3,367,552, represent net cash paid into the Treasury?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed that the sum referred to represents net cash.

(5.) Studley Park:—Mr. Davis asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has the Government lately had a proposition before it to purchase a property known as Studley Park for the sum of £10,000, to be used as a convalescent hospital or other institution, the vendor stating that he purchased the same for £20,000?

(2.) If so, will the Government undertake, previous to conclusion of purchase, to make inquiries as to the actual cost of the property to the said vendor, and discover if his statement is correct?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) An offer of the estate for £10,000 has been made to the Government.

(2.) Before any property is purchased or resumed by the Government for any purpose due care will be taken that no more than its fair value is paid for it. This property was offered to the Government, and I was asked to inspect it some time ago. My reply to the application was that the Government had no need of the property.

(6.)

15th July, 1897.

- (6.) The Condemned Man Butler :—*Mr. Fegan*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Has his attention been directed to the allegation that the convict Butler offers no objection, in the interests of the science of criminology, to a *post-mortem* examination of his brain?
 - (2.) If such is the case, will he cause such examination to be made by the Government Pathologist?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—I am informed that the gaol authorities have no knowledge of such a statement being made by Butler, and he denies having said anything of the kind.
- (7.) Long-service Medals to Members at Newcastle :—*Mr. Fegan* asked the Colonial Secretary,—When is it the intention of the Commandant (Major-General French) to distribute the long-service medals to the members of the Force who are qualified in Newcastle?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—As soon as possible after the medals are received. Some delay, however, has occurred in obtaining the approval of the Imperial authorities to the regulations governing their issue.
- (8.) Proposed Road from Nyngan to Carpentina :—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Have the surveyors' plan and report of proposed road from Nyngan to Carpentina or Bobadah been received yet?
 - (2.) If not, will he call upon the District Surveyor to explain the cause of the delay in this matter?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1.) No.
 - (2.) The District Surveyor has been communicated with, and further steps will be taken to expedite the matter.
- (9.) Special Grant to Municipalities :—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it the intention of the Government to make provision on the Estimates for a special grant to Municipalities for this year?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—The Honorable Member will find a reply to this Question in the records of the Votes and Proceedings of the 8th and 14th instant.
- (10.) Weston Road, Balmain :—*Mr. Frank Farnell* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has he had his attention called to the state of Weston Road, Balmain; if so, will he have repairs immediately carried out?
- Mr. Young* answered,—This is a municipal road, and, consequently, any repairs necessary should be carried out by the borough within which it is situated.
- (11.) Proposed Railway between Trial Bay and Armidale :—*Mr. F. Clarke* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it his intention to have a trial survey of the proposed railway route between Trial Bay and Armidale recently inspected and reported upon by *Mr. Surveyor Edwards*?
- Mr. Young* answered,—The report of the officer alluded to is not sufficiently favourable to justify the expense.
- (12.) Alleged Statements by *Mr. Guthrie* against Schoolmasters :—*Mr. Dick* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Has his attention been directed to the statements alleged to have been made by *Mr. Guthrie*, Chemist to the Agricultural Department, in a paper read before the Agricultural Conference, to the effect that “the most lamentable feature in the whole business was the too-low status of schoolmasters. The State chose its teachers on the whole with little regard to their fitness”?
 - (2.) If so, will he take steps to relieve this body of public servants from the above charge?
- Mr. Garrard* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Steps are being taken towards this end.
- (13.) Royal Commission on the Marine Board :—*Mr. Dick* asked the Colonial Secretary,—When will the report of the Royal Commission on the Marine Board be ready?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—The Commission expires on the 4th August, and I am informed that the report will in all probability be ready by that date. I am under the impression that, when I gave the Honorable Member an Answer to a Question on the same subject the other day, I said on the 4th July. I have since referred to the Board's minute, and I find that I made a mistake, and that the date should have been the 4th August.
- (14.) Free Circulation of *Hansard* through the Post :—*Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick* asked the Postmaster-General,—As newspapers and periodical publications within the Colony are carried free through the Post-offices, will he entertain a proposal that *Hansard*, the official report of the proceedings of Parliament, be permitted similar facilities for circulation?
- Mr. Cook* answered,—It was decided in 1892 that it could not under existing postal law be sent through the post without charge, and there seems no reason to disturb this decision.
- (15.) Stamp and Inquiry Room at the General Post Office :—*Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick* asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is he aware that on every English mail day the Stamp and Inquiry Room at the General Post Office is overcrowded, and that it is impossible for the three officials in that department to expeditiously attend to the requirements of the public?
 - (2.) Is he aware that, as a result of the rushing and the inadequate attendance, numbers of the public are prevented from obtaining stamps in time to catch mails, and are also unable to obtain answers to urgent inquiries?
 - (3.) Will he see that extra officers are employed when necessary in this department, and that fuller facilities are provided to meet increased public requirements?
- Mr. Cook* answered,—It has already been found needful to provide additional assistance in selling stamps on English mail days, and further assistance will be provided if found necessary.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

15th July, 1897.

- (16.) Booking Bicycles by Railway Passengers:—*Mr. Fegan*, for *Mr. Griffith*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he bring under the notice of the Railway Commissioners the necessity for simplifying their present cumbrous formalities in connection with the booking of bicycles by passengers travelling by train?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—This Question refers to a detail of railway management, and it would facilitate the matter if the Honorable Member wrote to the Railway Commissioners, giving details of the formalities referred to.
- (17.) Report on Vessel "Jane Sprott":—*Mr. Davis* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Will he cause the Marine Board Surveyor's report regarding the seaworthiness of the vessel "Jane Sprott," now lying in Sydney Harbour, to be laid before him?
 (2.) Will he see that the recommendations contained therein are carried out?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—
 (1.) Yes.
 (2.) The matter relating to the alleged unseaworthiness of this vessel has not yet been dealt with.
2. TRUCK BILL:—*Mr. Garrard*, pursuant to leave granted on 8th July, 1897, presented a Bill, intitled "A Bill to regulate the payment of wages and contracts in respect of wages; to provide that such payments shall be made in money only; to regulate the sale and supply of goods to workmen; to regulate deductions and payments in respect of fines, bad or negligent work, and injury to the property of employers, and contracts in respect of the same; and for other purposes in connection therewith,"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
3. PAPERS:—*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 Gillendoon 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 Boyd Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other Holdings.
 (3.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Ariah Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other Holdings.
 (4.) Copies of *Gazette* Notices, setting forth the mode in which it is proposed to deal with the Dedication of certain Lands, in accordance with the provisions of the 105th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18, and the 41st section of the Act 53 Victoria No. 21.
 (5.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for June, 1897.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Deepwater Harbour at Port Kembla*) (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. Young* moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the construction of a deepwater harbour at Port Kembla, as referred by the Legislative Assembly to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out by constructing the eastern breakwater only, as recommended by the said Committee.
 Question put and passed.
5. NORTH COAST RAILWAY (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. F. Clarke* moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and official reports in connection with the proposed North Coast Railway.
 Question put and passed.
6. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
 (1.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); resumption of the adjourned Debate on the motion of *Mr. Parkes*, "That this Bill be now read a second time";—until Thursday, 29th July.
 (2.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday, 29th July.
 (3.) Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday, 29th July.
 (4.) North Shore Bridge Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday, 29th July.
 (5.) Liens on Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill; second reading; until Thursday, 29th July.
 (6.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Wednesday next.
 (7.) Mining Laws Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Thursday next.
 (8.) Agricultural Holdings Bill; second reading;—until Thursday next.
7. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—*Mr. Gormly*, as Chairman, brought up the Eleventh Report from the Printing Committee.
8. ADJOURNMENT:—*Mr. Speaker* stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Sydney—Lang Division, *Mr. Hughes*, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The action of the Police Department in enforcing the provisions of the 10th section of the Police Act, "4th Wm. IV, in reference to the Sunday closing of shops."
 And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Hughes moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and negatived.

15th July, 1897.

9. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.
10. MOREE TO INVERELL RAILWAY BILL,—
(1.) The Order of the Day, having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Moree to Inverell.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Moree to Inverell.
On motion of Mr. Young, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
- (2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Moree to Inverell; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads, and without making or maintaining fences along the said line; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
11. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.
Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only twelve Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, namely, Mr. Affleck, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Davis, Mr. Garrard, Mr. Gillies, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Pyers, Mr. Sleath, Mr. Wheeler, and Mr. Wilks,—
Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at eight 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. 36.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 20 JULY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Pyrotechnic Display during Record Reign Celebrations:—Mr. Edden asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What was the amount of the contract entered into with Mr. J. F. Scott for the pyrotechnic display in Sydney on 22nd June; and were the Government satisfied with the manner in which the display was carried out?

(2.) Did the Committee in charge of the arrangements for the Record Reign Celebrations make inquiry as to the fitness of Mr. Scott to carry out an extensive display?

(3.) Had Mr. Scott any credentials to show that he had ever previously carried out such displays satisfactorily in this Colony?

(4.) Were any other firms asked to tender for the affair; and, if so, will he name them?

(5.) What do the Government propose to pay Mr. Scott?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1 to 4.) No contract was entered into, but overtures were made to the only two firms in the Colony—Messrs. Motherell (through Mr. Williams and others) and Mr. J. F. Scott. The Commission considered the latter the most suitable, from representations made to them.

(5.) The matter is still under consideration.

(2.) Public School Teacher at Wilberforce:—Mr. Morgan asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Does he intend proceeding any further in the matter of the complaint against the Public School teacher at Wilberforce?

(2.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with the inquiry held by the Inspector at Windsor *re* the above matter?

Mr. Garrard answered,—The papers have been referred for further report.

(3.) Free Railway Passes:—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Secretary,—As free passes for train and tram have practically been granted to certain ladies in connection with charitable work, will he arrange for the issue of free passes to workers in the Salvation Army and to others giving services in behalf of charity, and charge the same to the charity Vote?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—No.

(4.) Shooting Case at Munderoran:—Mr. Haynes asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has he obtained the particulars of a case at Munderoran, where a man was mortally wounded by a policeman, who used firearms?

(2.) Will he obtain the papers, and lay them upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Gould answered,—I have received the depositions and papers in connection with the inquest with regard to the death of the man referred to, Robert Spradbrow. There will be no objection to a copy of them being laid upon the Table, if moved for in the usual way.

(5.) Collection of the Land Tax:—*Mr. Kolly*, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Were the Commissioners instructed by the Government to collect the Land Tax for 1896–97 financial year?

(2.) Is it not a fact that the Government knew that the tax was being collected before the assessment was made up?

(3.) Was not the collection of the tax rendered imperative by the loss of Customs duties?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) I am not aware. There would seem to be no necessity for such instruction, however, as the Commissioners were appointed to administer the Act and, consequently, to collect the tax.

(2.) The Government know that an assessment must be made prior to the collection of the tax.

(3.) The provisions of the Taxation Act render the collection of the tax imperative.

(6.)

20th July, 1897.

(6.) Public Roads in the Borough of Cowra :—Mr. M. T. Phillips asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Did the Minister for Works, on the 24th December, 1891, enter into any agreement or bond with the Borough of Cowra respecting certain public roads in that Borough, to wit, that portion of the main road (Bathurst to Cowra) which is wholly within the limits of the said Borough?

(2.) Has the Government since carried out or fulfilled the terms of the said bond in regard to the annual payments agreed to be paid to the said Borough; if not, for what reason?

(3.) Will he state the amount that has been paid annually to the Borough, and the amount that is now in arrears in terms of the bond?

(4.) What was the original amount in terms of the bond agreed to be paid annually for road repairs?

(5.) Is it the intention of the Government to pay the arrears that are now due; if so, when?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) £150, in 1892; £150, in 1893; £90, in 1894; £44 18s. 4d. for six months, 1895; £63 6s., for 1895-6; £56 1s. 2d., for 1896-7.

(4.) £150, "provided always that the Parliament of the Colony votes same."

(5.) The amounts voted have been paid; the Council are therefore not entitled to more.

(7.) Garrison Hospital at Victoria Barracks :—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What is the annual cost of maintaining the Garrison Hospital at Victoria Barracks; and what is the average daily number of patients?

(2.) Has the principal medical officer (Surgeon-Major Williams) the right of private practice?

(3.) Is he aware that the medical officer has refused to visit members of the Military Forces, other than officers, living out of barracks; and will he see that causes for complaint in this direction are not repeated?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces :—

(1.) Diets, medical comforts and drugs, £224. Average daily number of patients, 21.

(2.) Yes, but does not exercise it.

(3.) No.

(8.) Tarrawingie Quarries :—Mr. Thomas, for Mr. Ferguson, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it a fact that no copy of the Mining Regulations has been posted at the Tarrawingie Quarries?

(2.) Will he call the attention of the Inspector to this fact?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The Inspector informs me that regulations were posted in this mine both at the office and in the vicinity of the machinery.

(9.) Artesian Bores :—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has it yet been determined whether the Department of Mines or the Department of Lands has control of the water flowing from bores put down in various portions of the Colony?

(2.) Are millions of gallons of water daily going to waste at these bores, in consequence of a difference of opinion existing on the point above referred to, and which prevents action being taken in the direction of effectively utilising the flow therefrom?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) The control of the Mines Department over the flow from bores has never been questioned. There is consequently no determination needed.

(2.) No. I directed, in view of the loss and suffering caused by the drought, that all unleased bores should be allowed to flow without restriction, and I am glad to say that many miles of drains were cut by private individuals in order to utilise the water thus set free for them. Many creeks and a long stretch of the Castlereagh River were fully watered, and loss prevented by the flow from two bores. The great utility of the bores during the recent drought has more than justified their construction, and it is questionable whether the unrestricted flow of water diminishes in any way the supply.

2. COAL MINES REGULATION ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL :—

(1.) Mr. Edden presented a Petition from certain persons employed at the Newcastle Coal-mining Company's Collieries, praying, for reasons therein set forth, that the Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Bill, which has for its object the limiting of the working hours in mines of coal and shale, may be passed into law.

At the request of Mr. Edden, the Petition was read by the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker.
Petition received.

(2.) The following Petitions in favour of the passing of the above Bill were presented by the Members named :—

(1.) By Mr. Edden—From certain persons employed at the Caledonian Company's Colliery, Waratah.

(2.) By Mr. Fegan—From certain persons employed at the Hetton Coal Company's Colliery, Newcastle District.

(3.) By Mr. Watkins—From certain persons employed at the Seaham Colliery, West Wallsend.

(4.) By Mr. Fegan—From certain persons employed at the Wickham and Bullock Island Coal Company's Colliery, Newcastle District.]

Petitions received.]

20th July, 1897.

3. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—The following Petitions, praying that there may be inserted in the Preamble of the Commonwealth Bill, now before the House, a recognition of the existence of Almighty God, and of His Sovereignty over Nations,—were presented by the Members named,—
 (1.) By Mr. Lyne—From I. E. Ives, Mayor of Sydney, Chairman of a Public Meeting held in Y.M.C.A. Hall, Pitt-street, on 5th July, 1897.
 (2.) By Mr. O'Reilly—From Thomas Moxham, Mayor, Chairman of a Public Meeting held at Parramatta, on 15th July, 1897.
 Petitions received.
4. PAPERS :—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—
 (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Collarindabri, county of Finch, for a Post and Telegraph Office at Collarindabri.
 (2.) Amended notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Great Marlow, county of Clarence, for Approaches to a Bridge over Alamy Creek, at Southgate. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. LICENSING ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Gould, pursuant to leave granted on 9th July, 1897, a.m., presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to enable Licensing Courts and Licensing Magistrates to grant or refuse any application for a brewer's or spirit merchant's license; to provide that the business of the holder of any such license shall be carried on only on premises described in the license or in an indorsement made thereon by such Court or Magistrate; to enable a married woman who has obtained a protection order or judicial separation, or a woman whose marriage has been dissolved, to obtain a publican's or colonial wine license; and for those purposes and purposes incidental thereto to amend the Licensing Acts, 1882-1883,*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
6. PUBLIC TRUSTS BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Bruncker, and read by Mr. Speaker :—
 HAMPDEN, Message No. 42.
 Governor.
 A Bill, intituled "*An Act to regulate trusts of land for public purposes; to amend the law with respect to the reservation and dedication of Crown lands, and the resumption and exchange of land so reserved or dedicated; and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.
 Government House,
 Sydney, 19th July, 1897.
7. PATENTS OFFICE—EXAMINER OF PATENTS (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Wilks moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House correspondence, minutes, and all other papers and documents relating to the change of working of the Patents' Office and the appointment of the Registrar-General as Examiner of Patents.
 Question put and passed.
8. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
 (1.) Law Practitioners Bill; second reading;—to follow after Order No. 2.
 (2.) Amended Life Assurance Encouragement Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 12th October.
9. APPLICATION OF MR. J. F. CONNELLY TO MINE IN THE PARISH OF CURRAJONG :—The Order of the Day having been read for the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Neild, "That the Report "from the Select Committee on 'Application of Mr. J. F. Connelly to mine in the parish of "Currajong," brought up on 18th December, 1895, be now adopted.
 And the Question being again proposed,—
 The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.
 Question put and passed.
10. LAW PRACTITIONERS BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Neild moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put.
 The House divided.

Ayes, 30.

Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Egan,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. T. R. Smith,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Pycars,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Cann,

Noes, 9.

Mr. Bruncker,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,
Mr. Mackay.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Nicholson.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr.

20th July, 1897.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that there was not a Quorum present in the Committee.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being a Quorum present, the Committee resumed.

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

Ordered, that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for To-morrow.

11. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Griffith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that there was not a Quorum present in the Committee.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being a Quorum present, the Committee resumed.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.

Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only nineteen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, namely, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Cann, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Dick, Mr. Edden, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Garrard, Mr. Griffith, Mr. McCourt, Mr. McGowen, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Schey, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Watson, and Mr. Wood,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at Twelve o'clock (Midnight), until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 37.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 21 JULY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Area of the Western Division:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) What is the total area of the Western Division?
- (2.) What area is held under homestead lease?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) 79,970,000 acres.
- (2.) 10,371,544 acres.

(2.) The Western and Central Divisions:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) What area of Crown lands is held under pastoral lease in the Western Division; and what area has been abandoned by pastoral lessees?
- (2.) What area is held in the same Division under occupation license; and what area available for occupation license has not been applied for, or has been abandoned by allowing the license to lapse?
- (3.) Will he give similar information in reference to Crown lands situated in the Central Division?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1 and 2.) Western Division—Area under pastoral lease, 40,232,069 acres; area of leases abandoned, 427,390 acres; area under occupation license, 20,636,438 acres; area of licenses abandoned, 4,145,690 acres.

(3.) Central Division—Area under pastoral lease, 13,252,888 acres; area of leases abandoned, 554,998 acres; area under occupation license, 11,703,603 acres; area of licenses abandoned, 4,040,456 acres.

(3.) Provisions of the Factories and Shops Act:—Mr. Schey asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Are the provisions of the Factories and Shops Act being applied to warehouses and bulk stores, and persons working therein?
- (2.) If not, are these establishments allowed to evade such provisions; and, if so, for what reason?
- (3.) Has he given any instructions on the point; if so, what?
- (4.) Will he see that all such places are registered, and the various provisions of the Act enforced in regard to them?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) The Act applies only to those warehouses and bulk stores where preparing or manufacturing articles for trade is carried on, or where mechanical power or appliance is used in packing goods for transit.

(2.) The Act does not apply to warehouses and bulk stores used solely for sale of goods wholesale, or for storage purposes.

(3 and 4.) Answered by (1) and (2).

(4.) Post Office at Captain's Flat:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) Is he aware that his Department has already spent about £250 in rent for a wooden building for a Post Office at Captain's Flat?
- (2.) Will he take into consideration at an early date the desirableness of erecting a Post Office at Captain's Flat, which town is now rapidly increasing in population?

Mr. Cook answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) After receipt of a report from an Inspector who recently visited the locality, it is not considered necessary, at present, to disturb existing arrangements.

(5.) Law of Libel Amendment Bill:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Secretary,—When will the Bill to amend the Libel Law be introduced by the Honorable J. H. Want, Attorney-General, as promised by him to a deputation of pressmen?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The state of public business does not permit an Answer being given to this Question at present.

(6.)

21st July, 1897.

(6.) Licensing Acts Amendment Bill:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Minister of Justice,—When does he propose to proceed with the Bill dealing with the rights of married women living apart from their husbands to hold hotel licenses?

Mr. Gould answered,—The Bill has been read the first time. The second reading has been fixed for to-day.

(7.) Early Closing Bill:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Did he promise to introduce an Early Closing Bill during the present Session; and, if so, when will the measure be introduced?

Mr. Garrard answered,—I have already informed Mr. Smailes and other Honorable Members that I hope during this Session to introduce an Early Closing Bill.

(8.) Recognition of Supreme Being in Preamble of Constitution Bill:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Secretary for Lands,—As the Christian Endeavour Society and others view with very grave concern the omission of any reference to the Supreme Being in the preamble of the Constitution Bill now before Parliament, will the Government have such recognition inserted in the Bill before it leaves Parliament?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The Bill is not viewed by Ministers as a party measure, and my colleagues therefore adopt an independent attitude in regard to amendments of the Bill.

(9.) Railway Employees, Locomotive Department, Penrith:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that several railway men belonging to the Locomotive Department commenced their holidays at Penrith since 1st July?

(2.) Is it a fact that these locomotive men were supposed to give up their passes on their return to Penrith on the first day the ticket was used?

(3.) Are these men allowed, under the now decision arrived at by the Commissioners, to use the above passes after their return to Penrith the same night the pass is issued?

(4.) Although the men have a month's holiday, are they compelled to pay their railway fare after the first day's trip to Sydney and back—that is, if they only ask for a pass to Sydney?

(5.) Is it the intention of the Commissioners to reconsider their decision, and make such arrangements as will enable railway men and their wives and families to enjoy the privilege that has been in existence ever since the Commissioners took office; if not the same privilege, will they grant passes that will be of service to the men during the whole of their holidays?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—As I have already intimated, in reply to Question No. 5, on the 7th instant, there was a misunderstanding in this matter, the Commissioners' decision that passes were to be issued to and from stated stations being interpreted to limit such passes to a return journey. The Commissioners having been approached by the employees in the matter, it was intimated that there was no intention to limit the pass concession enjoyed when on annual holidays to any particular station. The question, I may point out, is one for the determination of the Railway Commissioners; but I have been informed by them that they recently, following their usual practice, received a deputation from the employees on the subject, and, as they found that the old arrangement was greatly appreciated by the staff, they are considering whether it can be reverted to under regulations which would ensure the proper use and collection of the passes.

(10.) Cost of the Butler Murder Case:—Mr. Affleck, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—What has been the cost to the State from first to last of the proceedings in connection with the Butler murder case?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—It will take some time to prepare this information; but if the Honorable Member will move for a return in the usual way, it will be prepared and laid upon the Table of the House.

(11.) Conveyance of Men to the Fitzroy and Sutherland Docks:—Mr. Hassall, for Mr. Frank Farnell, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it the practice of the Department of Harbours and Rivers to convey the men employed at the Fitzroy and Sutherland Docks in a steamer free of cost?

(2.) How many men are conveyed, on an average, from Sydney, Pyrmont, and Balmain, to the docks every morning, and *vice versa* in the evening?

(3.) What steamers are used for the purpose of this service?

(4.) Are any of the boats in the tug or dredge service used?

(5.) What is the approximate cost of supplying this service free to the men?

(6.) Does he know of any other service in the Government where the employees or officers are conveyed free of cost to their work?

(7.) Will he be good enough to state whether he intends continuing the present system; and, if so, is he prepared to extend the privilege to all Government employees?

(8.) Is he not aware that there would be no difficulty in the way of the men getting to their work if the free boat were abolished?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Two hundred and fifty.

(3.) Tug "Dayspring."

(4.) Yes.

(5.) About £330 per annum.

(6.) No.

(7.) The question of discontinuing the practice was lately considered, and I decided to allow the existing state of things to continue for the present.

(8.) Yes.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st July, 1897.

(12.) Delay of Cable Messages :—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. See*, asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Intercolonial Cable business was delayed two days during last week, and that merchants and others suffered much inconvenience therefrom?

(2.) Is it a fact that the delay was caused through the South Australian operators working the new or so-called Universal Telegraph Code on the Port Darwin overland line, and that it was found necessary to revert to the old system to clear the delayed business and to avoid further delay?

(3.) Will he ascertain from the South Australian Department if it is true that, owing to the usage of the Universal Code, mistakes have been made in certain business messages in South Australia, involving the loss of several hundreds of pounds?

(4.) In view of the Postmaster-General's promise that he would see that the public were not inconvenienced, will he, if any delay or loss to business takes place under the new system, again revert to the Australian Code?

Mr. Cook answered,—

(1 and 2.) I understand that some delay did occur with the international traffic on the Port Darwin line—partly owing to the lines working indifferently through bad weather, and also owing to the difficult code words used in cablegrams, necessitating extra care on the part of the operators.

(3.) I will communicate with South Australia on the subject, but I am not aware of any mistakes or loss.

(4.) I have already taken such steps, so far as this Colony is concerned, that no inconvenience will be caused to the public.

2. COAL MINES REGULATION ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL :—The following Petitions,—praying, for reasons therein set forth, that the Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Bill, which has for its object the limiting of the working hours in mines of coal and shale, may be passed into law,—were presented by the Members named :—

(1.) By *Mr. Watkins*—From certain persons employed at the Newcastle Wallsend Coal Company's Colliery.

(2.) By *Mr. Brunker*—From certain persons employed at Brown's Collieries, Minmi.

Petitions received.

3. CONSTRUCTION OF THE TELEPHONE TUNNELS :—*Mr. Lyne* presented a Petition from *Arthur Latimer McCredie*, of Sydney, Architect, and Consulting Engineer, stating that a Select Committee had been appointed by the House to inquire into and report upon the construction of the Telephone Tunnels; and praying to be represented by counsel or attorney, or in person, before the said Committee, with the right to call witnesses, and to examine and cross-examine all witnesses that may give evidence.

Petition received.

Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.

4. PAPERS :—

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) By-laws of the Borough of Vacluse.

(2.) Return to an Order, made on 2nd June, 1897,—“The Permanent Artillery.”

(3.) Report of the Fire Brigades Board, Sydney, for the year 1896.

(4.) Regulations respecting the Mercantile Explosives Department, and amendments in the Regulations for Competitive Examinations, under the Public Service Act of 1895.

(5.) Report of the Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for the quarter ended June, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Annual Report of the Stock and Brands Branch of the Department of Mines and Agriculture for the year 1896. [*In substitution for the Report laid upon the Table on 3rd June, 1897.*]

(2.) Return to an Order, made on 1st July, 1897,—“Wallsend Colliery.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE :—*Mr. McLean* (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Select Committee now sitting on “Additions and Alterations to the Government Printing Office” have leave to make a visit of inspection to the Government Printing Office.

Question put and passed.

6. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—*Mr. Griffith* moved, without Notice, That the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on the Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill, which lapsed by the House being counted out on Tuesday, 20th July, 1897, stand an Order of the Day for To-morrow.

Question put and passed.

7. MOREE TO INVERELL RAILWAY BILL :—On the Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill being called by *Mr. Speaker*, under Standing Order No. 132,—*Mr. Young* moved, That the Order of the Day be discharged.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.

8. MOREE TO INVERELL RAILWAY BILL (No. 2) :—*Mr. Young* moved, That the Order of Leave, under which the Moree to Inverell Railway Bill was brought in, be now read.

Question put and passed.

And the said Order of Leave (*as recorded in the Votes and Proceedings, No. 35, of Thursday, 15th July, 1897, Entry 10*) was read by the Clerk, by direction of *Mr. Speaker*.

Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Moree to Inverell*,”—which was read a first time.

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

21st July, 1897.

9. **POSTPONEMENTS** :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
 (1.) Law Practitioners Bill, reported ; adoption of report ;—until To-morrow.
 (2.) Usury Limitation Bill ; to be further considered in Committee ;—until Tuesday, 12th October.
10. **ATTORNEYS COSTS ACT OF 1847 AMENDMENT BILL** :—On the Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill being called by Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order No. 132,—Mr. Crick moved, That the Order of the Day be postponed until this day six weeks.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 5.

Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. M. T. Phillips.

Tellers,

Mr. Crick,
Mr. Waddell.

Noes, 63.

Mr. Brunker,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Neild,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Kelly,Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. F. Clarke,Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Bull,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Harris,
Dr. Graham,
Mr. Black,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Archibald Campbell.

Tellers,

Mr. Price,
Mr. Griffith.

And so it passed in the negative.

11. **POSTPONEMENTS** :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
 (1.) Illegitimacy Disability Removal Bill ; second reading ;—until To-morrow.
 (2.) Alienation of Crown Lands ; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Ball, "That, in the opinion of this House, it is not desirable to encourage any further alienation of the Crown lands of this 'Colony' ; and, in view of the advantages and benefits likely to accrue to the settlers and the people generally from the liberal and equitable provisions of the 1895 Act, the Minister for Lands should make all Crown lands in future available only on the perpetual leasehold system, or settlement and improvement leases, as provided for in the 1895 Land Bill"—Upon which Mr. Afleck had moved, that the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after word "Colony" ;—until Tuesday, 3rd August.
 (3.) Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill ; second reading ;—until Wednesday next.

12. **RACECOURSE BETTING BILL** :—On the Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill being called by Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order No. 132,—Mr. Crick moved, That the Order of the Day be discharged.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.

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

- (1.) Field of Mars Resumption Repeal Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to apply the provisions of the Crown Lands Acts to certain land described in the Schedule to the Field of Mars Common Resumption Act of 1874 ; to declare that certain of the said land shall be Crown lands ; and to repeal the said Act,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 21st July, 1897

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

- (2.) Municipal Loans Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Councils of Municipalities constituted by the division of a Municipality to borrow for the repayment of their respective proportions of the debts and liabilities of the divided Municipality,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 21st July, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

- (3.) Service of Equitable Process Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend and declare the law relating to the service of process in the Supreme Court in its Equitable Jurisdiction ; and for other purposes connected therewith,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 21st July, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

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

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

14.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st July, 1897.

14. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Glebe, Mr. Hogue, 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 impropriety of the recent sale by the Trustees of the Free Public Library of some thousands of volumes of books from that Library to Messrs. Angus and Robertson.” And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Hogue moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
15. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.
16. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 38.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 22 JULY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Unclassified Roads in Wagga Wagga Roads District:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What provision is intended to be made on the Estimates of 1897-8 for the unclassified roads in Wagga Wagga Roads District?

(2.) What amount has been granted for those roads for 1896-7, what part has been expended, and what part allowed to lapse?

(3.) Is he aware that, through the extension of the area of land brought under cultivation, there is an urgent necessity that the unclassified roads in the district above-mentioned should be repaired, to enable agriculturists to send their produce to market?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) A fair proportion of the vote now available will be allocated for this district, but I cannot state a definite amount until the annual vote for distribution amongst the unclassified roads of the Colony voted has been passed by Parliament.

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

(3.) The necessities of this district will not be overlooked when distributing the amount of the unclassified vote.

- (2.) Abatements under the Civil Service Act of 1884 :—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Referring to reply given to No. 1 of Mr. Neild's Questions on Tuesday, the 13th July, in which it is stated that the remission of the abatement of 4 per centum from pensions (prescribed by section 55 of the Civil Service Act of 1884) had been made in cases when the services of an officer were dispensed with, or when "an officer retired after serving an exceptionally long period,"—were not the officers more particularly mentioned in Question No. 2 (the late Mr. Fraser, Mr. Stephen, Mr. Newcombe, and Mr. Pearson) in the Service for over forty years—in the case of two of them, over forty-three years?

(2.) If so, did not their length of service considerably exceed in most, or very many, cases that of those officers who were granted the remission of the 4 per cent. deduction from their pensions on the ground of their "services being dispensed with," or of "exceptionally" long service?

(3.) What is the amount of the reduction per annum, according to the certificate of the actuaries, entailed on each of the three last-named officers (Mr. Fraser being deceased) by the enforcement of the abatement from their pensions, but which was remitted in so many cases, during the period from 1st January, 1885, to 31st December, 1895?

(4.) Referring to reply given to Questions 2, 3, and 4, in which the Colonial Secretary states that the matter therein referred to was "not determined by the Public Service Board, but by the "expressed provisions of the Public Service Act (sec. 59)," does not section 60, read in conjunction with that section, confirm the rights as to pensions of those officers entitled to retire, as provided by the unrepealed sections 43 and 44 of "The Civil Service Act of 1884," i.e., those who have attained 60 years of age?

(5.) And as section 55 of that Act is also one of those, having reference to pensions, which still remains unrepealed, and the matters above referred to (as stated by the Colonial Secretary) do not come under the operations of the Public Service Board, is it not competent for the Government, and would it not be a fair and equitable thing, to now remit the abatement made from the pensions of those long-service officers, retrenched last year, who came under sections 43 and 44 of the said Act, thus giving them the same concession as was granted to so many of their junior fellow-officers, whose services were dispensed with, or who were retired, during the eleven years previously?

Mr.

22nd July, 1897.

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) The length of service of the officers mentioned was as follows :—Mr. A. C. Fraser, 41½ years; Mr. W. W. Stephen, 43 years 10 months; Mr. H. C. E. Newcombe, 44 years 1 month; Mr. R. M. Pearson, 40 years 8 months.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) The certificates of the actuaries show that the gross pension, the deduction in respect of arrears of 4 per cent. contributions to the Superannuation Fund, and the net pension in the cases mentioned, were as follows :—

Name.	Gross Pension.	Deduction in respect of Arrears.	Net Pension Paid.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Mr. Stephen	433 6 8	65 13 8	367 13 0
Mr. Newcombe	373 6 8	41 4 8	332 2 0
Mr. Pearson	418 6 8	56 8 8	361 18 0

(4.) The payment by the Government of the arrears of 4 per cent. contributions to the Superannuation Fund in the cases of certain officers was entirely a matter of grace on the part of the Government, and was not in any way authorised by the Civil Service Act of 1884. As a matter of fact, section 55 of that Act expressly provides that an officer shall be entitled to the superannuation allowance, subject to such an annual abatement from such pension as on the certificate of the actuaries shall be the equivalent of 4 per cent. on the total salary received by such officer during his term of office prior to the passing of the Act. The section also provides alternative methods by which officers may pay the abatement, clearly showing that the intention of the Act was that the officer should pay the abatement himself. Section 59 of the Public Service Act of 1895 further provides that no person shall receive out of the Consolidated Revenue of the Colony any payment by way of pension, &c., either directly or indirectly, except as provided by section 60. Section 60 provides that when the services of an officer are dispensed with he shall, if not entitled to retire under sections 43 and 44 of the Civil Service Act of 1884, receive a gratuity; if entitled to retire under the sections named he receives the superannuation allowance provided by the 1884 Act, and in the case of the gentlemen referred to by the Honorable Member they have been dealt with strictly in accordance with the law.

(5.) With regard to the abatements which have been deducted, and the value of which I have quoted, I may state that, in consequence of several decisions of Parliament on the subject in the negative, it was decided by the Government to discontinue the practice.

(3.) Mr. Josiah Thomas, M.P.:—Mr. Edden asked the Secretary for Mines,—Has Mr. Josiah Thomas, M.P., in any way directly or indirectly approached him, or Mr. Slee, the Chief Inspector of Mines, to obtain the position of second Inspector of Mines at Broken Hill?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I have not been approached in any way, nor has the subject ever been hinted at, so far as I am concerned. The Chief Inspector of Mines assures me that he has never been approached upon such a matter by anyone. I have no hesitation in saying that the statement made at Broken Hill recently is a most unwarranted one, without the slightest foundation in fact.

(4.) Sunday Closing:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that all, or nearly all, the shops that were closed on Sunday, 11th instant, under threat of prosecution, were again open on Sunday last, and that no prosecution is to take place?

(2.) What is really the intention of the Government regarding the Sunday closing?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) I am informed by the Inspector-General of Police that many of the shops were closed in consequence, no doubt, of the police cautioning tradesmen against the violation of the law.

(2.) It is intended to comply with the provisions of the law, when it does not interfere with the public convenience.

(5.) City Railway Extension:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) When asking this House to send the City Railway Extension to the Public Works Committee for report, was it his intention they should again examine the same gentlemen they examined as a Royal Commission?

(2.) Is he aware they are doing so?

(3.) Is it necessary the advertisement asking for witnesses should be a standing one; or does the Public Works Act require that such advertisement should be published till the evidence closes?

(4.) Will he suggest, in the interest of the public, that they should close the taking of evidence as speedily as possible, and they should only, as the Chairman of the Committee proposed, take the evidence of those who were not examined by the Royal Commissioners?

Mr. Young answered,—I would ask the Honorable Member to peruse the Public Works Act; and he will observe that the Parliamentary Committee on Public Works may exercise all powers conferred on them by the Act in dealing with matters referred to them by the Legislative Assembly.

(6.) Gosford Population Reserve:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What is the total area, approximately, of land in that portion of the Gosford population reserve, situate between the Maitland and the Mangrove Roads?

(2.) The total area, approximately, of land in the parishes of Narara, Eglington, and Koree?

(3.) The total number of selections and total area of land selected in the parishes of Narara, Eglington, and Koree?

(4.)

22nd July, 1897.

(4.) The number and the area of the selections which have been cancelled, forfeited, or abandoned in the parishes of Narara, Eglington, and Korea?

(5.) The number and the area of the selections still current in the parishes of Narara, Eglington, and Korea?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The information will be supplied in the form of a return, if moved for in the usual manner.

(7.) Taxation of Land of the Peel River Company :—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Did he notice the telegram in the daily press last week that the Peel River Company had disposed of over £20,000 worth of land, and that it averaged over £5 per acre?

(2.) Has the Peel River Company yet sent in their returns for land taxation purposes?

(3.) If so, what is the average price per acre they have sent in for taxation purposes under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act?

(4.) Have they paid their contribution under the said Act; if so, what is the amount paid?

(5.) What is the total area of freehold held by the said company?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) I am aware there has been a recent sale of a portion of the Peel River Company's property.

(2.) Yes.

(3, 4, and 5.) The final decision on the appeal against the assessment of the lands of the company has not yet been determined. It would therefore be highly improper to disclose information contained in the returns.

(8.) Court-house at Cudal :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Court-house at Cudal is in a dangerous state, owing to the state of the foundation and want of proper drainage?

(2.) Will he see that the necessary steps are taken to have the building repaired with as little delay as possible, in order to prevent the building from collapsing?

Mr. Gould answered,—I am not aware that the building is in a dangerous state; but as it is occupied by the Police, I would refer the Honorable Member to the Chief Secretary's Department.

(9.) Proposed Railway from Dubbo to Werris Creek :—*Mr. Simeon Phillips* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has the Government considered the importance of constructing a line of railway from Dubbo to Werris Creek?

(2.) Will this line be included in the railway proposals to be submitted to Parliament during the present Session?

Mr. Young answered,—The construction of this line will not be overlooked when the next list of proposed railways is being considered by the Government.

(10.) Pine Timber in the West Bogan Country :—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What action has been taken to preserve, for timber purposes, the best forests of pine timber in the West Bogan country?

(2.) If no action has yet been taken, will he give instructions at once that reserves of (say) 5 miles square be made wherever the best pine is growing, especially timber near the railway lines?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The matter has been under consideration, but it is not thought to be advisable to reserve tracts of this scrub for the purpose of preserving the timber; but the Department of Labour and Industry has been requested to make provision in certain of the clearing contracts for the exemption from ringing of straight sound pine of a diameter of 12 inches and over, to which effect the Honorable Member was informed on the 5th May last.

2. COAL MINES REGULATION ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL :—The following Petitions,—praying, for reasons therein set forth, that the Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Bill, which has for its object the limiting of the working-hours in mines of coal and shale, may be passed into law,—were presented by the Members named :—

(1.) By *Mr. Dick*—From certain persons employed at Stockton Colliery, Newcastle District.

(2.) By *Mr. James Thomson*—From certain persons employed at the Australian Agricultural Company's Colliery, Newcastle District.

(3.) By *Mr. Brunker*—From certain persons employed at Brown's Collieries, Mimmi.

Petitions received.

3. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL :—The following Petitions,—from residents of Sydney and Suburbs, representing that, in the opinion of Petitioners, Religion and the State should be kept entirely separate, and that religious legislation is subversive of good Government, contrary to the principles of sound religion, and can only result in religious persecution; and praying the House not to insert any amendment or declaration of religious belief in the Commonwealth Bill,—were presented by the Members named :—

(1.) By *Mr. Haynes*.

(2.) By *Mr. Ashton*.

(3.) By *Mr. Cotton*.

Petitions received.

4. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—*Mr. Gormly*, as Chairman, brought up the Twelfth Report from the Printing Committee.

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

(1.) Law Practitioners Bill, reported; adoption of report;—until Tuesday, 3rd August.

(2.) Mining Laws Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Thursday next.

(3.) Agricultural Holdings Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 3rd August.

(4.) Illegitimacy Disability Removal Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 12th October.

22nd July, 1897.

6. PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

*Governor.**Message No. 43.*

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th Section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to sanction the construction of a deepwater harbour at Port Kembla.

*Government House,**Sydney, 20th July, 1897.*

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

7. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Bingara, Mr. Moore, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The administration of the Crown Lands Acts in regard to the determination of the value of improvements to an incoming tenant.”

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

8. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 23 JULY, 1897, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.

The House adjourned, at twenty-three minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 39.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 27 JULY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Work done by Prisoners in Bathurst Gaol :—Mr. Neild asked the Minister of Justice,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that prisoners in Bathurst Gaol are employed in executing marble mantelpieces and other articles required in buildings?
 (2.) Are these sold at prices below those charged by importers and local makers of similar articles?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) The marblework is done for Government buildings only.

- (2.) Cottage Hospital at Captain's Flat :—Mr. Perry, for Mr. O'Sullivan, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that at Captain's Flat there is now a population of over 1,000 persons, and that owing to the outbreaks of typhoid there considerable danger is incurred by patients, who have to be removed to the Braidwood or Queanbeyan hospitals, each of which is about 30 miles distant?
 (2.) Will he consider the desirableness of making a grant in aid of a cottage hospital at Captain's Flat?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) If application is made for a grant in aid of the hospital it will receive consideration.

- (3.) Public School at Newcastle South :—Mr. Edden asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Have steps been taken to ascertain the necessity for more school accommodation at the Newcastle South Public School?

Mr. Garrard answered,—Yes; the local Inspector has recently furnished a report, which is now under consideration.

- (4.) Report of the Inspector of Weights and Measures :—Mr. Whiddon asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Has his attention been called to the Report of the Inspector of Weights and Measures as to the fraud that it is alleged is being perpetrated upon the public in connection with the underweights of commodities sold by certain tradesmen?
 (2.) If so, will he, seeing that this principally affects a large section of the poorer classes, take steps to introduce a measure that will effectively deal with this growing evil?
 (3.) In view of the foregoing, and the importance of the question, when is it likely that he will be able to introduce such a measure?

Mr. Gould answered,—I have not received any report from the Inspector of Weights and Measures of the nature indicated by the Honorable Member.

- (5.) Speeches on Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia—Draft Bill :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What is the cause of the delay in issuing to Honorable Members the special report of the speeches delivered in the general debate on the subject of the Draft of the Constitution Bill?
 (2.) When are copies of same likely to be distributed?
 (3.) Is there any objection to furnish Honorable Members, for the immediate use of their constituents, with a large number of copies of the report of the speeches of the Honorable Edmund Barton, Q. C., and the Attorney-General, delivered in the Legislative Council on the subject of the Draft of the Constitution Bill?

Mr.

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Mr. Bruncker answered,—As the reports of this debate are already periodically published in the bi-weekly *Hansard*, it is not intended to issue the complete reprint until the whole of the debate is finished, when one copy will be forwarded to each Honorable Member in volume form, and five additional copies will be available for each Honorable Member on application to the Government Printing Office.

- (6.) Settlement Leases in the Nyngan District:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he, in view of the number of people wishing to take up land in the Nyngan District, have all lands surveyed for settlement thrown open immediately?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—Every expedition is being used in this direction.

- (7.) Exchange of Land with the Government:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is it true that lessees are being allowed to exchange land with the Government in some cases where the land taken in exchange is 35 miles distant from the land given to the Government?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—The distance does not prevent exchange, provided that the public interest is materially benefited, but the Department discourages exchanges in localities distant from each other unless there is a great and manifest advantage to the Public Estate.

- (8.) Overtime worked on English Mail Days:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is the whole of the staff of the Mail Branch required to work overtime on English mail days?

(2.) Is one part of the staff paid 7s. 8d. per month overtime for such work, while the other part receives no consideration whatever?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Yes; about two hours once a week.

(2.) Yes. All appointments made since 1893 were on the understanding that no overtime should be granted to such officials. Officials not receiving overtime are not required to do extra work before 5 a.m. or after 6 p.m. Those receiving overtime are liable to do extra duty at any time, day or night, when called upon.

- (9.) Lease of Scrub Land to Lessee of Canonbar Holding:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it true that a large area of land on the Bogan River, about 12 miles above Nyngan, is about to be leased for a long term of years on a scrub lease to the lessee of Canonbar Holding?

(2.) Is this land overrun with scrub?

(3.) Is he aware that the land in question, being so near Nyngan, is wanted for small settlement?

(4.) In view of this, will he refuse to grant the lease of the said land?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—Portion of Canonbar Holding lies within the West Bogan country, and it is being dealt with under the proposals submitted to and approved of by this Honorable House.

- (10.) Scrub Lands on the West Bogan:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he have the scrub lands, being cleared on the West Bogan, surveyed into blocks suitable for small settlement, so that immediately the land is cleared it can be thrown open for small settlement?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—Action has already been taken to deal with this land in a manner which will promote settlement and induce the expenditure of the capital necessary for its permanent improvement.

- (11.) Applications under the Patents Law Amendment Act:—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. Price, asked the Minister of Justice,—Referring to Answer to Mr. Price's Question, No. 4, of 7th July, 1897, will he now state what were the applications to amend specifications under the Patents Law Amendment Act, 1895; when each one was filed; when each one was notified to the public; and when each was dealt with, and what was the cause of delay in each case?

Mr. Gould answered,—These applications affect private interests only, and do not appear to justify any intervention on my part. The information sought can, moreover, be obtained by the parties interested upon application to the Patents Office.

- (12.) The Examiner of Patents:—Mr. Travers Jones, for Mr. Price, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Referring to his Answer to Mr. Price's Question No. 4, of 7th July, 1897, when he stated the gentleman occupying the position of Examiner of Patents is quite able to deal with all matters requiring his attention, will he now, regarding it from the standpoint of available time, state what opportunity there is for the officer to attend to his other duties as Registrar-General, &c., &c.?

(2.) Will he ascertain how many days (in other Colonies) of the Chiefs' of the Patents Office time were taken up exclusively in the consideration, the hearing, and the preparing judgment in the matter of the application to amend the cyanide patent?

(3.) Will he take the necessary steps at once to provide for the efficient working of the Patents Office under all circumstances?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) The gentleman now occupying the positions of Registrar-General and Examiner of Patents has sufficient time to, and does, attend to all matters pertaining to each office, and consequently a statement as to the actual time devoted by him to the work of each office does not appear called for.

(2.) No criterion of the time that is being given to the cyanide patent case by the Examiner here could be gauged by obtaining the information asked for.

(3.) The efficient working of the Patents Office is attended to at all times.

2. COAL MINES REGULATION ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Gould presented a Petition from certain persons employed at Greta Colliery, Greta, praying, for reasons therein set forth, that the Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Bill, which has for its object the limiting of the working hours in mines of coal and shale, may be passed into law.

Petition received.

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3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land for improving existing Railway facilities on the Main Suburban Line between Sydney and Parramatta, at Newtown.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Report on the conditions of Aqueducts at Johnstone's Creek, White's Creek, and across Sewage Farm.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. ILLAWARRA HARBOUR AND LAND CORPORATION, LIMITED (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice. That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers relating to the fulfilment or non-fulfilment of the statutory obligations imposed upon the Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation (Limited).
Question put and passed.

5. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Dentists Bill postponed until Thursday next.

6. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Wellington, Mr. Haynes, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The abuse of the provisions of the Railway Act in regard to the issue of free passes to certain ladies for trams and trains.”

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.

7. SENIOR-SERGEANT VAUGHAN'S REDUCTION AND REMOVAL FROM NARRANDERA:—Mr. Chanter moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on “Senior-Sergeant Vaughan's Reduction and Removal from Narrandera,” brought up on 29th October, 1896, be now adopted.
Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

8. CLAIM OF JAMES AND PATRICK GUIHEN, OF KANGAROO VALLEY:—Mr. Alexander Campbell moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of James and Patrick Guihen, of Kangaroo Valley, against the Government, for loss sustained through the action of the Government in disputing their title to certain land at Lower Brogher's Creek, Kangaroo Valley.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Robert Jones, Mr. Morton, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Pyers, Mr. Law, Mr. Rose, and the Mover.

Question put and passed.

9. FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE ADELAIDE FEDERAL CONVENTION:—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to William McMillan, Esq., Member for Burwood, to lay upon the Table of this House copies of all papers laid before the Committee of Finance of the Adelaide Federal Convention, and of all evidence taken before such Committee on the question of federalising the railways, and on other financial proposals relating to the Commonwealth Constitution.
Debate ensued.

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

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

10. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 52.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Moleworth,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Slcath.
Mr. Young,	Mr. Wilks,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Harris,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Rose,	

Noes, 9.

Mr. T. B. Smith,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Barnes.

Tellers,

Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Watson.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

Acto South Wales.

No. 40.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 28 JULY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) President of the Council of the Churches :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has any suggestion been made to the Government, or to him personally, that the President of the Council of the Churches should be made a Member of the Executive Council?
 - (2.) If so, by whom?
 - (3.) Has he himself taken any steps or made any suggestion in the direction of having such an appointment made?
 - (4.) In the event of such or any similar appointment being at any time contemplated, will he take the Parliament into his confidence before definitely committing the Government to it?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1, 2, and 3.) No.

(4.) Answered by reply to Questions 1, 2, and 3.

- (2.) Conferences convened by the present Secretary for Mines :—Mr. Hassall asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) How many Conferences, and for what purposes, have been held under his supervision since he has held office in the present Parliament?
 - (2.) How much have these Conferences cost the country?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Conferences on the following subjects have been held within the period mentioned :—Fruit and Agriculture, Mining, Intercolonial Stock, two Ministerial Conferences on the Tick and other questions, and recently the Agricultural and Dairy Conferences. Their actual cost to the country is very small compared with the good they are likely to do. The cost mainly represents a book transfer in the Treasury, as the expenditure outside railway travelling will, it is estimated, not exceed £856 for the seven Conferences, or an average of £122 each, which includes steam and coach fares for delegates from outlying districts. The information disseminated, and the benefit to be derived by bringing the representative producers together and conferring with the Department, will, it is considered, be of great value to the industries concerned.

- (3.) Government Metallurgical Works at Clyde :—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) What has been the total cost of the Government Metallurgical Works at Clyde up to the present date?
 - (2.) Is it intended to erect works to treat bulk samples of copper and silver ores?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) £7,428 18s. 3d., including the cost of purchasing the land, extension of the railway siding, &c.

(2.) Provision has not yet been made for the erection of smelting works, which would be necessary to treat copper ores, but it is intended to treat such silver ores as can be dealt with by wet process.

- (4.) Moneys due for Boarded-out State Children :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that moneys due for boarded-out State children were not paid for the March quarter until May or thereabouts?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that moneys due for the June quarter are still unpaid?
 - (3.) In view of the necessitous circumstances of the persons entitled to this relief, will he take steps to have payments under this head made promptly when due?

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Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) No; but there was slight delay in completing the payments for March quarter in consequence of the passing of a new Act relating to boarded-out children.

(2 and 3.) Moneys due for June quarter have, as is customary, been in course of payment since the middle of this month, but in consequence of the number of guardians to be paid, and the distance they reside from paying centres, it takes quite a fortnight to complete the payments. There has been no unusual or unnecessary delay in this matter.

(5.) Visiting Days on board the N.S.S. "Sobraon":—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) How many times a year are parents and friends allowed to visit boys on board the N.S.S. "Sobraon"?

(2.) Is it a fact that parents frequently visit this ship, and find that boys have been apprenticed without any intimation having been given them of the fact?

(3.) Will he take steps in future to acquaint parents, where possible, immediately of the removal of their boys from the ship, so as to prevent unnecessary visits?

(4.) Has he yet determined the question of grading the terms of detention on board the ship, as promised early in the Session?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) Twice a year—usually the first Thursday in January and July.

(2.) No. Orders are not issued unless it is known that the boys are on board.

(3.) Answered by No. 2.

(4.) No. It would be first necessary to alter the present Act.

(6.) Sunday-closing:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that all the fruit-shops in the principal streets of Sydney were open on Sunday last as on an ordinary week-day?

(2.) Is it the intention of the Government to allow this Sabbath desecration to pass by unnoticed?

(3.) Is he aware that many of these fruit-shops were closed on the 11th instant, but those that were closed on that date were again open for business last Sunday?

(4.) Does the following reply, given to *Mr. Affleck's* Question on Thursday, 22nd July, "It is intended to comply with the provisions of the law when it does not interfere with the public convenience," mean that all the shops will be allowed to open as they were last Sabbath, or what does it mean?

(5.) Did a deputation of about 100 persons wait on the Minister on Friday, 23rd July, and ask that the law with regard to Sunday-closing might be enforced?

(6.) Did he give the following reply, viz.:—"He thought the laws of the country would be carried out, not only by this Government but by any other, in the mode indicated by the members of the deputation, and he believed that such a course would tend to the moral and social advancement of the people"?

(7.) Does he consider the shops being open on Sunday last the manner in which the deputation wished the law to be carried out; or is that the way in which he "considers the provisions of the law should be carried out, so as not to interfere with public convenience"?

(8.) Is he aware that three cases instituted at the Central Summons Court on Friday, 23rd July, were postponed for a week, so that the Magistrate would see what was the reply to the deputation who waited on him?

(9.) Has he given any instructions in these cases to the Magistrate; or is it his intention to allow the Magistrate to conclude the Government does not wish any punishment to be imposed by allowing the shops to be open last Sunday with impunity, or is it the intention of the Government that all those who kept their shops open last Sunday will be prosecuted?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) No.

(3.) Yes. The police understood that the public should be permitted to obtain light refreshments.

(4.) Shops selling light refreshments were not interfered with, but tobacconists and other trades were required to close, as the public could obtain their supplies on Saturday.

(5.) Yes.

(6.) It is quite possible that the statement referred to was made.

(7.) It is impossible to carry out the law prohibiting Sunday trading satisfactorily unless it is enforced indiscriminately.

(8.) The cases were adjourned at the request of the defendants, who stated that a deputation from their trade was about to wait upon the Chief Secretary, at which they desired to be present.

(9.) No instructions have been given to Magistrates as suggested by the Honorable Member's Question.

(7.) Major-General French's Report on the Military Forces:—*Mr. Chanter* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has Major-General French yet presented his first annual report?

(2.) Does this report specially refer to the present state and discipline of the Defence Force?

(3.) When will a copy of the report be laid upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Major-General is now preparing his report, which will refer to the present state and discipline of the Defence Force, and it will be laid upon the Table of this House in due course.

(8.) Applications for Patents:—*Mr. Wilks* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Referring to his statement, in answer to *Mr. Wilks' Question*, No. 9, of 7th July, 1897, "That the inventors and others interested with them receive substantial benefit by the issue of patents, under which they have secured to themselves the exclusive use of their inventions," will he state how much guarantee of this substantial benefit is given by the Government by the issue of patents?

(2.)

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(2.) Is he aware that the substantial benefit obtained by inventors, and others interested with them, is measured by their ability and opportunity to search against novelty in anticipating publications of inventions, &c., and that a properly-equipped patents' library is an absolute necessity to this end?

(3.) Will he take steps to recommend to the Cabinet the necessity and advisability of spending the revenue receivable from inventors and others for patents in efficiently equipping the Patents' Department with officers and material, and in disseminating information as to patents in force?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1 and 2.) These Questions in certain respects involve matters of opinion, and in others questions of law, and therefore are not such as I feel called upon to answer.

(3.) This Question is now engaging my attention, with the view of materially improving the library of the Patents Office.

(9.) Specimens of Telluride Ore from West Australia:—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. Newman*, asked the Secretary for Mines.—Have any steps been taken, in keeping with his promise, to try and procure specimens of telluride ore from West Australia, with a view of distributing them to the local Wardens in New South Wales for reference upon our gold-fields; and, if so, will he intimate the same through the public Press and *Government Gazette*?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered.—The Mines Department of Western Australia were written to, and have replied to the effect that samples will be sent to this Colony as soon as they can be collected. When received they will be distributed, and an intimation made through the Press in the usual way.

(10.) Court-house at Cudal:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Court-house at Cudal is in a dangerous and dilapidated condition, owing to the defective drainage in the foundation?

(2.) Will he see that immediate steps are taken to have it repaired, to prevent the building from collapsing?

Mr. Bruncker answered.—The matter has been referred to the Government Architect for report as to the state of the building.

(11.) Bi-weekly Mail Service to Lockwood and Boney's Rocks:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is he aware that Boney's Rocks is a large centre of a mining population, and that residents are often put to great inconvenience owing to having mail service only once a week, and that they are compelled to ride miles to the nearest Post Office to post letters?

(2.) Will he see that some steps are taken to grant residents of Lockwood and Boney's Rocks a bi-weekly mail service on horseback for the better convenience of the public?

Mr. Cook answered.—The question of providing increased mail communication to Boney's Rocks is at present under consideration, and will be settled on receipt of an official report upon the matter.

(12.) Improvements on Crown Lands:—*Mr. Barnes* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Will he bring in a short Bill clearly defining that the incoming tenant or selector shall only be charged the amount such improvements are worth to him?

(2.) And, at same time, will he insert a clause in such Bill which will enable selectors who have taken up land at prices far beyond its legitimate value to have such land reappraised to enable them to pay their interest and remain on the land?

Mr. Bruncker answered.—A Bill dealing with improvements is ready for introduction.

(13.) Customs and Excise Revenue:—*Mr. Millen* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that the net Customs and Excise Revenue for this Colony is variously stated in the official publications as follows:—

Year.	Statistical Register.	Wealth and Progress.	Seven Colonies.	Convention Tables.
	£	£	£	£
1891	2,504,675	2,419,439	2,133,799	2,333,499
1892	2,949,957	2,881,933	2,576,207	2,206,094
1893	2,400,810	2,340,984	2,064,378	2,246,275
1894	2,343,865	2,272,359	2,008,803	2,185,857

(2.) Will he state which, if any, of these figures are correct?

(3.) Were the 1894 editions of the Statistical Register and Wealth and Progress published within a few weeks of each other?

(4.) Is he aware that the imports to New South Wales for home consumption of all goods for 1895 are given at £10,494,642 in tables issued by the Government Statistician, in February, 1897, and at £10,543,648 in tables issued in March following?

(5.) Can he state which, if either, is correct?

(6.) Do similar discrepancies exist in respect of other matters throughout the official statistical publications?

Mr. Bruncker answered,

(1.) It is not the case that the net Customs and Excise Revenue of New South Wales for the four years 1891 to 1894 is variously stated in the official publications as set forth by the Honorable Member. The figures which the honorable gentleman quotes from the Statistical Register are accurate. They do not represent the net Customs and Excise Revenue, but, as is clearly shown

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in the Register, the net revenue of the Customs Department, including miscellaneous collections, such as pilotage and removal dues, harbour and light rates, tonnage rates, and license fees. The figures which the honorable gentleman quotes from the Wealth and Progress of New South Wales are accurate. They are taken from the chapter on Public Finance, and represent the net revenue from Customs and Excise according to the Treasury returns. The Treasury returns for a year do not and cannot agree with the collections of the Customs Department during the same year. The figures which the honorable gentleman quotes from the Seven Colonies are accurate. It is clearly stated in that publication that they represent the net revenue from import duties alone, and not, as the Honorable Member states, the customs and excise revenue of the Colony. The figures which the honorable gentleman quotes from the Convention tables were not compiled in the office of the Government Statistician of New South Wales, but at Adelaide, by the statisticians of the various Colonies, in whose proceedings Mr. Coghlan did not take part. They are inaccurate, and are repudiated by the Government Statistician of New South Wales.

(2.) All the figures quoted by the Honorable Member from the three official publications of this Colony are correct.

(3.) Yes.

(4 and 5.) In February, 1897, certain preliminary figures were, in order to facilitate the work of the Convention, issued pending the completion of the tabulation. When the tabulation was completed the correct results were published.

(6.) In point of accuracy the official statistical publications of New South Wales compare favourably with those of any other country in the world.

- (14.) Boundary of Jurisdiction of N.S.W. Government:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—What is the eastern boundary of the jurisdiction of the Government of New South Wales, as defined by the Imperial authorities?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The eastern boundary of the Colony of New South Wales is defined by the Constitution Act 18 and 19 Victoria, cap. 54, and schedule thus—“as that portion of Her Majesty’s territory of Australia lying between the 129° and the 154° of east longitude and northward of 40° south latitude, &c., including all the islands adjacent in the Pacific Ocean within the latitude aforesaid, and also including Lord Howe Island, &c., &c.” It is understood that, by International Law, the limit of jurisdiction on the ocean would be 3 miles from the coast.

- (15.) Salary of His Excellency the Governor:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is the salary of His Excellency the Governor subject to the payment of Income Tax, under the provisions of the Income Tax Act?

Mr. Brunker answered,—No. The Attorney-General is of opinion that no Income Tax is payable by the Governor, as the sum of £7,000 is, by the Schedule to the Constitution Act 18 and 19 Vic., c. 54, payable to Her Majesty direct, and is, therefore, not subject to taxation.

- (16.) Civil Service Examinations:—Mr. Wheeler, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In connection with the recently-held examinations for the Civil Service, how many out of the 218 candidates who presented themselves passed?

(2.) Was not a fee of 10s. demanded from each candidate; and was this fee not paid to the members of the Board of Examiners?

(3.) What are the names of the members of this Board?

(4.) Are not these gentlemen occupants of positions in the service of the State; and were not the examinations referred to conducted during ordinary office-hours?

(5.) Will he see that these examination papers are returned to unsuccessful candidates, so that they may be enabled to discover in which department of learning they have failed?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) Thirty-seven.

(2.) Each candidate who attended the examination was required to pay a fee of 10s., which was paid into the Treasury. These fees are not paid to the members of the Board of Examiners, who, however, receive payment for their services.

(3.) Professor Gurney, M.A.; Professor Butler, B.A.; R. F. Irvine, Esq., M.A.; Professor David, B.A.; Henry Deane, Esq., M.I.C.E., M.A.; Walter Edmunds, Esq., M.A., LL.B.; R. N. Morris, Esq., M.A., LL.D.

(4.) Two only of the gentlemen who formed the Board of Examiners are employed in the Public Service, namely, Mr. Deane and Dr. Morris, and they only receive payment according to scale in respect of the papers they examine. The examination was carried out during the day, but Mr. Deane and Dr. Morris were not present, their attendance being unnecessary.

(5.) There is no objection to acquainting all candidates of the marks they obtained upon their making application for the information. In fact, this has already been done in a number of cases.

- (17.) Report of the Comptroller-General of Prisons:—Mr. Wheeler, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to that portion of the report of the Comptroller-General of Prisons dealing with habitual drunkenness, and in which he suggests that victims should be subjected to a course of treatment in inebriate reformatories?

(2.) Is he aware that such a system of treatment has been adopted in other countries with beneficial results; and will he take steps in the direction of adopting the suggestion and system in this Colony?

Mr. Gould answered,—Not only have I read the report of the Comptroller General of Prisons respecting the treatment of habitual drunkards, but I have also discussed the subject with the late Under Secretary of Justice, and the present Under Secretary when he was Comptroller-General, as well as with Captain Neitenstein himself. I have also read the report of the English Committee of Inquiry into the prison system of that country, in which the subject is dealt with. At present the

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the matter is surrounded by many difficulties. In order to remove one of these difficulties, I have recommended that provision be made on the next Estimates for a sum of money towards the establishment of a suitable institution for the treatment of drunkards. Before such an institution can be opened it will, of course, be necessary to introduce fresh legislation, inasmuch as under existing laws there is no power to detain persons convicted of habitual drunkenness for periods sufficiently long for them to derive any lasting benefit from the treatment. Before such a measure is framed most careful consideration will have to be given to its details, inasmuch as some important questions concerning the liberty of the subject are involved in it. Even in England no reformatory for inebriates to which persons convicted of habitual drunkenness could be committed for long terms has yet been established, and I am not aware that any Act has been passed upon which such an institution could be founded. I am, however, taking steps with a view to ascertain whether any definite principles have been formulated there with reference to the necessary legislation.

- (18.) Conditional Purchase of Mrs. E. J. Ormsby :—Mr. Wood asked the Secretary for Lands,—Has he any objection to laying upon the Table of this House all papers connected with the forfeiture of non-residential conditional purchase No. 89-47, Cowra, taken up by Mrs. Ellen Josephine Ormsby, on the 22nd August, 1889?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Papers of this character should be moved for in the usual way, and reason shown for their production. No opposition will be shown if good reason be adduced to warrant the motion.

2. MUDGEES SHOW GROUND BILL :—Mr. Robert Jones presented a Petition from the Honorable George Henry Cox, and Herbert Alexander Lowe, Trustees of the Mudgee Agricultural Society, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to authorise the trustees of certain lands dedicated for the use of the Mudgee Agricultural Society to mortgage and sell the said lands for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to pay off the present liabilities incurred in effecting improvements on the said lands; and to effect further improvements thereon; and to purchase other lands in the town of Mudgee or in the vicinity of the said town for the use and general purposes of the said Society; and to mortgage the lands so to be purchased for the purpose of securing the purchase money of the said land, and of enabling the said trustees to effect improvements thereon.

And Mr. Jones having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Western Post* newspapers containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—Petition received.

3. COAL MINES REGULATION ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL :—The following Petitions,—praying, for reasons therein set forth, that the Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Bill, which has for its object the limiting of the working-hours in mines of coal and shale, may be passed into law,—were presented by the Members named :—

- (1.) By Mr. Watkins—From certain persons employed at the Co-operative Colliery, Plattsburg.
 - (2.) By Mr. Watkins—From certain persons employed at Maryland Colliery, Plattsburg.
 - (3.) By Mr. Wheeler—From certain persons employed at the Wallarah Colliery, Catherine Hill Bay.
 - (4.) By Mr. Watkins—From certain persons employed at Elemore Vale Colliery, Wallsend.
- Petitions received.

4. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL :—Mr. Haynes presented a Petition from residents of Sydney and Suburbs, representing that, in the opinion of Petitioners, Religion and the State should be kept entirely separate, and that religious legislation is subversive of good Government, contrary to the principles of sound religion, and can only result in religious persecution; and praying the House not to insert any amendment or declaration of religious belief in the Commonwealth Bill.
- Petition received.

5. PAPER :—Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—Regulations and Form under the Public Roads Act of 1897.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. CROWN LANDS BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—

- (1.) Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to the determination of values of improvements, the rescission of reservations of water frontage, and to appeals by the Minister to the Land Appeal Court; to provide for certain holdings within suburban or population boundaries; and to amend section 11 of the Crown Lands Act of 1895; and for other purposes.
- Question put and passed.

- (2.) Mr. Carruthers then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the law relating to the determination of values of improvements, the rescission of reservations of water frontage, and to appeals by the Minister to the Land Appeal Court; to provide for certain holdings within suburban or population boundaries; and to amend section 11 of the Crown Lands Act of 1895; and for other purposes,*"—which was read a first time.
- Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

7. NATIVE FLORA PROTECTION BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Hassall, for Mr. Frank Farnell, moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to protect the Native Flora of New South Wales.
- Question put and passed.

8. AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION ENABLING ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Haynes moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Australasian Federation Enabling Act of 1895, with a view to empowering Parliament to deal with the Commonwealth Bill after its final consideration by the Convention.
- Question put and passed.

28th July, 1897.

9. **POSTPONEMENT**:—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Schey, "That leave be given to William McMillan, Esq., Member for Burwood, to lay upon the Table of this House copies of all papers laid before the Committee of Finance of the Adelaide Federal Convention, and of all evidence taken before such Committee on the question of federalising the railways, and on other financial proposals relating to the Commonwealth Constitution";—postponed until To-morrow.
10. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Gloucester, Mr. Price, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The fractures in the stonework of the front elevation of the General Post Office, facing Martin Place."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Price moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
11. **PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR BILL**:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a deepwater harbour at Port Kembla.
Question put and passed.
12. **CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.
13. **HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to, disagreed to, and amended, the Council's amendments.
On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.
14. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 29 JULY, 1897, A.M.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at two 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. 41.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 29 JULY, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Trespassers on Willoughby Recreation Reserve:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) How many persons were proceeded against by the police for trespass on alleged Crown lands, known as the Willoughby Recreation Reserve; how many paid the fines imposed; how many fines remain unpaid; how many of those prosecuted were imprisoned for non-payment of fines?

(2.) Is it a fact that some persons who were so prosecuted set up the question of title as tenants of another reputed owner, and the case against them dismissed or withdrawn; if so, what number were so dealt with?

(3.) Were these proceedings taken at the instance of the Minister for Lands?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Sixty-six persons were proceeded against by the Cumberland Ranger. In twenty-one cases the fines were paid; fourteen cases were withdrawn; in five cases the summonses were not served; in four cases the fines were remitted; twenty-two commitment warrants were issued, of which two were not executed.

(2.) Yes, and proceedings were withdrawn, but I am not aware of the number of cases so dealt with.

(3.) Yes.

(2.) Trespassers on Willoughby Recreation Reserve:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Were a number of persons proceeded against, fined, and in some cases imprisoned, for trespass on alleged Crown lands known as Willoughby Recreation Reserve?

(2.) Did a number of these people sign a paper at the instigation of the Lands Department acknowledging the Crown rights?

(3.) Was a promise made that no hardship would be inflicted upon persons leaving the land; and has he refused to remit fines to those persons who have removed from the land?

(4.) Is it a fact that several persons who were proceeded against successfully set up the question of title at the Police Court proceedings, and the cases against them dismissed?

(5.) Are proceedings now pending against the Crown at the instance of other claimants; and does the land form portion of the Gore and Artarmon Estates, reported upon by a Select Committee of this House?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) On the suggestion of the Crown Law Officers.

(3.) Instructions were given that undue hardship should not be inflicted upon anyone, but I have refused to remit fines to these persons who put the Crown to unnecessary expense, and harassed the Government in its assertion of public rights as much as possible.

(4.) No; in cases where title was set up proceedings were withdrawn.

(5.) No; but proceedings are being taken by the Crown against other claimants. The land in question is at present the subject of an equity suit.

(3.)

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- (3.) Tug-boat for Port Macquarie:—*Mr. Hassall*, for *Mr. F. Clarke*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is he aware that the subsidised tug-boat for Port Macquarie has been in Sydney for some time, and that no boat has been engaged to take her place?
 (2.) Will he cause inquiries to be made into this matter, and strongly impress upon the contractors their obligation to maintain an efficient and regular tug service?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) It is reported that the repairs to the tug are practically completed, and that she will be on her station again very shortly. During her absence the subsidy has been stopped by the Government.

- (4.) Cable Tramline between Ridge-street and Willoughby Road:—*Mr. Hassall*, for *Mr. F. Clarke*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What is the total cost of construction of the cable tramline between Ridge-street and Willoughby Road?

(2.) Is it now intended to discard the cable tram for that section of the line, and substitute the electric tram?

(3.) If so, what loss of capital will such a change represent?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) I am informed the cost of construction of the line referred to was £42,773.

(2 and 3.) It is intended to work the section referred to by electric traction, as it will be more convenient and economical owing to the electric tram working on other sections of the same system. The existing tramline will be used for the electric trams, although the grip-channels will not be utilised.

- (5.) Desecrating the Lord's Day:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it his intention to direct the Inspector-General of Police to prosecute the Reverend William Curnow for desecrating the Lord's day by writing articles for the editorial columns of the *Sydney Morning Herald*?

(2.) Is it also his intention to direct the necessary steps to be taken to restrain the firm of James Fairfax and Sons from keeping their shop open on the evening of the Lord's day, and employing Christian young women to set in type on the Lord's day evening the Reverend William Curnow's leading articles?

(3.) Is it also his intention to instruct the proper officer to prohibit James Fairfax and Sons' reporters from following their avocation on the Lord's day by reporting the sermons of the Minister in charge of the Pitt-street Congregational Church and of other Ministers?

(4.) Does he intend to so enforce the laws of the country as to restrain the Postmaster-General from carrying on the Lord's day letters and despatches?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I think it ought to be the aim of every man, and especially of one occupying a public position, to use every endeavour to uphold the fame and reputation of our free institutions. Parliament is certainly our highest institution, and, holding the opinion which I have already expressed, I cannot assist in detracting from its honour and dignity, and I therefore decline to answer the Honorable Member's Questions.

- (6.) Visit of *Mr. Gustave Fischer* to America:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What is the probable cost of electrical machinery required to be manufactured in America for the George-street tramway?

(2.) What amount will be paid to *Mr. Gustave Fischer* as expenses to America to superintend this work?

(3.) Is it a fact that *Mr. Fischer's* time will not be entirely taken up; and, if so, would it not be more economical to employ the services of an American engineer of repute to superintend the work; and that *Mr. Fischer* should attend to his duties as Engineer for Tramway Construction at home?

(4.) Who will fulfil *Mr. Fischer's* duties during his absence?

Mr. Young answered,

(1.) £38,119.

(2.) It is estimated that the cost will not exceed £250.

(3.) *Mr. Fischer's* time in America will be entirely taken up with this and other matters affecting tramway construction, and this arrangement will be much more economical than that suggested by the Honorable Member.

(4.) Arrangements will be made for carrying out the duties of the office without extra cost to the Government.

- (7.) Proposed Crown Lands Application Bill:—*Mr. Simeon Phillips* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
 Having in view the fact that large areas of land throughout the Colony will be available for settlement leases after the 1st day of August next, will he endeavour to pass into law without delay at least that part of the proposed Crown Lands Applications Bill as is contained in clause No. 2 of such Bill?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The attention of the Honorable Member is invited to clause 6 of the Crown Lands Bill (introduced last night), which embodies the provisions of clause 2 of the Crown Lands Application Bill.

- (8.) Certificates of Titles granted to People of West Wyalong:—*Mr. Fegan*, for *Mr. Greene*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that several of the business people of West Wyalong have had certificates of titles granted to them by the Warden's order?

(2.) Has an application been made to the Local Land Board by the people referred to above to purchase?

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- (3.) Has the Land Board, after taking evidence and inspecting these allotments, strongly recommended that the applicants be permitted to purchase?
 (4.) Will he at once take steps to have the Land Board's recommendation carried into effect?
 (5.) In view of the great hardship occasioned to the residents of West Wyalong by having no security of tenure, will he make provision to have the same remedied at once?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Certificates of registration under the Mining Board Regulations have been issued to several occupants of land at West Wyalong.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) Yes; in three cases.

(4 and 5.) The question of alienating these lands is being considered by the Mines Department, and upon a decision being arrived at these cases will be finally dealt with.

- (9.) Road between Wyalong and West Wyalong:—*Mr. Fegan*, for *Mr. Greene*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that the thoroughfare between Wyalong and West Wyalong is in an unsafe and dangerous condition to the travelling public?

(2.) Is it a fact that several dangerous accidents have already occurred through the bad state in which the thoroughfare is?

(3.) Is he aware that this is the only thoroughfare available for traffic for the population of about 5,000 people?

(4.) In view of the foregoing, is it his intention to have the thoroughfare between Wyalong and West Wyalong to the White Tank proclaimed as a public road?

(5.) If so, will he at once place a sum of money on the Estimates, with a view of having the road put in proper order?

Mr. Young answered,—

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

(2.) No information to that effect has reached the Department.

(3.) I am not aware what number of people are served.

(4.) The proclamation of public roads rests with the Department of Lands.

(5.) Until the road has been established as a public thoroughfare expenditure cannot take place.

- (10.) Bridge over Murray River at Moama:—*Mr. Chanter* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has any tender been received for redecking the bridge over the Murray River at Moama?

(2.) When is the work to commence; and when is it to be completed?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) An arrangement has been made with the Victorian Government whereby the whole deck of the bridge will be reconstructed. The work is to be carried out by the Victorian Railway Department, to plans which have been approved by this Department. The greater portion of the work will probably be done by the Victorian Railways men, and I am not in a position to state if tenders will be called for any part of it.

- (11.) Case of Joseph Allwood:—*Mr. Watkins*, for *Mr. Macdonald*, asked the Minister of Justice,—
 Will he lay upon the Table of this House copies of the depositions and other papers in connection with the case of Joseph Allwood, who was committed for trial at Nyngan, on the 26th May ultimo, on a charge of embezzling moneys belonging to certain members of the Australian Workers' Union?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Honorable Member's request cannot be complied with, as the Attorney-General declined to find a bill, and in such cases the papers are treated as confidential.

- (12.) Administration of the Law in British New Guinea:—*Mr. Nicholson* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Does the New South Wales Government exercise any control in the administration of the law in British New Guinea?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This Government does not exercise any direct control in the administration of the law in British New Guinea.

- (13.) Inspector of Slaughter-houses at Goulburn:—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Inspector of Slaughtering-houses at Goulburn is acting in a somewhat arbitrary manner to some of the smaller butchers by compelling them to give twelve hours' notice of the exact time when they are going to kill?

(2.) Is he aware that as some of these butchers buy their cattle in the afternoon, and kill the same night, it is impossible for them to comply with such an order?

(3.) Will he have an inquiry made into this complaint, and see if some fairer treatment cannot be accorded to these Goulburn butchers?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Inquiry into this complaint, to which attention had not previously been drawn, has been directed.

- (14.) Improvements at Cook's River:—*Mr. McLean* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has any work yet been commenced in connection with the improvement of Cook's River, as sanctioned in the Cook's River Improvement Bill?

(2.) When will the Department be prepared to proceed with the work at the flood-gates?

(3.) How long will it be before the dredging work is commenced?

(4.) Is it the intention of the Department to construct the embankment across Marrickville Valley by day-work or contract?

(5.) When will this work be proceeded with?

(6.) Has he considered the proposal to construct a stormwater drain through the low-lying lands at Tramvale under the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act, as suggested by the Public Works Committee?

(7.) Will this work be provided for in the next Loan Estimates?

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Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) In about six weeks time.
- (3.) Dredging cannot be commenced until the frontage has been resumed. Plans are now in hand with a view to this being done.
- (4.) By contract.
- (5.) When the land has been resumed.
- (6.) The matter has been under consideration in connection with the low-level system of sewerage, and until that is carried out it is thought nothing should be done.
- (7.) Funds were provided in the Votes for the Western Suburbs Sewerage Scheme.

(15.) Special Rules under Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896 :—Mr. Fegan asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Have the colliery companies framed special rules in accordance with the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulation Act of 1896?
- (2.) Did any of the miners' lodges object to any of the special rules issued by the coal companies?
- (3.) If so, how many, their names, and objections?
- (4.) Did he uphold the objections made by the miners' lodges; and, if not, why not?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This information will take some time to collect and prepare, and I shall have no objection to lay it upon the Table of this House if the Honorable Member will move for its production in the usual way.

(16.) Gaol Gate at Mudgee :—Mr. Robert Jones asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Will he inform the House what has been the cost to the country (the extra expense) in the hanging of the gaol gate at Mudgee—(a) the actual cost of labour; (b) cost of supervision; and (c) cost of railway travelling by the person or persons supervising the work?
- (2.) Is the gate now hung as it would have been if properly done in the first instance?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) (a) Repairing ironwork of gate, £5 11s.; mason dressing chamfer of arch, £3 4s. 6d. (b) Clerk of Works—salary, three days, £2 15s. 10d. (c) Travelling expenses—train, £3 8s.; three days' allowance at 12s. 6d., and cabs 4s.—£5 9s. 6d.
- (2.) I am informed that it is.

(17.) Wool-scouring on the Darling and other Rivers :—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Board of Health have served notices on owners of stations on the Darling and other rivers to discontinue scouring their sheep from the waters thereof?
- (2.) Have any complaints been made to the authorities that the waters of these rivers have been in any way seriously polluted to the injury of the public health; if so, by whom?
- (3.) Is he aware that this wool-scouring is necessary, and gives employment at periods of the year to hundreds of workmen?
- (4.) Is he aware that, if this wool-scouring is prevented, sheep will be shorn in the grease, and the wool sent down to Victoria to be scoured, thus giving employment to other than our own workmen?
- (5.) As this wool-scouring has now proceeded without hindrance for many years past, will he, in a spirit of justice, so arrange that no action shall be taken against these people for a period of twelve months, and thus enable them to make other arrangements before another season is reached?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1, 2, 3, and 4.) Many complaints have been received by the Board of Health during several past years against persons who scoured wool on the banks of different rivers, and allowed the foul water to return to the stream without first purifying it, from settlers who lived on the banks below the place of scouring, and for whom the river was the sole source of water. Such wool-scourers have, in many cases, done everything necessary to prevent fouling the stream as soon as the inconvenience to which they were putting their neighbours was pointed out to them; in two cases it was found necessary to serve a formal notice under section 50 of the Public Health Act, after which the nuisance was abated. In no case has trade been interfered with, the sole requirement insisted upon having been such purification of waste waters as would prevent them from rendering the main stream disagreeable and undrinkable.
- (5.) The provisions under which wool-scourers can now be compelled to purify their waste-waters before returning them to the main stream were inserted in the Public Health Act in consequence of repeated complaints made during several preceding years, but they are not new; they merely furnished an easier and more direct way of securing to the people rights always enjoyed by them under the common law. It is considered, therefore, that wool-scourers have not been taken by surprise.

(18.) Pine Timber in the West Bogan Country :—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Reverting to Mr. Waddell's Question, No. 10, of the 22nd July, to which the Minister replied that the Department of Labour and Industry had been requested to make provision in certain of the clearing contracts for the exemption from ringing of straight and sound pine of a diameter of 12 inches and over, is he aware that during the last few months large quantities of timber, 12 inches and over in diameter, have been rung about 6 miles from the town of Girilambone?
- (2.) If so, will he have provision made in all the clearing contracts for the preservation of straight pine of a diameter of 12 inches and over?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) No complaint has been made to this Department.
- (2.) The attention of the Department of Labour and Industry will be invited to the matter.

(19.) Association Ground, Moore Park :—Mr. Black asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that certain lands have been recently added to the enclosure known as the Association Ground, Moore Park?
- (2.) If so, were such lands part of the original grant? (3.)

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- (3.) If not, under what authority were these lands enclosed?
 (4.) What is the total area granted to the associated cricketers?
 (5.) Was the whole area granted at one time?
 (6.) If not, what are the dates of the various grants?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1, 2, and 3.) A special lease of 5 acres 1 rood and 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ perches has been granted to the Trustees for the time being of the Sydney Cricket Ground for a term of fourteen years from the 1st January last, at an annual rent of £50.

(4, 5, and 6.) About 12 acres were dedicated on the 31st July, 1877, which area, added to that of the special lease, gives a total of 17 acres 1 rood and 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ perches.

- (20.) Roads in the Walcha Division, Tamworth District :—*Mr. Fegan*, for Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What was the total amount voted for roads in the Walcha Division, Tamworth Road District, for the year 1896-7?

(2.) How much of the sum voted was expended?

Mr. Young answered,—This information will be prepared in the form of a return, and laid upon the Table of this House if moved for in the usual way.

- (21.) Crown Lands Bill :—*Mr. Barnes* asked the Secretary for Lands,—In view of his having given notice to obtain leave to bring in a Bill to determine the value of improvements to incoming landholders, will he in such Bill insert a clause which will enable selectors to have their land reappraised in cases where lands have been taken up at prices beyond their legitimate value, and thereby enable them to remain on the land?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—No.

- (22.) Counsel in the McSharry Arbitration Case :—*Mr. Watson*, for Mr. Griffith, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Who are the gentlemen employed as counsel by the Government in the McSharry arbitration case?

(2.) Are these gentlemen paid by the hour, the day, or the year, and at what rate?

(3.) How many months has the case lasted to date?

(4.) How many more months is it expected to last?

(5.) How much has the case cost the Government to date in fees to counsel?

(6.) Are none of the salaried Law Officers in the Government employ considered capable of conducting the case on behalf of the Crown?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Mr. Bruce Smith and Mr. A. A. Hunt.

(2, 3, 4, and 5.) I would refer the Honorable Member to the Answers given by the Colonial Secretary on the 8th instant.

(6.) Yes; but they are not available owing to their time being occupied with other duties.

2. COAL MINES REGULATION ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL :—*Mr. Cook* presented a Petition from certain persons employed in the Coal and Shale Mines of the Western District, praying, for reasons therein set forth, that the Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Bill, which has for its object the limiting of the working hours in mines of coal and shale, may be passed into law.

Petition received.

3. CONSTRUCTION OF THE TELEPHONE TUNNELS :—*Mr. Lyne* presented a Petition from George McCredie, of Sydney, consulting engineer and architect, stating that a Select Committee had been appointed by the House to inquire into and report upon the construction of the Telephone Tunnels; and praying that he may be represented by counsel or attorney, or in person, before the said Committee, with the right to call witnesses, and to examine and cross-examine all witnesses that may give evidence.

Petition received.

Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.

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

Petition received.

5. TRUCK BILL :—*Mr. Young* presented a Petition from certain women, residents of Camden Haven, praying for the introduction and the passing into law of a Bill which will stop the practice of mill-owners paying their labourers in goods instead of money.

Petition received.

6. PAPERS :—

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 Tapio 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 Bulgandramine Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other Holdings.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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7. LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED BY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) The names, positions, and salaries of officers who have been granted leave of absence to visit England during the present year by the Public Service Board.
 - (2.) The term of such leave.
 - (3.) Whether for any purpose of acquiring special information for the State.
 - (4.) The rule (if any) laid down by the Board in regard to extended leave outside ordinary regulations.
- Question put and passed.
8. MUDGEES SHOW GROUND BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
- (1.) Mr. Robert Jones moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorise the trustees of certain lands dedicated for the use of the Mudgee Agricultural Society to mortgage and sell the said lands for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to pay off the present liabilities incurred in effecting improvements on the said lands; and to effect further improvements thereon; and to purchase other lands in the town of Mudgee or in the vicinity of the said town for the use and general purposes of the said Society; and to mortgage the lands so to be purchased for the purpose of securing the purchase-money of the said land, and of enabling the said trustees to effect improvements thereon.
Question put and passed.
 - (2.) Mr. Jones having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled “*A Bill to authorise the trustees of certain lands dedicated for the use of the Mudgee Agricultural Society to mortgage and sell the said lands for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to pay off the present liabilities incurred in effecting improvements on the said lands; and to effect further improvements thereon; and to purchase other lands in the town of Mudgee or in the vicinity of the said town for the use and general purposes of the said Society; and to mortgage the lands so to be purchased for the purpose of securing the purchase money of the said land, and of enabling the said trustees to effect improvements thereon,*”—read a first time.
9. NON-RESIDENTIAL CONDITIONAL PURCHASE, COWRA, TAKEN UP BY ELLEN JOSEPHINE ORMSBY (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Wood moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers connected with the forfeiture of non-residential conditional purchase No. 89-47, Cowra, taken up by Ellen Josephine Ormsby on the 22nd August, 1889.
Question put and passed.
10. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
- (1.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Parkes, “That this Bill be now read a second time”;—until Thursday next.
 - (2.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
 - (3.) Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
 - (4.) North Shore Bridge Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
 - (5.) Liens on Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill; second reading;—until Thursday next.
 - (6.) Mining Laws Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Wednesday next.
 - (7.) Finance Committee of the Adelaide Convention; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Schey, “That leave be given to William McMillan, Esq., Member for Burwood, to lay upon the Table of this House copies of all papers laid before the Committee of Finance of the Adelaide Federal Convention, and of all evidence taken before such Committee on the question of federalising the railways, and on other financial proposals relating to the Commonwealth Constitution,”—until Tuesday next.
 - (8.) Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
 - (9.) Ministerial Portfolios Reduction Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
 - (10.) Supreme Court Appeals Practice Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
11. ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. Bruncker and read by Mr. Speaker:—
- (1.) Field of Mars Resumption Repeal Bill:—
HAMPDEN,
Governor. Message No. 44.
- A Bill, intituled “*An Act to apply the provisions of the Crown Lands Acts to certain land described in the Schedule to the Field of Mars Common Resumption Act of 1874; to declare that certain of the said land shall be Crown lands; and to repeal the said Act,*”—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.
- Government House,
Sydney, 28th July, 1897.

29th July, 1897.

(2.) Municipal Loans Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 45.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Councils of Municipalities constituted by the division of a Municipality to borrow for the repayment of their respective proportions of the debts and liabilities of the divided Municipality,*"—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, 28th July, 1897.

12. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Wilcannia, Mr. Sleath, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The failure of the Government to carry out the snagging of the Darling River."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Sleath moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.

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

14. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Ordered, on motion of Mr. Young, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 14th July, 1897, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the Hunter District Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill,—

Agrees to the amendments in clauses 1 to 14.

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 21, to the insertion of the new clauses to follow that clause, and to the amendments in clause 23, line 15,—because such arbitrary means of collecting rates are considered unnecessary.

Agrees to the omission of clause 24, and to the insertion of a new clause instead thereof, but proposes to amend such new clause by inserting after the word "and" in line 5 the words "at least three times at intervals of one week"; and after the word "upon" in line 7 the word "final,"—in which amendments the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

Agrees to the amendments in clauses 32 to 45.

Disagrees to the insertion of new Schedules "B" and "C,"—because they will not be necessary if the amendments made by the Legislative Council in clauses 21 and 23 are not persisted in.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 29th July, 1897.

15. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,

FRIDAY, 30 JULY, 1897, AM.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.

16. CROWN LANDS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

The House adjourned, at a quarter before Four o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,

Speaker.

Acto South Wales.

No. 42.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 3 AUGUST, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Norfolk Island:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Have the Government of New South Wales assumed any responsibility for the government of Norfolk Island?

(2.) If so, of what nature?

(3.) Have the Government of New South Wales expended, or contracted to expend, any portion of the Consolidated Revenue of New South Wales on behalf of Norfolk Island?

(4.) If so, for what purposes?

(5.) Has the Government Printer of New South Wales done any printing for, or supplied books, stationery, or stores to the Government of Norfolk Island?

(6.) If so, to what value; has his account for same been paid, and by whom?

(7.) Who defrays the cost of publishing proclamations, laws, &c., for Norfolk Island in the *Government Gazette* of New South Wales?

(8.) Has the Secretary for Lands or other Member of the Administration been appointed to any office in connection with the government of Norfolk Island?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I must refer the Honorable Member to my honorable colleague the Secretary for Lands for a reply to this Question.

- (2.) Queen's Counsel in case *Cooper v. Taxation Commissioners*:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) How many Queen's Counsel appeared for William Cooper against the Crown in the equity case *Cooper v. Taxation Commissioners*?

(2.) What responsibilities to the Crown does a barrister accept when his application for silk is granted by the Crown.

(3.) Is it inconsistent with the obligations of a Q.C. to the Crown that he should appear in any suit against the Queen?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Two.

(2.) None, except as to defences in criminal cases.

(3.) No, except as answered by No. 2.

- (3.) Debt of New Zealand to New South Wales:—Mr. O'Sullivan, for Mr. McElhone, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Does the Colony of New Zealand owe any debt to the Colony of New South Wales; if so what is the amount of the debt, and how long has it been owing to this Colony?

(2.) If any amount of money is owing to this Colony by the Colony of New Zealand, will he take steps at once to claim the money due to this Colony?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am not aware of any amount due by the Government of New Zealand to the Government of this Colony.

- (4.) Drafting of the Land and Income Tax Act:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Was the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act drafted by Mr. J. L. Campbell; and, if so, at what cost?

(2.) Is he identical with the eminent barrister on whose advice to a client the Taxation Commissioners demanded the payment of arrears of Income Tax for 1896?

(3.)

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- (3.) Was he engaged on behalf of the Crown to appear for the Taxation Commissioners in the Equity case *Cooper v. Taxation Commissioners* ?
 (4.) If so, what fees did he receive or is entitled to receive for same ?
 (5.) What was the total cost to the Crown of the said suit ?
 (6.) Have the Government decided to rely in the future on the drafting ability of the Parliamentary Draftsmen ?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) The Bill was put into form for Parliament by Mr. J. L. Campbell, barrister-at-law, according to the draft prepared by Mr. McGowan, of New Zealand. Mr. Campbell was paid £56.
 (2.) No.
 (3.) Yes.
 (4.) Fifteen guineas on the brief, and ten guineas a day refresher.
 (5.) Not yet ascertained.
 (6.) Other assistance will have to be obtained when necessary.

- (5.) Bust of the President of the Art Gallery:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Trustees of the Art Gallery have ordered a bust of the President (Mr. du Faur) to be carved in marble ?
 (2.) Is it a fact that the expense is to be defrayed by the State; and, if so, what is the probable cost ?
 (3.) Have the Trustees refused portraits of the late Sir John Robertson and others, who have done great service to the State, on the grounds that it is undesirable that such should be included in the Art Gallery collection ?
 (4.) What special services have been rendered by the President that he should be recognised in such an exceptional manner at the public expense ?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) Yes, subject to their approval as a work of art of sufficient merit, when submitted by the artist.
 (2.) If approved, yes. £105.
 (3.) Yes, but solely on the ground of want of sufficient artistic merit.
 (4.) The services of the President were not considered in the matter.

- (6.) Case of Mary Beattie at the Mudgee Hospital:—Mr. Chanter asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Has his attention been directed to a report in the last issue of *Truth* newspaper, reporting the evidence given at Mudgee, at the coroner's inquest held on the body of Mary Beattie, who was discharged from the hospital there in a dying state, notwithstanding the protest of her stepfather, who was forced to take her away ?
 (2.) Will he consider whether the evidence given demands that a searching inquiry should take place as to the conduct of the responsible officers of the Mudgee Hospital, who forced this unfortunate woman to leave in what appears to be a cruel and inhuman manner ?
 (3.) If it is found necessary, will he take steps to punish those charged with such offence ?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—This matter is now under consideration of the Attorney-General, who is making inquiries in regard to it.

- (7.) Leasing of Land near Jervis Bay:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Has he accepted a tender for the lease of about 20,000 acres of land, near Jervis Bay, as an improvement lease ?
 (2.) How many tenders were received ?
 (3.) Will he give the names of those tendering, and the amount of their tenders ?
 (4.) What is the length of the lease ?
 (5.) What is the nature of the improvements to be effected ?
 (6.) Is the land suitable for pastoral or agricultural occupation ?
 (7.) What is the estimated value of the timber upon the whole area of land ?
 (8.) Is it intended to charge any royalty upon the timber taken from this area ?
 (9.) Is there any condition in the lease for the planting of trees, or otherwise aiding its reforestation ?
 (10.) Will he inform this House why it would not be more in the interests of the State to vest this area of land in the Forest Department, to be dealt with on the lines of other forests ?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) Two tenders for an aggregate area of 20,948 acres near Jervis Bay, county of St. Vincent, have been accepted as improvement leases.
 (2.) Three.
 (3.) Henry John Withers and Alexander Mathie. Withers tendered for the whole area at the upset annual rental fixed for the block, viz.—Block 59, of 12,489 acres, at £39 0s. 8d; block 60, of 8,459 acres, at £26 8s. 8d. Mathie tendered for block 60 only, offering an annual rent of £30 2s. 6d.
 (4.) Twenty-one years.
 (5.) Clearing and burning off all dead wood lying about the forest, as well as all tops and branches of trees, cut in connection with the removal of any timber for trade purposes.
 (6.) No.
 (7.) The Mines Department report that the present estimated value of matured timber—averaging four trees to the acre—is 10s. per acre.
 (8.) No; but license fee of 10s. per month must be paid for each man employed in cutting or removing mature timber or timber for trade purposes.
 (9.) Provision is made that all immature trees must be thinned out by the lessees to a distance of 9 feet apart, and that the work must be done under the supervision of a forester.
 (10.) This involves matters of opinion. (8.)

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- (8.) **Hindoos in the Tweed and Clarence River Districts:**—*Mr. Pycrs*, for *Mr. Ewing*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Can he state the number of Hindoos in the Tweed, Brunswick, Richmond, and Clarence River Districts, specifying the localities as far as possible where they are resident?

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

- (9.) **The Tick Pest:**—*Mr. Pycrs*, for *Mr. Ewing*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) What steps have been taken respecting the cattle-tick pest?
- (2.) Is he yet prepared to state whether *Dr. Koch's* services will be obtained to advise on this subject?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Every effort is being taken by the Department to guard against the introduction of this disease in this Colony.
- (2.) In accordance with the decision arrived at by the late Conference, the Agent-General has already been communicated with as to whether *Dr. Koch's* services can be obtained, and on what terms, but up to the present no reply has been received.

- (10.) **The Rabbit Plague:**—*Mr. Crick*, for *Mr. Willis*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) What has been the total cost of dealing with the rabbit plague, under all heads, from its inception to date?
- (2.) What results are effected for such expenditure?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The total expenditure in dealing with the rabbit plague, including cost of barrier-fences, &c., is £869,900 13s. 1d., of which amount the lessees paid £327,670 18s. 5d., and the Consolidated Revenue £542,229 14s. 8d.

- (11.) **Police Superannuation Fund:**—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What is the present approximate amount of deductions from the Police Force towards the Police Superannuation Fund?
- (2.) What is the approximate amount payable annually to retired police officers?
- (3.) What is the present financial position of the Fund?
- (4.) Was a sum of £13,350 transferred from the Police Reward Fund to this Fund during 1896?
- (5.) Was there a delay in payment of pensions last quarter owing to the condition of the Fund; and, if so, what steps will be taken to ensure the prompt payments of pensions for the present quarter?
- (6.) Is it proposed to introduce legislation during the present Session to place the Fund upon a sounder basis than at present?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) £7,950 per annum, 3 per cent. contributions from the police, but there is a revenue from other sources.
- (2.) £21,000 per annum.
- (3.) The income is inadequate to meet the charges upon the Fund.
- (4.) £10,000 was so transferred in 1896, but the sum of £3,500 was transferred in December, 1895. The two Funds are practically one under the provisions of the Act.
- (5.) I am not aware of any such delay, but the matter will receive consideration when the Estimates are being prepared.
- (6.) The matter will be considered.

- (12.) **Position of Agent-General for New South Wales:**—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has he been offered the position of Agent-General for New South Wales?
- (2.) Or approached in any way as to his willingness to accept the position if definitely offered?
- (3.) What decision has he come to in regard to the matter?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I had no idea that the Honorable Member manifested so warm an interest in my private affairs. I am afraid, however, that I shall be obliged to ask the Honorable Member to submit to a prolongation of his well-known endurance concurrent with his latest experience, and to await further developments before I can disclose my policy.

- (13.) **Lord Howe Island:**—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Lord Howe Island being within the jurisdiction of New South Wales, are all the laws and statutes of New South Wales in force on that island?
- (2.) If not, which of the said laws and statutes are not in force on the said island; and for what reason, and under what statute or Order-in-Council, are such laws or statutes declared to be void so far as Lord Howe Island is concerned?
- (3.) How is the Government of the said island administered; and by what authority have such arrangements been framed or approved of, and under what statute can they be enforced?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am aware, as is the Honorable Member, that Lord Howe Island is a dependency of New South Wales, but no regulations have been framed or established for the purpose of conducting the business of the island except this, that there is a Magistrate who visits the island occasionally for the purpose of seeing that peace and good order are maintained, and also for the purpose of supervising the affairs of the island and adjusting matters as between the residents as closely as possible. All that I can tell the Honorable Member is, that the island is a dependency of this Colony. I dare say the Honorable Member will find that set forth in the Letters Patent with the instructions to the Governor.

- (14.) **Alleged Misbehaviour of certain Public School Scholars:**—*Mr. Crick* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Has his attention been called to the allegations of *Sir Julian Salomons* that at a Public School next to which he lives the obscenity of the scholars is such that he was, in the interests of decency, compelled to erect a stone wall between his residence and the school?

(2.)

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- (2.) Does he consider the allegation, under all the circumstances, worthy of inquiry?
 (3.) If so, will he make inquiry, and inform this House—(a) where the school is situate; (b) the name of the teacher or teachers; (c) the number of pupils of each sex attending the school?
 (4.) If inquiry shows that the allegations of Sir Julian Salomons are true, what steps does he intend to take?

Mr. Garrard replied—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) As Sir Julian Salomons has already explained that he did not make the statement as reported, I think no further steps are necessary.
 (3 and 4.) Answered by No. 2.
- (15.) Accidents at Brighton, Rosebery Park, and Canterbury Park Racecourses:—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. Willis, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is he aware that pony-races are held at places called Brighton and Rosebery Park, in the suburbs of the city of Sydney?
 (2.) If so, how many meetings a year are held at each of these places?
 (3.) What is the width and length of the Rosebery Park and Brighton race-tracks respectively?
 (4.) How many fatal accidents have happened at Rosebery Park?
 (5.) Will he ascertain the number of accidents that have not ended fatally which have occurred at Rosebery Park and Brighton?
 (6.) What is the length and width of a race-track called Canterbury Park?
 (7.) Is it true that sixty-two horses have been entered for one race at Canterbury Park?
 (8.) How many fatal accidents have happened to jockeys riding at Canterbury Park since its inauguration?
 (9.) How many accidents in which jockeys have been injured have occurred at Canterbury Park?
 (10.) What is the liability of the owners or conductors of Canterbury Park, Rosebery Park, and Brighton race-tracks in case of an accident to a jockey riding at their meetings?
 (11.) Does he think it desirable that such places are allowed to exist without proper and efficient supervision?
 (12.) If so, what course does he propose to take to protect the lives and limbs of persons who are forced by circumstances to engage in this dangerous pursuit?

Mr. Brunner answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table a Police report which has been received upon this subject, which will no doubt afford the Honorable Member the information he desires.

2. RABBIT BILL:—Mr. Thomas Brown presented the following Petitions, representing that Petitioners are seriously affected by the presence of the rabbit and other noxious animal pests, and that they will be materially advantaged by effective legislation dealing therewith; and praying that, when considering the Rabbit Bill now before the House in detail, legislation will be provided that will enable the Minister to purchase wire-netting and re-sell same to landholders on such terms as will permit them acquiring same, and will at the same time secure the State against losses on such transactions, thereby enabling holders to cope with the rabbit and other noxious animal pests:—
- (1.) From Selectors and Landholders resident in the Bullock Creek South District.
 (2.) From Selectors, Landholders, and others resident in the Alectown District.
 Petitions received.
3. PAPERS:—Mr. Brunner laid upon the Table,—Police Report respecting accidents on the Canterbury Park, Rosebery Park, and Brighton Racecourses.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
 Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 18th May, 1897,—“Gaol and “Court-house at Mudgee.”
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. MUDGEE SHOW GROUND BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Robert Jones moved, pursuant to Notice,—
- (1.) That the Mudgee Show Ground Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Edden, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Simeon Phillips, Mr. Pyers, and the Mover.
 Question put and passed.
5. AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION ENABLING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Haynes, pursuant to leave granted on 28th July, 1897, presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to amend the Australasian Federation Enabling Act of 1895, with a view to empowering Parliament to deal with the Commonwealth Bill after its final consideration by the Convention*,”—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
6. LAW PRACTITIONERS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Schey moved, That the report be now adopted.
 Question put and passed.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
7. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Griffith moved, That the report be now adopted.
 Question put and passed.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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8. SMALL DEBTS RECOVERY ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Affleck moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 31.

Mr. Barnes,	Mr. M. T. Phillips,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Wright,
Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Baxister,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Reymond,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Wood.
Mr. Morgan,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. J. O. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Cruicksbank,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Affleck.
Mr. Lee,	
Dr. Graham,	

Noes, 23.

Mr. Schey,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Macdonald
Mr. Gould,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Watkins.
Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. Griffith,	
Mr. Cook,	
Mr. Thomas,	
Mr. Dick,	
Mr. Haynes,	
Mr. Young,	
Mr. Ball,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that there was not a Quorum present in the Committee.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only nineteen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, namely, Mr. Affleck, Mr. Ball, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Edden, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Mr. Greene, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Jessep, Mr. McCourt, Mr. Neild, Mr. Nelson, Mr. M. T. Phillips, Mr. Pyers, Mr. Reymond, Mr. Schey, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Watson,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at twenty-nine minutes before Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 43.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 4 AUGUST, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) The Unemployed :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) When will the promises made by the Premier to the starving unemployed immediately before his departure for England, that some thousands of men would be immediately employed on various public works, be redeemed?
 - (2.) What are the names of the Committee of Ministers, of which the Premier spoke on the occasion named, in whose hands the employment of the said men was left by him?
 - (3.) How many meetings of the said Committee have been held, and which Ministers attended them?
 - (4.) When will the next meeting of the said Committee be held?
 - (5.) What works have the said Committee decided should be started for the employment of such a large number of men?
 - (6.) How many of them have been started up to date, and which?
 - (7.) How many men have been employed on them?
 - (8.) How many men have, during the same period, been discharged from other Government works?

Mr. Brunker answered,—So far as the surrounding circumstances permitted, the promises of the Premier have been substantially complied with. I am very pleased to inform the Honorable Member that, in order that I might be able to give him the information asked for in his Questions, I had a consultation this afternoon with the Superintendent of the Labour Bureau, who informed me that the demand for labour during the last month has been stronger than he has known it to be at any time since he has occupied his present position. Comparing the number of applications with those of last year, he estimates that there is an all round reduction in the requirements of the unemployed to the extent of something like 50 per cent. In view of these facts, I think the Honorable Member will be pleased, in the interests of the country, to hear that things are progressing very satisfactorily, and that in fact there is so marked an improvement that he will not have the necessity of placing such Questions on the paper again for some time.

- (2.) Subsidy to Agricultural Societies :—Mr. McCourt asked the Secretary for Mines,—Has he decided on what basis subsidies will in future be paid to Agricultural Societies?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Subsidies to Agricultural Societies will in future be paid on the amount of prize-money awarded for agricultural, pastoral, and other approved exhibits at such societies' shows. This will ensure the Government grants being expended for the purposes for which they are provided.

- (3.) Norfolk Island :—Mr. Schey asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Have the Government of New South Wales assumed any responsibility for the government of Norfolk Island?
 - (2.) If so, of what nature?
 - (3.) Have the Government of New South Wales expended, or contracted to expend, any portion of the Consolidated Revenue of New South Wales on behalf of Norfolk Island?
 - (4.) If so, for what purposes?
 - (5.) Has the Government Printer of New South Wales done any printing for, or supplied books, stationery, or stores to the Government of Norfolk Island?

(6.)

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- (6.) If so, to what value; has his account for same been paid, and by whom?
 (7.) Who defrays the cost of publishing proclamations, laws, &c., for Norfolk Island in the *Government Gazette* of New South Wales?
 (8.) Has the Secretary for Lands or other Member of the Administration been appointed to any office in connection with the government of Norfolk Island?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1 and 2.) No; the Government of Norfolk Island is vested in His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales by Her Majesty's Order-in-Council of the 15th January, 1897. Any formal services rendered by Ministers are purely of an administrative or advisory character. In view, however, of the possible future trade or other relations of Norfolk Island to this Colony, the questions of lending assistance to the islanders in the education of the young, and in securing better means of communication with the outer world, are being considered.

(3 and 4.) No.

(5, 6, and 7.) Yes; accounts for £8 2s. 11d. have already been paid by the Government of Norfolk Island.

(8.) No; the Government have, however, committed to the Secretary for Lands all Ministerial functions on matters relating to the affairs of the island.

- (4.) Fine imposed upon Mrs. Flood, Paddington Police Court:—*Mr. Knox* asked the Minister of Justice,—Has he any objection to laying upon the Table of this House all papers and correspondence relating to the remission of a fine imposed upon one Mrs. Flood, at the Paddington Police Court, on the 23rd of February last?

Mr. Gould answered,—There will be no objection if moved for.

- (5.) Administration of the Medical Practitioners Registration Act:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Are the years of medical study, requisite to entitle admission to practice under the Medical Practitioners Registration Act, estimated as college or calendar years?

(2.) Is it a fact that the term for three college years would represent only two years and nine months; and have applications for registration been refused by the Medical Board on the grounds that applicants have not passed a term of three calendar years at college?

(3.) Have any applicants been admitted by the Board who have passed the lesser term at college?

(4.) Has the Board been allowed to interpret the provisions of the Act otherwise than as provided by its clauses; and is it a fact that the Board claims to interpret the provisions of the Act as applicable to each case submitted for its approval?

(5.) To save inconvenience to applicants, will the Board lay down some fixed rule determining the question of college and calendar years in regard to applications for registration?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Medical Board:—

(1.) The "Annus Medicus" varies in different medical schools, and the Medical Board is guided in its decisions by the official information forwarded by such schools.

(2.) In schools of medicine the years of study include a winter and a summer, or a long and a short, course of lectures, &c., and in a calendar year these two courses are included as one year of study. The Medical Board has invariably recognised this rule.

(3.) The previous Answers show that there is no lesser term, as implied in this Question.

(4.) The Board considers each application for registration, and interprets the provisions of the Act in accordance with the requirements of each case.

(5.) In consequence of the different curricula of the various medical schools throughout the world, it will be very difficult to comply with this request; but in all cases candidates must prove to the satisfaction of the Medical Board that they have passed through such a course of medical study as is required by the Act.

- (6.) Entrance to the Sydney Hospital:—*Mr. Travers Jones*, for *Mr. T. R. Smith*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that visitors to patients in the Sydney Hospital are debarred from entering that institution from Macquarie-street, and are forced to do so by the back entrance in the Domain?

(2.) By whose authority was this order issued, and for what reason?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Sydney Hospital authorities:—

(1.) To meet the convenience of the visitors and the patients a special entrance, together with a large waiting-room, has been provided at the Domain entrance to the hospital.

(2.) By the House Committee, in order that visitors may be accommodated in all weathers and the visitation may be made without inconvenience.

- (7.) Barley grown on the Experimental Farms:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he see that steps are taken on the Government experimental farms to grow barley, with the view of establishing breweries to produce beer for the people on the same principle that he is now doing at Moonbi by growing tobacco-leaf for manufacturing cigars and cigarettes?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—A large area of barley is being put under crop this year at the Wagga Wagga Experimental Farm.

- (8.) Cost of Election of Delegates to Federal Convention:—*Mr. Fegan* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What was the cost of the election of the Federal Delegates to the Adelaide Convention?

(2.) Referring to the provision of section 32 of the Australasian Federation Enabling Act, namely,—

"32. So soon as practicable after the close of the proceedings of the Convention, the question of the acceptance or rejection of the Constitution shall be referred and submitted to the vote of all persons in New South Wales qualified and entitled to vote for the election of Members of the Legislative

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(13.) Extension of the Railway into the City :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is he aware of the holding of a public meeting in the Sydney Town Hall, on Friday last, to advocate the resumption of the most valuable section of Hyde Park for railway purposes?
- (2.) Is he aware that, owing to the intervention of the electoral body in King Division, the conveners of the meeting were unable to get a vote of sympathy with their agitation?
- (3.) Is it the intention of the Government to attempt to force this proposal through Parliament during the absence of the Premier?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1 and 2.) The only information I have upon the subject is that obtained from the newspaper reports.
- (3.) The Honorable Member should fully understand that this and similar proposals are not submitted for the consideration of Parliament until after the Report of the Public Works Committee has been received.

(14.) Alleged Cruelty to Boarded-out State Children :—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) In reference to Dr. Ross's Question (without notice), on the 27th July last, has he made any inquiries in reference to the letter appearing in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of that date, and signed by a "Public School Teacher," complaining that several State children boarded out to different farmers are alleged to be cruelly ill-used, and the lads made drudges of for want of proper inspection?
- (2.) In the interest of a large and an honest and industrious class of the community, will he take steps to compel the writer to give up his name, so that the charges or allegations may be fully inquired into?
- (3.) Are school-teachers permitted to write to the Press, and to cast reflections, under assumed names, on the very class of people from whom they derive their living?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) It is impossible to obtain the writer's name.
- (3.) No.

(15.) Distance between Forbes Road and Amaroo Railway Station :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What is the distance between the Forbes Road (at Keenan's Bridge old hotel) and Amaroo Railway Station?
- (2.) Is it a surveyed public road; and how long has it been used by the public?
- (3.) Has any person been authorised lately to fence across this road, and thereby prevent settlers and the public from using it; if so, by whom was the authority given, and to whom?
- (4.) Will he see that immediate steps are taken to have the fence and obstruction removed in the interest of settlers and the general public?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) The distance is, approximately, $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles.
- (2.) The road has been surveyed but not established throughout the whole length, but I cannot state how long it has been used by the public.
- (3.) No such authority was issued from my Department.
- (4.) It is not the province of this Department to remove obstructions upon roads not on the Departmental schedule.

(16.) Nurses at Coast Hospital, Little Bay :—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) In view of his Answer of 11th May, that the question of "the amelioration of the present condition" under which the nurses at the Coast Hospital are employed would "receive the immediate attention of the Government," is it his intention, as the Minister in whose Department the control of the administration of this hospital is, that "the present conditions" should continue indefinitely?
- (2.) Will he make direct inquiry, and inform this House, in reply to the above Question, who is responsible for the fact that these ladies are still compelled to work seven days a week, with only one day for rest and recreation per month, and how long this condition of affairs is to continue, and the reason for the delay in promised reform which has occurred?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—It has already been pointed out that this involves a very large question, which has to be dealt with most carefully, but I understand that the Public Service Board hope in a few days to be in a position to make a regulation which will meet the case. I may inform the Honorable Member that the matter is receiving every attention possible.

(17.) Proposed Railway from Narrabri to Pilliga :—Mr. Collins asked the Secretary for Public Works,—In submitting the railway proposal from Narrabri to Pilliga, does he intend it as part of an extension to Walgett?

Mr. Young answered,—I do not propose to alter the terms of the motion at present on the business paper.

(18.) Public School at Richmond :—Mr. Morgan asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Is he aware that, in consequence of the last recent rains, the children attending the Public School at Richmond could not get to the water-closets at the time, and for some days after, without going over their boots in water?
- (2.) Has not his attention been called to the unsuitability of the school and premises on several occasions?
- (3.) What steps does he intend taking with regard to same, and when?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) A letter has recently been received from the Mayor of Richmond, in which this was stated.
- (2.) Additions and alterations to the buildings have been recommended.
- (3.) Plans and specifications have been prepared?

(19.)

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(19.) Bridge at Richmond:—Mr. Morgan asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that during the recent rains, and for days after, the water was over the bridge at Richmond 15 feet, and that all traffic was suspended, and that a large number of people suffered much injury and inconvenience in consequence?

(2.) Will he take steps to have this bridge raised so as to prevent a recurrence?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes. The water was reported to be 13 feet over the deck-level, but I am not aware how long the traffic was suspended, nor whether a large number of people suffered injury and inconvenience.

(2.) The desirability of raising the bridge will be considered.

(20.) Master at Public School at Wilberforce:—Mr. Morgan asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is he aware that the head master at the Public School at Wilberforce has been in the habit of systematically travelling on the railway between Sydney and Windsor without paying his fare?

(2.) Is he aware that the said head master was detected by the railway officials travelling without a ticket, and was afterwards summoned to the Windsor Police Court, on complaint of travelling without paying his fare and with intent to avoid payment?

(3.) What was the result of such proceedings; and if any settlement was arrived at, will he state the nature of same?

(4.) Has he read the reports on this case made by the railway station-masters of Windsor and Blacktown and other railway officials; if not, will he do so?

(5.) In view of the premises, what action does he intend taking?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) No.

(3.) I am not aware.

(4.) No.

(5.) This is a matter for the Railway authorities, who, it is presumed, will take the necessary action if the charges are true.

(21.) Sale of Occupation Leases at Grafton:—Mr. McFarlane asked the Secretary for Lands,—Has he yet arrived at any decision with regard to a sale of occupation leases which took place at Grafton on the 6th of July last, and which were advertised in the *Government Gazette* to have been offered at Ulmarra on the same date?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The officers responsible for the error in regard to the sale at Grafton on the 6th July last of certain special leases have been censured, and the Crown Solicitor has been asked to advise as to the legality of the sale, and his report has not yet been received.

(22.) McSharry Arbitration Case:—Mr. Watson, for Mr. Griffith, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) What is his reason for refusing, in his reply to Mr. Griffith's Question *re* McSharry arbitration case, on 29th July, to inform the House what fees are being paid to Messrs. Barton, Bruce Smith, and Hunt in the above case?

(2.) What amount of money has been paid by the Government to these gentlemen up to date in connection with the above case?

Mr. Gould answered,—I have been furnished by the Attorney-General with the following reply to the Honorable Member's Questions:—This case is still pending, and it is very undesirable to give any information in connection with cases which are *sub judice*.

2. COAL MINES REGULATION ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—

(1.) The following Petitions,—praying, for reasons therein set forth, that the Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Bill, which has for its object the limiting of the working hours in mines of coal and shale, may be passed into law,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. Edden—From certain persons employed at the Scottish Australian Company's Colliery, Burwood.

(2.) By Mr. Nicholson—From certain coal-miners of the Illawarra District.

Petitions received.

(2.) Mr. Molesworth presented a Petition from certain coal-owners, representatives of coal-owners, and other persons concerned in the management of coal mines, stating that if the Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Bill, now before the House, the object of which is to restrict the daily hours of labour of all persons engaged in coal mines to eight hours, becomes law, its effect will be to diminish the output of collieries, and to increase the cost of producing coal; that the present condition of the coal trade is not favourable to the imposition of any additional burdens or restrictions; and praying the House not to give effect to the proposed legislation.
Petition received.3. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—Mr. Bavister presented a Petition from certain residents of Sydney and Suburbs, representing that, in the opinion of Petitioners, Religion and the State should be kept entirely separate, and that religious legislation is subversive of good Government, contrary to the principles of sound religion, and can only result in religious persecution; and praying the House not to insert any amendment or declaration of religious belief in the Commonwealth Bill.
Petition received.

4. PAPERS:—

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 13th July, 1897,—“Resumption of Land for Railway Purposes at South Lismore.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—

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

(2.)

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- (2.) Copy of *Gazette* Notice, setting forth the mode in which it is proposed to deal with the Dedication of certain Lands, in accordance with provisions of the 105th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18, and the 41st section of the Act 53 Victoria No. 21.
- (3.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (4.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from Sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (5.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (6.) Report of the Royal Commission to inquire into the Management of the Marine Board of New South Wales.
- (7.) Amended Regulation (No. 78), respecting Travelling Expenses, and Regulation respecting Examination to be passed by Officers to qualify for appointment as Clerk of Petty Sessions, to which a salary of £300 per annum or upwards is attached, under the Public Service Act of 1895.
- (8.) Return to an Order, made on 27th May, 1897—"Applications for Compensation from certain Landholders on Deepwater Creek, Ulmarra."
- (9.) Return to an Order, made on 12th May, 1897—"Travelling Stock and Camping Reserves, Wagga Wagga Land District."
- (10.) Return to an Order, made on 12th May, 1897—"Application of John Lyster for an Original Conditional Purchase, county of Ashburnham."
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. **SMALL DEBTS RECOVERY ACT AMENDMENT BILL**.—Mr. Affleck moved, without notice, That the further consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Small Debts Recovery Act Amendment Bill, which lapsed by the House being counted out on Tuesday, 3rd August, 1897, be restored to the Paper, and stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday, 31st August.
Question put and passed.
6. **NATIVE FLORA PROTECTION BILL**.—Mr. Frank Farnell, pursuant to leave granted on 28th July, 1897, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to protect the Native Flora of New South Wales*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
7. **POSTPONEMENTS**.—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
- (1.) Law Practitioners Bill; third reading;—until To-morrow.
 - (2.) Mining Laws Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.
 - (3.) Primitive Methodist Church Property Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 7th December.
 - (4.) Coal Mines Regulation (Amendment) Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 7th December.
 - (5.) Finance Committee of the Adelaide Convention; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Schey, "That leave be given to William McMillan, Esq., Member for Burwood, to lay upon the Table of this House copies of all papers laid before the Committee of Finance of the Adelaide Federal Convention, and of all evidence taken before such Committee on the question of federalising the railways, and on other financial proposals relating to the Commonwealth Constitution,"—until To-morrow.
 - (6.) Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.
 - (7.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Thursday, 12th August.
 - (8.) Australasian Federation Enabling Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
8. **CROWN LANDS BILL**.—
- (1.) Mr. Carruthers moved, without Notice, That it is a matter of urgent necessity that the Standing Orders be suspended to enable the third reading of the Crown Lands Bill to be taken before other business.
Point of Order.—Mr. Crick pointed out that this Motion was not authorised by Standing Order No. 395, and was therefore irregular, and should not be put in its present form.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Speaker said that all the precedents he could find were in favour of this course being taken under that Standing Order. He thought the Motion was in order.
Question put.
The House divided.
- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Whiddon,
Dr. Graham,
Mr. Lec,
Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Neild,</p> | <p>Ayes, 69.
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Collins,
Mr. Law,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Morton,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Black,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Knox,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Dacey,</p> | <p>Noes, 8.
Mr. Price,
Mr. Crick,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Kelly,
<i>Tellers</i>,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Perry.</p> |
|---|---|---|
- And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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- (2.) Mr. Carruthers moved, without Notice, That so much of the Standing and Sessional Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing, before all other business, of a Bill to amend the law relating to the determination of values of improvements, the rescission of reservations of water frontage, and to appeals by the Minister to the Land Appeal Court; to provide for certain holdings within suburban or population boundaries; and to amend section 11 of the Crown Lands Act of 1895; and for other purposes, through its remaining stages this day.

Point of Order:—Mr. Crick submitted that, inasmuch as the Standing Order No. 395 did not authorise the suspension of the Standing Orders for the purpose of dealing with any particular or stated business, this Motion was irregular.

Mr. Speaker declined to rule against the Motion, and would let the matter be decided by the House.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

- (3.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Carruthers, passed.

Mr. Carruthers then moved, That the title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the law relating to the determination of values of improvements, the rescission of reservations of water frontage, and to appeals by the Minister to the Land Appeal Court; to provide for certain holdings within suburban or population boundaries; and to amend section 11 of the Crown Lands Act of 1895; and for other purposes.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the law relating to the determination of values of improvements, the rescission of reservations of water frontage, and to appeals by the Minister to the Land Appeal Court; to provide for certain holdings within suburban or population boundaries; and to amend section 11 of the Crown Lands Act of 1895; and for other purposes.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 4th August, 1897.*

9. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Cowra, Mr. M. T. Phillips, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The failure of the Minister for Works to carry out the provisions of a certain bond entered into with the Borough of Cowra respecting the payment of £150 annually for road repairs within the said Borough."

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

10. LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Bruncker, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 46.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years, and for the assessment of incomes of companies and persons owning or chartering ships, and the payment of Income Tax on the same; to amend section 23 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895; to amend the provisions for appeals; to limit the deductions from the taxable amount in respect of interest; to provide for valuation rolls; to make better provision in respect of assessment books, and refunds of taxes; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.

*Government House,
Sydney, 4th August, 1897.*

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

11. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Draft Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported—

"That the Committee had, in accordance with section twenty-six of the Act 59 Vic. No. 4, considered the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia—Draft Bill, and had agreed to suggest the following amendments considered desirable."

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SCHEDULE OF SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS.

- Page 1, preamble, line 2. *After* "Constitution]" *insert* "acknowledging Almighty God as the "Supreme Ruler of the Universe."
- Page 2, clause 4, line 1. *Omit* "Unless it is otherwise expressed or implied, this Act" *insert* "The "provisions of this Act relating to the Constitution of the Commonwealth."

CHAPTER I.

THE PARLIAMENT.

PART I.—GENERAL.

- Page 4, clause 6, line 5. *After* "Representatives" *insert* "or the Senate."

PART II.—THE SENATE.

- Page 4, clause 9, lines 1 and 2. *Omit* "six Senators for each State, and each Senator shall have "one vote." *insert* "Members representing the States in proportion to their population. "But no State shall have less than three Senators."

"The Senate shall consist of not less than forty members."

- Page 4, clause 9, line 4. *Omit* "as one electorate." *insert* "such State being divided into "electorates, each returning one Senator."

- Page 5, clause 13, lines 8 to 14. *Omit*—

"For the purposes of this section the term of service of a Senator shall begin on and be "reckoned from the first day of January next succeeding the day of his election, except "in the case of the first election, when it shall be reckoned from the first day of January "preceding the day of his election. The election to fill the places of Senators retiring "by rotation shall be made in the year preceding the day on which they are to retire."

PART III.—THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

- Pages 6 and 7, clause 24, line 3. *Omit* "as nearly as practicable there shall be two members of "the House of Representatives for every one member of the Senate."

"Until the Parliament otherwise provides for the method of determining the number or "members for each quota, there shall be one member for each quota of the people of the "State, and the quota shall, whenever necessary, be ascertained by dividing the popula- "tion of the Commonwealth as shown by the latest statistics of the Commonwealth by "twice the number of the members of the Senate, and the number of members to which "each State is entitled shall be determined by dividing the population of the State as "shown by the latest statistics of the Commonwealth by the quota."

Insert "and, until the Parliament of the Commonwealth otherwise provides, each State "shall have one Representative for every thirty thousand of its people."

- Page 7, clause 25. *Omit* clause 25.

- Page 7, clause 29, lines 5 and 6. *Omit* "Until division each State shall be one electorate."

- Page 8, clause 30. *Add* at the end of the clause "Provided that the Parliament may not enact "that any elector shall have more than one vote."

PART IV.—PROVISIONS RELATING TO BOTH HOUSES.

- Page 10, clause 45, lines 7 and 8. *Omit*—

"II. Who is an undischarged bankrupt or insolvent, or a public defaulter: or"

- Page 11, clause 50. *Omit* clause 50.

- Page 13, clause 52, subsection xv. *After* "Banking" *insert* "excluding State Banking not "extending beyond the limits of the State concerned"

- Page 13, clause 52, subsection xix. *After* "insolvency" *insert* "and lunacy"

- Page 13, clause 52, subsection xxiv. *Omit* "xxiv. Parental rights, and the custody and guardian- "ship of infants"

- Page 13, clause 52, subsection xxviii. *After* "criminals" *insert* "and lunatics"

- Page 14, clause 54, line 1. *Omit* "having for their main object" *insert* "for"

- Page 15, clause 55, lines 3 and 4. *Omit* "the necessary supplies for the ordinary annual services "of the Government," *insert* "any part of the public revenues or moneys,"

- Page 15, clause 55. *Omit* "(5) In the case of a proposed law which the Senate may not amend, "the Senate may at any stage return to it to the House of Representatives with a "message requesting the omission or amendment of any items or provisions therein. And "the House of Representatives may, if it thinks fit, make such omissions or amendments, "or any of them, with or without modifications."

- Page 15, clause 56, line 1. *Omit* "Senate or the"

- Page 15, clause 56, lines 4 and 5. *Omit* "in which the proposal for appropriation originated"

- Page 15. New clause to follow clause 56:—

57. (a) If either House of Parliament shall, in two consecutive Sessions of the same Parliament, with an interval of at least six weeks between, pass and transmit to the other House for its concurrence therein any proposed law which such other House either fails to pass without amendment, within thirty days after receiving the same, in the second Session, or within such period passes, with any amendment not agreed to by the House transmitting the proposed law, the provisions of the following sections of this part shall apply.

(b) The proposed law passed and transmitted in the second Session may include any amendments agreed to by both Houses in the first Session.

The House in which the proposed law originated may pass a resolution that, in its opinion, the proposed law is of an urgent nature, and may transmit the resolution and the proposed law with any amendments agreed to by both Houses up to the time of transmission to the other House, with a request for further consideration.

If within thirty days of the transmission of the proposed law as last aforesaid, or if the Session shall end before the expiration of such period, then within thirty days of the commencement of next Session of the same Parliament, the other House shall not pass the proposed law without amendment, or with such amendment as the House transmitting the same agrees to, the House in which the proposed law originated may resolve that the same be referred to the direct determination of the people.

If

Procedure on disagreement of the two Houses in certain cases.

House may pass a resolution in cases of urgency requesting further consideration of the other House.

Proposed law to be referred to the direct determination of the people.

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4th August, 1897.

If such last-mentioned resolution is passed, a vote of the electors of the Commonwealth as to whether the proposed law, as last transmitted as aforesaid, shall or shall not become law shall be taken, unless in the meantime the House to which it has been transmitted has passed the same. Vote of the electors of the Commonwealth to be taken.

Such vote shall be taken in each State separately, and if the proposed law is affirmed by a majority of the population of the Commonwealth, it shall be presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, as if it had been duly passed by both Houses of Parliament, and on receiving the Royal Assent it shall become law. If not affirmed as aforesaid the proposed law shall not become law, and shall not be again proposed for a period of at least three years. Proposed law when affirmed by a majority to be presented for Royal Assent.

- Page 17, clause 69, line 1. *Omit* "On" *insert* "As soon as practicable after"
- Page 18, clause 71, lines 7 and 8. *Omit* "not less than four"
- Page 18, clause 72, lines 5 and 6. *Omit* "for misbehaviour or incapacity, and then only"
- Page 18, clause 74, line 1. *After* "jurisdiction" *insert* "where the parties consent"
- Page 19, clause 75. *Omit* clause 75
- Page 20, clause 80. *Omit* clause 80
- Page 20, clause 82, lines 4 to 6. *Omit* "and the revenue of the Commonwealth shall, in the first instance, be applied to the payment of the expenditure of the Commonwealth"
- Page 21, clause 86. *Omit* clause 86.
- Page 21, clause 88. *Omit* clause 88.
- Page 21, clause 89. *Add* at end of clause "Provided, however, that nothing in this Act shall prevent any State from regulating the importation of alcoholic liquors or opium in accordance with the laws relating to the sale of alcoholic liquors or opium within the State."
- Page 22, clause 91. *Omit* clause 91.
- Page 22, clause 92, line 1. *Omit* "During the first five years after" *insert* "When"
- Pages 22 and 23, clause 92, line 2. *After* "imposed" *omit* remainder of clause *insert* "the Parliament of the Commonwealth shall raise such amount of revenue as it may deem necessary; and any surplus that may remain after providing for the Commonwealth expenditure shall be returned to the States on such basis as the Commonwealth directs."
- Page 23, clause 93. *Omit* clause 93.
- Page 24, clause 96. *Omit* clause 96.
- Page 24, clause 97. *Omit* clause 97.
- Page 24, clause 98. *Omit* clause 98.
- Page 26, clause 108, lines 1 and 2. *Omit* "nor make anything but gold and silver coin a legal tender in payment of debts." *insert* "unless the Parliament otherwise determines."
- Page 26, clause 110, lines 1 to 3. *Omit* "make or enforce any law abridging any privilege or immunity of citizens of other States of the Commonwealth, nor shall a State"
- Page 26, clause 114, line 4. *After* "States" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 27, clause 120, line 2. *After* "natives" *insert* "and unnaturalized aliens"

CHAPTER VIII.

Amendment of the Constitution.

Pages 27 and 28, clause 121. *Omit* clause 121, *insert* new clause 121.

121. The provisions of this Constitution shall not be altered except in the following manner:— Mode of amending the Constitution.

Any proposed law for the alteration thereof must be passed by an absolute majority of the Senate and of the House of Representatives, and shall thereupon be submitted in each State to the electors qualified to vote for the election of members of the House of Representatives, not less than two nor more than six calendar months after the passage through both Houses of the proposed law.

The vote shall be taken in such manner as The Parliament prescribes.

And if a majority of the electors voting approve the proposed law, it shall be presented to the Governor for the Queen's assent.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 4th August, 1897.

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Chairman of Committees.

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

(2.) Mr. Carruthers then moved, That the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having, in accordance with section 26 of the "Australasian Federation Enabling Act, 1895," duly considered the Draft Federal Constitution framed pursuant to the said Act, desires that the amendments set out in the Schedule hereto may be made in such Draft Constitution, for the reasons given in the said Schedule.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 4th August, 1897.

Debate ensued.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn.

(3.) Ordered, That the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having, in accordance with section 26 of the "Australasian Federation Enabling Act, 1895," duly considered the Draft Federal Constitution framed pursuant to the said Act, desires that the amendments set out in the Schedule hereto may be made in such Draft Constitution.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 4th August, 1897.

SCHEDULE

4th August, 1897.

SCHEDULE OF AMENDMENTS SUGGESTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

- Page 1, Preamble, line 2. *After* "Constitution]" *insert* "acknowledging Almighty God as the Supreme Ruler of the Universe,"
- Page 2, clause 4, line 1. *Omit* "Unless it is otherwise expressed or implied, this Act" *insert* "The provisions of this Act relating to the Constitution of the Commonwealth"

CHAPTER I.

THE PARLIAMENT.

PART I.—GENERAL.

- Page 4, clause 6, line 5. *After* "Representatives" *insert* "or the Senate."

PART II.—THE SENATE.

- Page 4, clause 9, lines 1 and 2. *Omit* "six Senators for each State, and each Senator shall have one vote." *insert* "Members representing the States in proportion to their population."

"But no State shall have less than three Senators."

"The Senate shall consist of not less than forty members."

- Page 4, clause 9, line 4. *Omit* "as one electorate." *insert* "such State being divided into electorates, each returning one Senator."

- Page 5, clause 13, lines 8 to 14. *Omit*—

"For the purposes of this section the term of service of a Senator shall begin on and be reckoned from the first day of January next succeeding the day of his election, except in the case of the first election, when it shall be reckoned from the first day of January preceding the day of his election. The election to fill the places of Senators retiring by rotation shall be made in the year preceding the day on which they are to retire."

PART III.—THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

- Pages 6 and 7, clause 24, line 3. *Omit* "as nearly as practicable there shall be two members of the House of Representatives for every one member of the Senate."

"Until the Parliament otherwise provides for the method of determining the number of members for each quota, there shall be one member for each quota of the people of the State, and the quota shall, whenever necessary, be ascertained by dividing the population of the Commonwealth as shown by the latest statistics of the Commonwealth by twice the number of the members of the Senate, and the number of members to which each State is entitled shall be determined by dividing the population of the State as shown by the latest statistics of the Commonwealth by the quota."

Insert "and, until the Parliament of the Commonwealth otherwise provides, each State shall have one Representative for every thirty thousand of its people."

- Page 7, clause 25. *Omit* clause 25.

- Page 7, clause 29, lines 5 and 6. *Omit* "Until division each State shall be one electorate."

- Page 8, clause 30. *Add* at the end of the clause "Provided that the Parliament may not enact that any elector shall have more than one vote."

PART IV.—PROVISIONS RELATING TO BOTH HOUSES.

- Page 10, clause 45, lines 7 and 8. *Omit*—

"II. Who is an undischarged bankrupt or insolvent, or a public defaulter: or"

- Page 11, clause 50. *Omit* clause 50.

- Page 13, clause 52, subsection XV. *After* "Banking" *insert* "excluding State Banking not extending beyond the limits of the State concerned"

- Page 13, clause 52, subsection XIX. *After* "insolvency" *insert* "and lunacy"

- Page 13, clause 52, subsection XXIV. *Omit* "XXIV. Parental rights, and the custody and guardianship of infants"

- Page 13, clause 52, subsection XXVIII. *After* "criminals" *insert* "and lunatics"

- Page 14, clause 54, line 1. *Omit* "having for their main object" *insert* "for"

- Page 15, clause 55, lines 3 and 4. *Omit* "the necessary supplies for the ordinary annual services of the Government," *insert* "any part of the public revenues or moneys,"

- Page 15, clause 55. *Omit* "(5) In the case of a proposed law which the Senate may not amend, the Senate may at any stage return it to the House of Representatives with a message requesting the omission or amendment of any items or provisions therein. And the House of Representatives may, if it thinks fit, make such omissions or amendments, or any of them, with or without modifications."

- Page 15, clause 56, line 1. *Omit* "Senate or the"

- Page 15, clause 56, lines 4 and 5. *Omit* "in which the proposal for appropriation originated"

- Page 15. New clause to follow clause 56:—

57. (a) If either House of Parliament shall, in two consecutive Sessions of the same Parliament, with an interval of at least six weeks between, pass and transmit to the other House for its concurrence therein any proposed law which such other House either fails to pass without amendment, within thirty days after receiving the same, in the second Session, or within such period passes, with any amendment not agreed to by the House transmitting the proposed law, the provisions of the following sections of this part shall apply.

(b) The proposed law passed and transmitted in the second Session may include any amendments agreed to by both Houses in the first Session.

The House in which the proposed law originated may pass a resolution that, in its opinion, the proposed law is of an urgent nature, and may transmit the resolution and the proposed law with any amendments agreed to by both Houses up to the time of transmission to the other House, with a request for further consideration.

If within thirty days of the transmission of the proposed law as last aforesaid, or if the Session shall end before the expiration of such period, then within thirty days of the commencement of the next Session of the same Parliament, the other House shall not pass the proposed law without amendment, or with such amendment as the House transmitting the same agrees to, the House in which the proposed law originated may resolve that the same be referred to the direct determination of the people.

If

Procedure on disagreement of the two Houses in certain cases.

House may pass a resolution in cases of urgency requesting further consideration of the other House.

Proposed law to be referred to the direct determination of the people.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th August, 1897.

If such last-mentioned resolution is passed, a vote of the electors of the Commonwealth as to whether the proposed law, as last transmitted as aforesaid, shall or shall not become law shall be taken, unless in the meantime the House to which it has been transmitted has passed the same.

Such vote shall be taken in each State separately, and if the proposed law is affirmed by a majority of the population of the Commonwealth, it shall be presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, as if it had been duly passed by both Houses of Parliament, and on receiving the Royal Assent it shall become law. If not affirmed as aforesaid the proposed law shall not become law, and shall not be again proposed for a period of at least three years.

- Page 17, clause 69, line 1. *Omit* "On" *insert* "As soon as practicable after"
- Page 18, clause 71, lines 7 and 8. *Omit* "not less than four"
- Page 18, clause 72, lines 5 and 6. *Omit* "for misbehaviour or incapacity, and then only"
- Page 18, clause 74, line 1. *After* "jurisdiction" *insert* "where the parties consent"
- Page 19, clause 75. *Omit* clause 75.
- Page 20, clause 80. *Omit* clause 80.
- Page 20, clause 82, lines 4 to 6. *Omit* "and the revenue of the Commonwealth shall, in the first instance, be applied to the payment of the expenditure of the Commonwealth"
- Page 21, clause 86. *Omit* clause 86.
- Page 21, clause 88. *Omit* clause 88.
- Page 21, clause 89. *Add* at end of clause "Provided, however, that nothing in this Act shall prevent any State from regulating the importation of alcoholic liquors or opium in accordance with the laws relating to the sale of alcoholic liquors or opium within the State."
- Page 22, clause 91. *Omit* clause 91.
- Page 22, clause 92, line 1. *Omit* "During the first five years after" *insert* "When"
- Pages 22 and 23, clause 92, line 2. *After* "imposed" *omit* remainder of clause *insert* "the Parliament of the Commonwealth shall raise such amount of revenue as it may deem necessary; and any surplus that may remain after providing for the Commonwealth expenditure shall be returned to the States on such basis as the Commonwealth directs."
- Page 23, clause 93. *Omit* clause 93.
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- Page 24, clause 97. *Omit* clause 97.
- Page 24, clause 98. *Omit* clause 98.
- Page 26, clause 108, lines 1 and 2. *Omit* "nor make anything but gold and silver coin a legal tender in payment of debts." *insert* "unless the Parliament otherwise determines."
- Page 26, clause 110, lines 1 to 3. *Omit* "make or enforce any law abridging any privilege or immunity of citizens of other States of the Commonwealth, nor shall a State"
- Page 26, clause 114, line 4. *After* "States" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 27, clause 120, line 2. *After* "natives" *insert* "and unnaturalized aliens"

CHAPTER VIII.

Amendment of the Constitution.

Pages 27 and 28, clause 121. *Omit* clause 121, *insert* new clause 121:—

121. The provisions of this Constitution shall not be altered except in the following manner:—

Any proposed law for the alteration thereof must be passed by an absolute majority of the Senate and of the House of Representatives, and shall thereupon be submitted in each State to the electors qualified to vote for the election of members of the House of Representatives, not less than two nor more than six calendar months after the passage through both Houses of the proposed law.

The vote shall be taken in such manner as The Parliament prescribes.

And if a majority of the electors voting approve the proposed law, it shall be presented to the Governor for the Queen's assent.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 4th August, 1897.

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Chairman of Committees.

The House adjourned, 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. 44.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 5 AUGUST, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Chinese Gambling Saloons:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What is the number of Chinese gambling saloons, shops, or dens known to the police within the area embraced by Liverpool, George, Campbell, and Wexford streets, and Macquarie-street South?
- (2.) What is the approximate number of Europeans nightly present in such dens?
- (3.) Are the gamblers in question permitted to carry on their calling during every night in the week without restriction?
- (4.) If not, will he please say what steps have been taken, and what steps are now being taken, to suppress or eradicate this growing evil in or from the locality named?
- (5.) If the methods adopted are insufficient, will he cause a gambling vigilance officer to be appointed, whose sole duty shall be to exterminate this growing evil from the city?

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

- (1.) It is reported that there are forty-nine shops within the area mentioned where pak-ah-pu lottery tickets are sold.
- (2.) Europeans are noticed to frequent about twenty of these places, but the number attending nightly has not been ascertained.
- (3 and 4.) In twenty-seven of the same shops fan-tan is played by Chinese, and at one a few Europeans and Hindoos play. These shops have been closed on Sundays for some time. Since the prosecution of twenty Chinese for conducting the lottery, pak-ah-pu, in July, 1896, the police have been unable to obtain the necessary evidence for any other proceedings. The tickets are sold openly, but the drawing is kept secret.
- (5.) The police will not relax their efforts to suppress this serious evil.

- (2.) Otto Aerial Wire Ropeways:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has his attention been directed to the advantages of the Otto Aerial Wire Ropeways?
- (2.) Is he aware that these ropeways can be constructed for about £300 per mile, that they are unaffected by floods, and that no country is too difficult for them to cross, and that the working expenses are reduced to a minimum?
- (3.) As these ropeways appear to be working satisfactorily in South Africa, Silesia, Spain, and other countries, and 700 installations of them have been made in various parts of the world, will he take into his consideration the desirableness of adopting them in New South Wales?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I understand that aerial wire ropes have been satisfactorily worked in various parts of the world under special conditions. Should the necessity for such means of communication arise the system will not be lost sight of.

- (3.) Pay to Railway Employees:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that some of the railway employees who could not be spared on the Federal Election day were allowed an hour to record their vote?
- (2.) Is it a fact that in some cases this hour was deducted from their pay?
- (3.) If so, in what branch, on whose authority, and for what reason?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am not aware that any such course as that described by the Honorable Member was pursued. I have referred the matter to the Railway Commissioners, who will inquire into it.

(4.)

5th August, 1897.

- (4.) Tram Collision in Oxford-street :—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is the Departmental inquiry into the recent tram collision in Oxford-street yet completed?
 - (2.) If so, what were the conclusions arrived at by that body?
 - (3.) Recognising the serious importance of this matter to the travelling public, will he lay the papers upon the Table of this House?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed that the Departmental inquiry was completed, but action in regard to it was deferred for a time pending the result (if any) of the reward offered for information in connection with the matter. At present no good purpose will be served by publishing the report. The Railway Commissioners hope to be able shortly to finally deal with the matter.
- (5.) Coloured Races Restriction and Regulation Act :—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has he seen the Premier's reply to an interviewer re the Coloured Aliens Immigration question, in which he stated "that a few stray hawkers make their way here, and a few Afghan camel-drivers, but practically it is not a big question at present"?
 - (2.) Is this the same question which, according to Mr. Reid's statement, was one of the principal reasons that guided him in accepting Mr. Chamberlain's invitation to visit England?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—I know nothing whatever of the circumstances referred to in the Honorable Member's Question.
- (6.) Sunday Closing :—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Affleck, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has he seen the letter by a tobacconist in one of the morning papers on Tuesday last, in which he said, while he shut his shop last Sunday a tobacconist on each side of him was open on that day?
 - (2.) Is it the intention of the authorities to prosecute those two tobacconists for a breach of the law?
 - (3.) How many persons are to be prosecuted, and when, for keeping their shops open last Sunday?
 - (4.) Will he give instructions for all shops to be closed, or else all opened on the Sundays for the future, so that there may be no distinction by anyone in business on the Sabbath?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) The letter contains no information as to who they are.
 - (3.) Only one tobacconist was detected selling last Sunday and he is being proceeded against. Shop-doors are frequently the only entrance to a dwelling, and are, therefore, open when no trade is being carried on.
 - (4.) The Inspector-General of Police has a thorough knowledge of his duties; it is, therefore, unnecessary to issue such instructions.
- (7.) Examinations for the Public Service :—Mr. Edden, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is the high standard of proficiency insisted upon by the Public Service Board, at the examination of candidates for junior clerkships in the Civil Service, necessary for the duties which will be required of them?
 - (2.) Is it the intention of the Public Service Board, on the occasions of future examinations for the Civil Service, to limit the competition, in the first instance, to youths in the lower grade of the Public Service?
 - (3.) If not, why not?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—
- (1.) The Public Service Board consider it necessary to require a high educational standard from candidates in order to ensure, as far as possible, that the Public Service shall be recruited by capable men, who will, in the course of time, be fit to fill the higher positions when called upon to do so. As a result of their experience in connection with the examinations already held, the Board do not apprehend that any difficulty will be experienced in obtaining as many suitable candidates as may be required.
 - (2 and 3.) The Public Service Board are strictly carrying out the intentions of the Public Service Act, section 26 of which provides that, as additions to the Public Service are required, notice thereof must be given three times in a Sydney daily paper, stating the number of appointments proposed to be made, and other particulars as to salary, and time, and place of examination, &c. Persons appointed to the General Division are, by section 23 of the Public Service Act, expressly exempt from passing any examination other than a medical one.
- (8.) Messengers in the Telegraph Department :—Mr. Edden, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Has it not been intimated to the senior messengers in the Telegraph Department that their salaries would be raised to the rate promised three years ago?
 - (2.) Have such extra payments been made; and, if not, will he be good enough to state the reason why?
 - (3.) What opportunities are afforded messengers whose ages are over 21, and whose service exceeds four years, to advance in the Service?
- Mr. Cook answered,—
- (1 and 2.) I am not aware of any such promise.
 - (3.) The senior telegraph messengers are, if suitable, promoted in turn, as vacancies occur, to the positions of junior letter-carrier, mail-boy, cleaner, and other minor offices in the General Division of the Service; and those who qualify themselves by passing the departmental examinations in telegraphy are appointed junior operators.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

5th August, 1897.

(9.) Applications for an Experimental Farm at Garra :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Have any applications been made during the last ten years to establish an experimental farm at Garra, near Molong (on the Molong—Parkes—Forbes railway line), on a reserve of 640 acres approved of and granted by the Government for that purpose?

(2.) Have his officers not repeatedly reported favourably that the climate and district of Garra are most admirably adapted for such a farm, and for wheat and fruit growing.

(3.) What is the reason that the final settlement of the matter is being so long delayed?

(4.) Will he, under the circumstances, say if it is the intention of the Government to establish a model farm at Garra: if so, when?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—An officer of the Department reported favourably upon this Question some years ago, but the reserve at Garra has since been so much cut into by reservations and selections that the balance of available land is not worth retaining, and the Honorable Member has already been informed that it is not intended to establish a farm at this place.

(10.) Manitoba Flour :—Mr. Reymond asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is he aware that Manitoba flour fetches a higher price than any other brand of flour?

(2.) Is he aware that that flour is made out of a wheat called the Red Duluth?

(3.) Has he taken any steps to have that wheat tried at some of the Government farms?

(4.) Will he cause Dr. Cobb or Mr. Guthrie to report on the Red Duluth wheat?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This matter has not escaped attention of the Department, and Dr. Cobb, in the April number of the "Agricultural Gazette," deals with the results of trials with this wheat made at the Experimental Farm at Wagga Wagga.

(11.) Rabbit-proof Fence below Mungindi to Namoi River :—Mr. Hassall asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is he aware it is asserted that the rabbit-proof fence erected from the border-line below Mungindi to the Namoi River is in utter disrepair—that rabbits have free ingress and egress in innumerable places—and that it is entirely without boundary-riders or supervision of any kind?

(2.) Will he cause inquiry to be made as to the truth of these statements, with a view of checking the spread of the rabbit plague northward and eastward?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The following information has been supplied by my honorable colleague the Secretary for Lands :—

(1.) I am not aware that this fence is in utter disrepair. It was erected partly at the expense of the landowners through whose property it is taken, and it has been left to the parties so interested to see to its being kept in order.

(2.) Arrangements were made some days ago for an inspection of the fence to be made by a surveyor, accompanied by an officer of the Rabbit Branch of the Colony of Queensland, as that Colony largely contributed to the expense in the first instance.

(12.) Speeches of the Honorable the Attorney-General and Sir Julian Salomons, Q.C., on Federation :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Will he authorise the Government Printer to furnish Honorable Members with as many copies as they require of the official report of the speeches delivered by the Attorney-General and Sir Julian Salomons, Q.C., against the acceptance of the Commonwealth Bill [by the electors of the Colony?

(2.) Or will he frank to those colonists, whose addresses may be furnished to the Government Printer by Honorable Members, a copy of the report of such two speeches?

(3.) Is it a fact that he is franking a copy of the speech of Mr. Barton, Q.C., to every colonist who is desirous of studying the "sentimental" side of the Federal question?

(4.) If so, will he extend a similar privilege to those who wish to give the intellectual portion of the electors an opportunity to consider the arguments used by Mr. Want and Sir Julian Salomons in laying bare the "suppressed" side of the question?

Mr. Brunker answered,—No.

(13.) Cost of Election of Representatives to the Federal Convention :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What was the total cost of the election to select Representatives of New South Wales to the Adelaide Convention?

(2.) Of that sum how much was paid to the Sydney Press, and how much to the country Press?

(3.) Of the sum paid to the Sydney Press, how much was paid to the *Sydney Morning Herald*?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) For conducting the election, £14,367 18s.; printing, £360 2s. 9d.; and advertising, as provided for by section 8 of the Act, £1,944 10s. 4d. Total, £16,672 11s. 1d.

(2.) Sydney Press, £533 6s. 6d.; suburban, £173 9s.; and country, £1,237 14s. 10d.

(3.) £30 7s. 6d.

(14.) Allowance to Colonial Treasurer or Secretary for Lands travelling to and from Adelaide :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did the Colonial Treasurer or the Secretary for Lands receive any allowance, in his capacity as a Minister of the Crown, in travelling to and from Adelaide, and during his residence in that city?

(2.) If so, how much in each instance?

Mr. Brunker answered,—No special times or occasions are mentioned in the Questions, but, if the Federal Convention be the instance referred to, no payments have been made to the Ministers mentioned on that occasion.

(15.)

5th August, 1897.

- (15.) Payments made during Financial Year 1896-7:—Mr. Lyne asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a number of payments have been made during this financial year for engagements applicable to 1896-7?
 - (2.) Will he give the total of these payments?
 - (3.) Had they been made during that year, what would have been the total expenditure?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—
- (1.) Yes, under the authority of the Audit Act Amendment Act of 1895.
 - (2.) As no separate record was kept of such payments, it would be almost impossible to trace them now, as the vouchers are not in the Treasury.
 - (3.) Impossible to say, but it is considered the payments made and charged to Votes for the year 1896-7, on account of services for the year 1895-6, would more than counter-balance the payments made this year on account of the previous year's services.
- (16.) Broken Hill Water Supply Company:—Mr. Cann asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has any agreement been arrived at between his Department and the Broken Hill Water Supply Company for purifying the water?
 - (2.) If so, what is the nature of that agreement?
 - (3.) When are the company to commence operations?
- Mr. Young answered,—No agreement has been entered into, but I have recently received a letter from the company, stating "it has been decided to adopt one of the schemes recommended, which provides for the erection of a subsidence tank and filters capable of filtering the whole of the water pumped. Mr. Houghton has been appointed consulting engineer for the preparation of plans and specification, and the carrying out of the work generally, and full particulars of the scheme will be submitted for your approval as soon as they have been prepared by Mr. Houghton." To this I have replied, asking them to fix a time at which they expect to have these works completed.
2. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Fourteenth Report from the Printing Committee.
3. PAPERS:—Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Return to an Order, made on 18th May, 1897,—“Case of John Wild and George Hemsworths, Applicants for Gold Lease on Mr. Henry Butler's Private Land, Parish of Mount Lawson.”
 - (2.) Report respecting the Accident to Thomas J. Sampson, at Broken Hill.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. MUNICIPALITIES FRANCHISE EXTENSION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
- (1.) Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Municipalities Act of 1867 by extending the municipal franchise to tenants and owners who do not directly pay rates.
Question put and passed.
 - (2.) Mr. Neild then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to amend the Municipalities Act of 1867 by extending the municipal franchise to tenants and owners who do not directly pay rates,*”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
5. CLAIMS FOR GRATUITIES UNDER THE PUBLIC SERVICE ACT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the names and claims for gratuities, under the Public Service Act of 1895, of applicants classed as casual employes.
Question put and passed.
6. ROADS IN THE WALCHA DIVISION, TAMWORTH ROAD DISTRICT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) The amount voted for roads in the Walcha Division, Tamworth Road District, year 1896-7.
 - (2.) The amount actually expended during that financial year.
- Question put and passed.
7. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
- (1.) Law Practitioners Bill; third reading;—until Tuesday next.
 - (2.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Parkes, “That this Bill be now read a second time;”—until Thursday next.
 - (3.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
 - (4.) Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
 - (5.) North Shore Bridge Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
 - (6.) Liens on Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill; second reading;—until Thursday next.
 - (7.) Native Flora Protection Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 23rd November.
8. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Queanbeyan, Mr. O'Sullivan, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The desirableness of the Parliament of New South Wales protesting against the unfairness of the regulations enforced exclusively against British subjects in the South Sea Islands.” And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
- Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

5th August, 1897.

9. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—

(1.) *Railway from Condobolin to Euabalong*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Condobolin to Euabalong.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

(2.) *Railway from Narrabri to Pilliga*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Narrabri to Pilliga.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

(3.) *Railway from Byrock to Brewarrina*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Byrock to Brewarrina.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

(4.) *Railway from The Rock to Green's Gunyah*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of constructing a line of railway from The Rock to Green's Gunyah.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

(5.) *Railway from Coolamon to Ariah*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Coolamon to Ariah.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

10. LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Cook, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 47.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to regulate and prohibit, in accordance with polls taken in certain areas, the sale and the keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the sale of such liquors within those areas; to amend the law relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors and the granting and renewing of licenses for the same; and for purposes of and incidental to the aforesaid objects.

Government House,

Sydney, 5th August, 1897.

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

11. MOREE TO INVERELL RAILWAY BILL (No. 2):—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be "now" read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. McFarlane moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the word "now" with a view to the addition of the words "this day six months."

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

Debate continued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 6 AUGUST, 1897, A.M.

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

The House divided.

Ayes, 39.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Neild,	Mr. Pycrs,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Willis,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Ashton,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Collins,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Edden.
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Cann,	
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Wood,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Millard,	

Noes, 12.

Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Lync,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Ewing,
Mr. McCourt.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Atleck.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question

5th August, 1897.

Question put,—That this Bill be now read a second time.
The House divided.

Ayes, 37.			Noes, 14.
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Mackay,	Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Willis,	Mr. Nicholson.	Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Gillies,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Wright,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Wheeler,		Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Pegan,	Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Collins,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Hawthorne.	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Pyers,		Mr. Wood,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Millard,		Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,		Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Bavister,		Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Cann,		Mr. Schey.
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Wilks,		<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Edden,		Mr. Lee,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Watson,		Mr. Moore.
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. McGowen,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 45.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 10 AUGUST, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Retirement of Mr. John M. Sheahan from the Public Service :—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Was not Mr. John M. Sheahan in the employ of the Government for about twenty years as Clerk of Petty Sessions and Mining Registrar at Tumberumba, Uralla, Emmaville, Armidale, Nowra, and Scone ?

(2.) Was he not in receipt of a regular salary ?

(3.) Was he not a contributor to the Superannuation Fund ?

(4.) What sum did he contribute to such Fund ?

(5.) What was the actuarial value of such payments, plus interest, on the 30th June, 1896 ?

(6.) Was not Mr. Sheahan dismissed or retired from the Service on the 30th June, 1896, by the Public Service Board ?

(7.) Why was he so retired or dismissed ?

(8.) Did he not apply for a gratuity of one month's salary for every year of service, together with the amount which he had paid into the Superannuation Fund ?

(9.) Did not the Public Service Board refuse the application ?

(10.) After a delay of seven months, did not Mr. Sheahan make application through a solicitor ?

(11.) In response to demand through such solicitor, and under threat of legal proceedings, did not the Board offer Mr. Sheahan a refund of his payments, without interest, and a gratuity of £1 ?

(12.) Has the action of the Public Service Board in this matter the approval of the Government ?

Mr. Brunner answered,—With regard to Questions Nos. 1 to 12, which the Honorable Member has placed on to-day's business paper, I recognise readily the very great care and attention which the Honorable Member must have devoted to the compilation of the subject matter contained in these Questions. I am sure, however, that the Honorable Member has some higher motive in view than that of asking me to give a categorical reply to each of these Questions. Although I recognise the time involved in the preparation of these details, I would suggest to the Honorable Member that he should ask for the information he requires in the form of a return, to the production of which I shall offer no objection. The same Answer will apply to Questions Nos. 2 to 12 inclusive on the business paper for to-day.

(2.) Government Advertisements in the *Herald* and *Telegraph* :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—(1.) How much money has been paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for official advertising in the *Sydney Morning Herald* since the present Administration assumed office ?(2.) How much during the same period has been paid to the *Daily Telegraph* for the like purpose ?

Mr. Brunner answered,—Since the 1st April, 1895, the date on which the supervision of the Government advertising was taken over by the Government Printer's Department, the amounts paid to the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Daily Telegraph*, *Evening News*, and *Australian Star*, up to the 30th June last, are as follows :—*Sydney Morning Herald*, £2,055 3s. 6d. ; *Daily Telegraph*, £1,888 5s. 3d. ; *Evening News*, £823 11s. 5d. ; *Australian Star*, £866 15s. 8d. It would take some time to obtain the information prior to the date mentioned.

(3.) Salaries not subject to Payment of Income Tax :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Are any official salaries, other than the salary of the Governor, appropriated by the schedules of the Constitution Act not subject to the payment of Income Tax ?

(2.) If so, whose ?

(3.) Are any salaries appropriated by local statutes not subject to the payment of Income Tax ?

(4.) If so, whose ?

(5.)

10th August, 1897.

(5.) Are any official pensions, granted under Imperial or local statutes, not subject to the payment of Income Tax?

(6.) If so, whose?

(7.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House a copy of the Attorney-General's opinion that the salary of the Governor is not taxable under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1 to 6.) The Commissioners are not aware that any such salaries or pensions, other than the salary of his Excellency the Governor, are exempt from payment of Income Tax.

(7.) I have the opinion of the Honorable the Attorney-General with regard to this matter, but I have made it a practice since I have held the position of Minister, except in exceptional cases, to consider the Attorney-General's opinion a confidential communication.

(4.) Cost of Carriage of Mineral Ores on the Railways:—*Mr. Neild*, for *Mr. Parkes*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) In view of the large works lately erected upon the seaboard for the treatment of large parcels of mineral ores of low grade, will he consult the Commissioners for Railways, with a view to obtaining a substantial reduction upon the cost of carriage of such ores?

(2.) Is he aware that the cost of freight prevents numbers of miners in the country districts from forwarding ores to be treated; and that if a substantial concession in carriage be granted the extra traffic will fully compensate?

(3.) In view of the fact that such a step must greatly develop the mining pursuits, will he give the fullest and earliest consideration to the matter?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This matter was brought under the attention of the Railway Commissioners a short time ago, as well as the question of freight charged for the carriage of mining machinery, and towards the end of 1895 the freight on mining machinery was reduced practically one half, while the rate for the carriage of ore is now as low as $\frac{1}{4}$ d. (half-penny) per ton per mile.

(5.) Water Supply for Captain's Flat:—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is he aware that typhoid fever prevails at Captain's Flat during the summer season owing to defective water supply?

(2.) As the mining-field is now well established, and has a population of over 1,000 persons, and which population is daily increasing, will he take into consideration the desirableness of carrying out a water supply for Captain's Flat?

(3.) With that end in view, will he have a report made upon the matter by an engineer?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,

(1.) It has been stated that typhoid fever appeared at this place.

(2 and 3.) In view of the reports received, the Government do not feel justified in incurring any large expenditure for this work at present, but a further report is being obtained as to whether an inexpensive scheme can be obtained. When this is received a decision will be arrived at.

(6.) South Coast Dairy Stock:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Did *Mr. O'Callaghan*, the dairy expert to the Department, recently purchase a number of dairy cattle on the South Coast; and, if so how many?

(2.) Were these cattle subjected to the tuberculine test by *Mr. O'Callaghan*; and, if not, why not?

(3.) Is it a fact that the Board of Health has reported in condemnatory terms of the character of the South Coast dairy stock?

(4.) Will he cause the cattle purchased by *Mr. O'Callaghan* to be subjected to the tuberculine test by a competent officer?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes; twenty-five head.

(2.) The dairy expert, before purchasing, made a most thorough examination of the cattle, and believes them to be healthy; but it is the intention of the Department to subject them to the test if the Veterinary Advisers should think it necessary.

(3.) I am informed that the general character of dairy stock on the South Coast has not engaged the attention of the Board of Health.

(4.) Yes, if considered necessary, but it may be pointed out that the cattle purchased have been selected from the best herds, and known in the districts to be free from any visible traces of the disease.

(7.) Quarantine Conditions on the Northern Boundary:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it intended, as a result of the visit of *Mr. Pound*, the Queensland Bacteriologist, to relax the quarantine conditions as far as the crossing of cattle from the Northern Colony to New South Wales is concerned?

(2.) In view of the danger to clean stock in this Colony which any relaxation of such conditions may produce, will he prevent any abrogation of the regulations now operating?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) No; on the contrary, every possible precaution is taken against the introduction of the disease into this Colony.

(2.) Yes. Strong representations have been made to the Minister for Agriculture, Brisbane, as to the risk which would be run if any relaxation were allowed.

(8.) Extermination of the Rabbit and Hare Pest:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Does the Government Export Department tend to interfere in any way with the operation of the law for the suppression and extermination of the rabbit and hare pest?

(2.) Has the action of the Export Board been found to assist or encourage the extermination of the rabbit and hare pest; or does it tend to increase or propagate the evil by encouraging land-owners to conserve hares and rabbits as an industry and for export purposes?

(3.)

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- (3.) How many hares or rabbits does the Board intend to export weekly or monthly ; and at what cost ?
 (4.) Is it the Government or stockowners who pay for the scalps ?
 (5.) What was the amount paid the last two years for scalps ?
 (6.) Has the principle of paying for scalps on the one hand, and exporting hares, &c., on the other, been found to work in the interest of farmers and landowners ?
 (7.) The number of hands employed in the Export Department, and salaries paid to each ?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) No.
 (2.) The Board's action is in the direction of effectually checking the pests. For the week ending the 7th instant alone 5,120 hares were dealt with by the Board.
 (3.) The Board does not export ; it merely undertakes the grading and preparation. The numbers to be handled will be limited only by the supply and demand.
 (4.) The stockowners, subsidised to a small extent by the Government.
 (5.) Hares—700,917 for 1895 ; 551,548 for 1896. The rates paid range from 1d. to 6d. per scalp ; taking 2d. per scalp as an average, the amounts expended would be £5,640 19s. 6d., and £4,596 and 6s. 8d. respectively. Rabbits—46,073 cost £574 8s. 2d. in 1895 ; 43,778 cost £384 19s. 4d. in 1896. These amounts were paid by the Pasture and Stock Boards, exclusive of payments by private individuals.
 (6.) The principle of paying for scalps is a doubtful one. The export of carcasses is directly in the interests of the farmer and landowner, and bids fair to rapidly decrease the ravages of the hare pest.
 (7.) Secretary, £250 per annum ; grader and packer, £200 per annum ; storekeeper, 45s. per week ; occasional unskilled labour. The cost of cold storage, grading, and labour is now fully recouped to the Department by the charges made.

- (9.) Fatalities on the Canterbury Racecourse :—Mr. Willis asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he call for a report from the Coroner of the number of jockeys who have lost their lives whilst riding races on Canterbury ?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed that there have been four fatal accidents, namely, one in each of the years 1884, 1888, 1891, and 1896.

- (10.) License of the "Metropolitan Hotel" at Bega :—Mr. Rigg, for Mr. McLean, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Did the license of the "Metropolitan Hotel" at Bega expire on 5th June last ?
 (2.) Was the hotel allowed to remain open for three days after the expiration of the license ?
 (3.) Was the hotel closed by order of the Licensing Inspector on 8th June ?
 (4.) For what reason was this order given ?
 (5.) When did the licensee give notice of his intention to apply for a renewal ?
 (6.) On what date was this application dealt with by the Licensing Court ?
 (7.) Was the renewal granted and the certificate to the Treasury issued in accordance with the Licensing Act ?
 (8.) When was the license fee paid at the Treasury ?
 (9.) Upon what date was the renewal of license issued ?
 (10.) Were the premises closed for a period of six weeks from 8th June to 20th July ?
 (11.) Who are the owners of the hotel referred to in the previous Questions ?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2 and 3.) The hotel was closed by order of the Licensing Inspector on 6th June last.
 (4.) Because the renewal fee had not been paid to the Treasury and renewal license obtained.
 (5.) On the 29th May last.
 (6.) On the 1st June last.
 (7.) Yes, so far as I am aware.
 (8.) On 1st July last.
 (9.) On 19th July last.
 (10.) The premises were closed from the 6th June to the 20th July last.
 (11.) The Bank of New South Wales.

- (11.) Editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald* :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has he been asked to suggest, or has he suggested, to the Governor that His Excellency should nominate the editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald* as a suitable person to receive a mark of Royal favour at the next distribution of Birthday honors ?

Mr. Brunker answered,—No.

- (12.) Residents of Lord Howe Island :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Are the residents of Lord Howe Island subject to the laws of New South Wales ?
 (2.) If not, why not ?
 (3.) If only to some of them, which ?
 (4.) What is the classification of the land of Lord Howe Island—*i.e.*, is it Crown lands, and entitled to be dealt with under the Crown Lands Acts and Regulations ?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1, 2, and 3.) I must refer the Honorable Member to my reply to his Questions of the 3rd August.
 (4.) There is no classification ; the land is Crown land, and was reserved from sale for a sanatorium by special notice in the *Government Gazette* of the 16th June, 1879.

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- (13.) Report of Select Committee on Water and Sewerage Board:—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. E. M. Clark*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—When will the inquiry of the Select Committee on the administration of the Water and Sewerage Board be completed?
Mr. Brunker answered,—There has been no Select Committee appointed in connection with the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board, but there is a Royal Commission now making inquiry into its administration and management. The Commission has been granted an extension of time to 4th November next, and will probably report before that date.
- (14.) Clerk of Petty Sessions at Coolabah:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Minister of Justice,—In reference to establishing a Court of Petty Sessions at Coolabah, was *Sub-Inspector Carter*, of Bourke, asked to report on the matter; and, if so, was his report favourable?
Mr. Gould answered,—*Superintendent Carter* furnished a report, but it is not the practice to make public the contents of police reports.
- (15.) Payments made applicable to Financial Year 1896-7:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Lyne*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that a number of payments have been made during this financial year for engagements applicable to 1896-7?
 (2.) Will he obtain from the Auditor-General, and state to the House, the total of these payments?
 (3.) Had they been made during that year, what would have been the total expenditure?
Mr. Brunker answered,—The following Answer has been received from the Auditor-General,—
 (1.) The engagements applicable to 1896-7 are defined by the Audit Act Amendment Act of 1895. They, being limited by the Appropriation Act of 1896-7, ceased to exist on the 30th June, 1897.
 (2.) All payments since 30th June, 1897, constitute claims against the provision made for engagements of 1897-8.—Firstly, by subsection 1 of clause 3 of the Audit Act Amendment Act of 1895; and, secondly, by the Supply Act 60 Victoria No. 42, providing for payments falling due in July, August, and September, 1897—irrespective of date of claims.
 (3.) Any services rendered and not claimed nor paid for prior to 1st July, 1897, cannot be treated as engagements on account of the financial year, 1st July, 1896, to 30th June, 1897, or be charged to that year. The expenditure for 1896-7, as by the *Government Gazette* of 1st July last, is shown to have been £9,476,145 4s. 1d., and no further addition can be made to it.
2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—*Mr. T. R. Smith* presented a Petition from certain inhabitants of Penrith, referring to the manifold evils through the use of intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness, but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passing of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation.
 Petition received.
3. PAPERS:—*Mr. Brunker* laid upon the Table,—
 (1.) Evidence and Appendices to the Report of the Royal Commission to inquire into the Management of the Marine Board of New South Wales.
 (2.) Return to an Order, made on 2nd June, 1897,—“Bridges erected across the River Murray.”
 (3.) Return showing number of Hindoos in the Tweed, Brunswick, Richmond, and Clarence River Districts.
 (4.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Bingara.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Young* laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 15th July, 1897,—“North Coast Railway.”
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. GRAND JURY BILL:—*Mr. Schey*, pursuant to leave granted on 12th May, 1897, presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to abolish the present system under which the Attorney-General of New South Wales acts as a Grand Jury; and for other purposes connected therewith*,”—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
5. MUNICIPALITIES ACT OF 1867 AMENDING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Municipalities Act, to enable Municipalities to lease and otherwise deal with lands within their boundaries upon which rates are due and remain unpaid for a period of three years or more.
 Question put and passed.
6. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
 (1.) Law Practitioners Bill; third reading;—until To-morrow.
 (2.) Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill; third reading;—until To-morrow.
 (3.) Municipalities Franchise Extension Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 12th October.
 (4.) Mining Laws Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Thursday next.
 (5.) Finance Committee of the Adelaide Convention; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of *Mr. Schey*, “That leave be given to *William McMillan, Esq.*, Member for Burwood, to lay upon the Table of this House copies of all papers laid before the Committee of Finance of the Adelaide Federal Convention, and of all evidence taken before such Committee on the question of federalising the railways, and on other financial proposals relating to the Commonwealth Constitution”;—until To-morrow.
 (6.) Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 12th October.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th August, 1897.

7. ADJOURNMENT:—

Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Ryde, Mr. Frank Farnell, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The action of the Minister for Public Works in continuing the practice of conveying certain of the employees at Cockatoo Island to and from their work free of charge.”

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

8. NURSES AND FEMALE ATTENDANTS EMPLOYED IN HOSPITALS OR ASYLUMS:—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, the working hours of the nurses and female attendants employed in all hospitals or asylums in New South Wales which are controlled or subsidised by the Government “should” be regulated in conformity with the eight-hour clauses of the Factories Act.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Cotton moved, That the Question be amended by the insertion after the word “should” of the words “where possible.”

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

Debate continued.

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

The House divided.

	Ayes, 40.		Noes, 14.
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Neild,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. McFarlane,	Dr. Ross,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Black,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. McGowen,	Tellers,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Rigg,		Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Harris,	Mr. Waddell.	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Bavister,		Mr. Crick,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Howarth,		Mr. Alexander Campbell.
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Cotton,		Tellers,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Hughes,		Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. McLaughlin,		Mr. Moore.
Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. F. Clarke,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question then put,—That, in the opinion of this House, the working hours of the nurses and female attendants employed in all hospitals or asylums in New South Wales which are controlled or subsidised by the Government should, where possible, be regulated in conformity with the eight-hour clauses of the Factories Act.

The House divided.

	Ayes, 35.		Noes, 18.
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Bavister,		Mr. Crick,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Howarth,		Dr. Ross,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Cotton,		Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. McLaughlin,		Mr. Young,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. F. Clarke,		Mr. Gould,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Fegan,		Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. McFarlane,		Mr. Cook,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Black,		Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Edden,		Dr. Graham,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Wilks,		Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Perry,		Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Copeland,		Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Willis.		Mr. Moore,
Mr. Barnes,	Tellers,		Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Travers Jones,			Mr. Morgan,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Griffith,		Mr. Hogue.
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Waddell.		Tellers,
Mr. Dick,			Mr. Affleck,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,			Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.
Mr. Harris,			

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

9. GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Affleck moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Government Railways Act of 1888, section 27.

Question put.

The House divided.

	Ayes, 27.		Noes, 27.
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Crick,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Morgan,	Dr. Ross,	Mr. Young,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Willis,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Harris,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Gould,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Neild.	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. Barnes.
Mr. McLaughlin,	Tellers,	Mr. Ferguson,	Tellers,
Mr. F. Clarke,		Mr. Thomas,	
Mr. Edden,	Mr. Black,	Mr. Fegan,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Affleck.	Mr. Dick,	Mr. Hawthorne.
Mr. Rigg,		Mr. O'Reilly,	

The

10th August, 1897.

The numbers being equal, Mr. Speaker, stating that he would be guided by the usual practice, and vote in favour of further consideration, gave his casting vote with the *Ayes*, and declared the Question to have been resolved in the *affirmative*.

Mr. Affleck then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Government Railways Act of 1888, section 27,*"—and moved, That the Bill be now read a first time.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 27.		Noes, 28.	
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Crick,	Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Wilks,	Dr. Ross,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Lyne,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Gould,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Garrard,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Young,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Harris,	Mr. McLaughlin.	Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Bavister,		Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Dick.
Mr. Howarth,		Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. F. Clarke,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Cook,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Edden,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Affleck.	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.

And so it passed in the negative.

10. PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD—RETIRING ALLOWANCES AND GRATUITIES:—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to amended Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the question of the retiring allowances and gratuities granted or refused by the Public Service Board to persons retrenched or retired from the Public Service.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Jessep, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Perry, Mr. O'Reilly, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Griffith, and the Mover.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

11. CONDITIONAL PURCHASE BY GEORGE VINCENT IN THE DISTRICT OF GUNDAGAI:—Mr. Travers Jones moved, pursuant to amended Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon all the circumstances attending the conditional purchase made by one George Vincent, in the district of Gundagai, on the 22nd day of August, 1878, of 640 acres, parish of Mooney Mooney, county of Harden.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Affleck, Mr. Robert Jones, and the Mover.

(3.) That the Report, Minutes of Proceedings, and Evidence of the Select Committee of Session 1894-5 be referred to such Committee.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

12. CLAIM OF MR. THEOPHILUS STEPHENS:—Mr. Howarth moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on the "Claim of Mr. Theophilus Stephens," brought up on 11th November, 1896, be now adopted.

Debate ensued.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, That the Orders of the Day be now read.

Mr. Speaker stated that the motion now submitted was obsolete as a substantive motion in the practice of the House of Commons, and was also opposed to Standing Order No. 111 of this House, and he would, therefore, decline to put the Question to the House.

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

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday next.

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

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 11 AUGUST, 1897, A.M.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 23.		Noes, 8.	
Mr. Cook,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Sydney Smith.	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Jessep,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Wood,	Mr. Whiddon.	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Mackay,		Mr. Griffith,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Wilks,		Mr. Haynes.
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Watson,		<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Ashton,		Mr. Price,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Edden,		Mr. Dacey.
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Neild,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The House adjourned accordingly, at three 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. 46.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 11 AUGUST, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Subsidy to Agricultural Societies:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) What amount of subsidy did the Royal Agricultural Society receive for the years 1894, 1895, and 1896, respectively?

(2.) What amount of subsidy did the Murrumbidgee Pastoral and Agricultural Association, Wagga Wagga, receive for the same years?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) 1894, £369 19s. 9d.; 1895, £433 7s. 6d.; 1896, £687 5s. 6d. Total, £1,490 12s. 9d.

(2.) 1894, £509 14s.; 1895, £430 18s. 5d.; 1896, £419 0s. 8d. Total, £1,359 13s. 1d.

(2.) Wreck of Steamers "Ly-ee-moon," "Wairarapa," and "Tasmania":—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that the steamer "Ly-ee-moon" was wrecked in close proximity to a lighthouse on Green Cape, New South Wales?

(2.) Is he also aware that the steamer "Wairarapa" was run into a headland on the New Zealand coast owing to the anxiety of the captain to prevent a rival steamer overtaking him?

(3.) Has his attention been directed to the reports of the wreck of the steamer "Tasmania" within 3 miles of the New Zealand coast, and also in close proximity to a lighthouse?

(4.) Is he aware that in these and many other instances there has been a serious loss of human life and valuable cargo, apparently through this practice of captains and officers keeping too close to the shore to save time?

(5.) As it is unfair to the travelling public and the crews of intercolonial steamers that their lives should be jeopardised owing to the anxiety of captains and officers to make fast passages, will he take into his consideration the desirableness of communicating with the other Australian Governments, with a view to legislation forbidding this dangerous practice, except in cases of distress or when making for a port of call?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) It is not known what the motives of the master of the "Wairarapa" were in steaming at a high rate of speed during foggy weather, but the vessel is said to have run on to a headland before it was seen.

(3.) Only imperfect reports on this case have yet been received.

(4.) Such has unfortunately been the case; though, after all, the percentage of losses are very small indeed compared with those of safe navigation.

(5.) It is not thought that any good can arise by such a course. It is considered impossible to attempt to regulate the movements of individual vessels during storms and fogs, sunshine and darkness, otherwise than by the excellent regulations already in existence. Several of the steam companies have given special orders to the masters of their vessels, with the view of taking all possible precautions for the safety of the travelling public.

(3.) Bankruptcy Acts Amendment Act, 1896:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Mr. Justice Simpson recently decided that sections 31 and 33 of the Bankruptcy Acts Amendment Act of 1896 were not retrospective?

(2.) In view of the serious inconvenience and uncertainty caused to mortgagees by the decision of Mr. Justice Simpson, will he bring in another amending Bill to make clause 31 operate retrospectively?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) I have been so informed.

(2.) This will receive consideration.

(4.)

11th August, 1897.

(4.) Sunday Closing:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is he aware that nearly all the fruit-shops, about half of the tobacconists, and some of the small grocery shops, were again open on Sunday last?
- (2.) Is he aware that many of the above were not partly opened as the entrance to their private dwelling, but open as on a week-day, with the sellers behind the counter ready to do business?
- (3.) Are any of these to be prosecuted for breaking the law last Sunday; if so, how many, and who are they?
- (4.) Seeing the Government has thrown the responsibility on the Inspector-General of Police (as stated in reply to one of Mr. Affleck's Questions), will the Minister at once introduce a Bill to deal with the Sunday closing?
- (5.) How many persons were prosecuted last week for keeping open on the previous Sunday; and what was the result in each case?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1. and 2.) I am informed by the Police Department that many of the fruit-shops were open, but it is not known that half the tobacconists and some of the small grocery shops were open.
- (3.) Yes; two tobacconists.
- (4.) No responsibility has been cast upon the Inspector-General of Police beyond that appertaining to his ordinary duties. An amendment of the law will be carefully considered.
- (5.) One, who was fined 5s. and 2s. 6d. costs.

(5.) The Examiner of Patents:—Mr. Hassall, for Mr. Price, asked the Minister of Justice,—Referring to answer to Mr. Price's Question, of 27th July last, in which he stated no criterion of the time that is being given to the cyanide patent case can be gauged by the time occupied in similar matter in other Colonies,—

- (1.) Is he aware that many weeks and days were exclusively given by Chiefs of the Patents Office (in other Colonies) to this subject?
- (2.) With a view to the efficient working of the Patents Office, and the carrying out of the multifarious duties of the Registrar-General, &c., &c., will he ascertain the information previously asked for?
- (3.) Will he take all necessary steps in advance to prevent any block or undue delays during the time the Examiner of Patents may be occupied in the cyanide case?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) I am not aware.
- (2.) I see no necessity for this.
- (3.) It is not anticipated that this case will cause undue delay or public inconvenience.

(6.) Applications under the Patents Law Amendment Act:—Mr. Hassall, for Mr. Price, asked the Minister of Justice,—Referring to Mr. Price's Question of 27th July last, repeating inquiries made on the 7th July, 1897, and to his reply referring parties interested to the Patents Office, will he now state,—

- (1.) Is it not necessary that all requests for leave to amend specification should be publicly notified; and do not the regulations require such applications to be advertised in the *Government Gazette* and newspapers?
- (2.) Whether the request for leave to amend being open to opposition by any person he will take steps to have the public notified as early as possible after the filing of such applications as the regulations direct?
- (3.) Whether it is a fact that an amendment of the patent specification directly affects every individual engaged or interested in the art to which the patent relates?
- (4.) Whether the dates, asked for in the previous Questions referred to, exhibit a lapse of time in the action upon the papers for which no reason can be given; and, if not, will he furnish the dates and the reasons?

Mr. Gould answered,—It is necessary that applications for leave to amend patent specifications should be advertised before leave is granted. It is impossible to say how far those interested in the art to which a patent relates may or may not be affected by an application to amend. All applications for leave to amend received to date have been advertised; in no case has leave to amend yet been granted; and, as each case is still *sub judice*, reasons cannot now be given for official actions in connection therewith.

(7.) Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia—Draft Bill:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Fegan, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Referring to Mr. Fegan's Question of 4th August, as to when the Commonwealth Bill to be framed by the Federal Convention meeting in September next will be submitted to the vote of the electors, will he say, having regard to the importance and complexity of the political and financial issues involved, as well as to the difficulties of communication in the sparsely-peopled portions of the Colony removed from railway towns, what interval will elapse between the date of the transmission of the Commonwealth Bill to His Excellency the Governor and the date of its submission to the electors at the polls?
- (2.) If the Government should think it inexpedient to save the probable cost of £14,367 of such submission, by making coincident in point of time with the next general election, as it is proposed to do in Victoria, will Parliament be prorogued or adjourned for (say) one month prior to such submission?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Honorable Member in his Question seems to anticipate something that may not result, and it is, therefore, impossible for me to give a definite answer to his Question.

(8.) Employees of the Dredge Service:—Mr. T. R. Smith, for Mr. Fegan, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) In accordance with the provisions of clause 60 of the Public Service Act, will employees of the Dredge Service who are not subscribers to the Superannuation Fund be allowed, on retirement through ill-health or having attained the age of 60 years, a gratuity at the rate of one month's pay for each year's service while classed under section 8 of the Civil Service Act of 1884?
- (2.) If not, what allowance will be made in such cases?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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Mr. Brunker answered,—If the services of any person permanently employed are dispensed with by the Public Service Board, the procedure set out in subsections 1 and 2 of section 60 is followed. Section 56 of the Public Service Act appears to govern the cases of officers who may be retired on account of unfitness for further service owing to ill-health, such as the Honorable Member refers to, and sections 68 and 69 the case of officers over 60 years of age.

(9.) Randwick, Rosehill, Warwick Farm, Moorefield, and Kensington Racecourses:—*Mr. Hassall*, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Reverting to the report furnished respecting the Canterbury Park, Brighton, and Rosebery Park Racecourses, will he cause a similar report to be made, dealing with the Randwick, Rosehill, Warwick Farm, Moorefield, and Kensington Racecourses?

(2.) In such report will he furnish the length and width of each course?

(3.) How many fatal accidents have happened to jockeys riding on each course during the last five years?

(4.) What was the nature of the verdict of the jury in each case; and if any rider was attached, will he state the purport of same?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I would point out to the Honorable Member that it would involve a considerable amount of trouble and labour to furnish the information asked for; but if he will be good enough to move for a return in the usual way, I will endeavour to obtain it.

(10.) Tuggerah Lakes Platform:—*Mr. Wheeler* asked the Colonial Secretary,—What number of tickets have been collected at Tuggerah Lakes platform during the past nine months?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The information is not available to reply at once, and I have asked the Railway Commissioners to furnish the Honorable Member with the particulars desired.

(11.) Proposed Road, Nundle to Quirindi:—*Mr. Hassall*, for *Mr. Levien*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What is being done to expedite the work in connection with the proposed road Nundle to Quirindi?

(2.) Will he kindly state how long this matter has been under consideration?

(3.) Will he also state when the matter will be decided, and what route he proposes to take?

Mr. Young answered,—The establishment of this road is being dealt with by the Department of Lands, and I would suggest to the Honorable Member that he should make inquiries about the matter from my honorable colleague the Minister for Lands.

(12.) Proposed Road, Werris Creek to Quipolly Platform:—*Mr. Hassall*, for *Mr. Levien*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What decision has been arrived at with reference to the proposed road applied for by the Progress Committee at Werris Creek, on the west side of the railway line at Werris Creek to Quipolly platform?

(2.) Will he kindly state how long this matter has been under consideration?

(3.) Will he also state when the matter will be decided?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1 and 2.) On 11th April, 1895, application was made for expenditure, and refused by letter of 23rd July, 1895. Since then similar applications have been repeatedly refused. Some action appears to have been taken by the Lands Department, as *Mr. Dawson* conferred with the District Surveyor in March last, but I am not aware of the result.

(3.) So far as this Department knows, it was decided in July, 1895.

(13.) Gratuities to Retired Public Servants:—*Mr. T. R. Smith* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In the case of officers who have been retired from the Public Service (under Part 5, subsection (1) of section 60, of the Public Service Act of 1895) by the Public Service Board, and who have been notified in writing to that effect, and who were off duty for stated periods before being subsequently reappointed permanently to the Public Service at a reduced salary, are they to be paid the gratuities which they were entitled to under the above section on the date of their retirement from the Public Service?

(2.) If such gratuities are to be paid to these officers will he give instructions to the heads of the various Departments to prepare vouchers for the amounts due in order that same may be adjusted without further delay?

(3.) If these officers are not to be paid the gratuities that they were entitled to on the date of their retirement from the Public Service, will their services be considered as continuous, and will they be treated in the same manner as officers who were not retired from the Public Service?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1 and 2.) The Public Service Board have come to the conclusion that they are not justified in recommending compensation for loss of employment when a further position has been provided.

(3.) The Board consider that a retired officer on reappointment cannot be regarded otherwise than as a person entering or becoming employed in the Public Service after the commencement of the Public Service Act within the meaning of section 59 of that Act.

(14.) Provisions under the Mining on Private Lands Act:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Does his Department allow the holder of an authority issued under the Mining on Private Lands Act to enter private land, for the purpose of prospecting thereon for gold, to obtain a lease to mine for gold on the area held under such authority?

(2.) Should the applicant obtain such lease, does the Department allow him, in virtue thereof, to remove minerals that may be associated with the gold whether or not such minerals are declared minerals under the Mining on Private Lands Act?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes, provided the gold is the chief and most profitable metallic product of the ore.

11th August, 1897.

- (15.) Refreshment-room at Molong Railway Station:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What is the cause of the delay in enlarging the refreshment-room at the Molong Railway station, to meet the better convenience of the travelling public?
 - (2.) Is it the intention of the Railway Commissioners to call for tenders, or to proceed with the work without delay?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—I am informed the Commissioners have approved of the accommodation being improved; but the work must take its turn, a number of other works authorised prior to it requiring first attention.
- (16.) Cost of City Railway Extension to Hyde Park:—*Mr. Ferguson*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—What would be the approximate expenditure in labour and material in the construction of the proposed City Railway Extension to Hyde Park?
- Mr. Young* answered,—The total expenditure is estimated at £550,000 divided approximately as follows:—Labour, £250,000; material, £300,000.
- (17.) Railway Fares for Workmen's Tickets:—*Mr. Ferguson*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it a fact that the Railway Commissioners propose to extend the workmen's tickets from present station at a cost of one half-penny per day for the double journey?
- Mr. Young* answered,—The Railway Commissioners in their report upon the proposed City Railway stated that they intended, when the extension is carried out, to extend workmen's tickets at a cost of one half-penny per day for the double journey.
- (18.) City Railway Extension:—*Mr. Ferguson*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—In the event of the railway being extended to Hyde Park, what work would be provided in its construction—(a) for skilled trades; (b) for unskilled labour, pick-and-shovel men, &c.?
- Mr. Young* answered,—I am unable to reply to these Questions in detail, but I anticipate that employment will be found for (say) 700 to 1,000 men.
- (19.) Alleged Crimes in Hyde Park:—*Mr. Ferguson*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) How many arrests have taken place in connection with crimes alleged to have been committed in Hyde Park?
 - (2.) How many convictions have been obtained in connection with crimes committed in Hyde Park?
 - (3.) What is the class of crime that has led to such convictions (if any)?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—If the Honorable Member will kindly state what period he wishes to be comprised by the information asked for, a return will be prepared and laid upon the Table.
- (20.) Wages to Drivers of Mail Coaches:—*Mr. Carroll* asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is he aware that owing to the low-priced contracts for mails entered into by some mail contractors they do not pay their coach-drivers and grooms, most of whom are married men?
 - (2.) Will he insert a clause in all future contracts that the sureties will be made liable for all wages due to drivers and grooms?
- Mr. Cook* answered,—
- (1.) I am not aware.
 - (2.) I do not see my way to do this.
- (21.) Proposed Railway connecting the Northern and Western Lines:—*Mr. Haynes* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he, before determining finally as to the route of the proposed line of railway connecting the Northern and the Western Lines, fully investigate the merits of the proposed junctioning of the said line at Wellington?
- Mr. Young* answered,—Yes.
- (22.) Wentworth Gold-mining Company:—*Mr. Ferguson*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—Under what authority was the permit to mine for gold issued to the Wentworth Gold-mining Company, and when?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—No permit was issued to the company. The company applied for a permit to remove gold from their property in 1893, but owing to conflicting interests the permit was not granted. As there were a large number of men then employed at this mine, the Department did not consider it advisable to restrain the company from mining, but required them to pay royalty on the gold won from the time they acquired the lands. A preferent right to a lease, under the "Mining on Private Lands Act," was given by that Act to those parties who were carrying on mining operations on their own account, or under agreement with the owners, or who had applied for a permit to remove gold, &c., from the land. As it was very doubtful whether the "Mining on Private Lands Act" provided for the imposing of labour conditions, the issue of the lease was withheld until legislation was passed placing the question of labour conditions beyond doubt. The Mining Laws Amendment Act, which came into operation this year, regulates the amount of labour to be employed. When this Act was passed preparations were made for the issue of the lease, but seeing that this company and several others were working large areas and paying royalty prior to the passing of the Act of 1884, the question was referred to the Attorney-General as to whether a clause requiring payment of royalty could be embodied in the lease, but this the Attorney-General advised could not be done. It also transpired, on the title being finally investigated, that certain areas had been sold by the company with certain reservations. This necessitated a reference to the Crown Law Officers, to whom the papers were sent on 1st March last. The opinion was received yesterday.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th August, 1897.

2. FINE IMPOSED UPON MRS. FLOOD, PADDINGTON POLICE COURT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Knox moved, pursuant to Notice, That an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and correspondence relating to the remission of a fine imposed upon one Mrs. Flood, at the Paddington Police Court, on or about the 23rd day of February last.
Question put and passed.
3. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Law Practitioners Bill; third reading;—until To-morrow.
(2.) Grand Jury Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
(3.) Australasian Federation Enabling Act Amendment Bill (No. 2); second reading;—until Tuesday next.
(4.) Agricultural Holdings Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.

4. PAPERS:—

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Report of the completion of Pipe Sewers at The Glebe.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, for Public School Purposes at Bundawarra, Darling Road (Balmain), Fox Hill, Genowlan, Great Central, Kings Vale, and Lalla Rookh.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Return to an Order, made on 12th May, 1897,—“Application of John Finneran for Lease of “Water Reserve, county of Ashburnham.”
(2.) Return to an Order, made on 13th July, 1897,—“Land and Income Taxation Department.”
(3.) Report of the Railway Commissioners for the year ended 30th June, 1897.
(4.) Correspondence relating to the Transfer of Norfolk Island to the Government of New South Wales.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council, having had under consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 29th July, 1897, in reference to the Hunter District Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill,—

Insists upon its amendment in clause 21, upon the insertion of the new clauses to follow that clause, and upon its amendments in clause 23, line 15,—because the exercise of direct powers of levy and distress by the Board will be much less costly to the ratepayers, and productive of less hardship to them, than the alternative proceeding by way of summons, inasmuch as the expenses of obtaining a judgment, as a preliminary to issuing execution through the Court, are avoided, and provision is made protecting the ratepayers from the operation of these powers without prior personal service of notice upon them.

Agrees to the Assembly's amendments of new clause 24, inserting, after the word “and,” in line 5, the words “at least three times at intervals of one week,” and after the word “upon,” in line 7, the word “final.”

Insists upon its amendments inserting Schedules B and C,—because they are consequential upon its other amendments.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 11th August, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the Message be taken into consideration in Committee of the Whole To-morrow.

6. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for St. Leonards, Mr. E. M. Clark, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The “extravagant and inequitable administration of the Trustees of the National Art Gallery.” And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Clark moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.

Disorder.—The Honorable Member for St. Leonards, Mr. Clark, having interjected certain disorderly words, was, by direction of Mr. Speaker, removed from the Chamber by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

And the Honorable Member for Sydney—Phillip Division, Mr. Copeland, having withdrawn certain words used by him to which exception had been taken, and apologised to the House,—

Mr. Clark was, by direction of Mr. Speaker, readmitted, and withdrew the disorderly language referred to, and tendered an apology to the House for having used it.

Debate on the motion for the adjournment of the House then continued,—

Question put and negatived.

11th August, 1897.

7. LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL:—Mr. Cook moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate and prohibit, in accordance with polls taken in certain areas, the sale and the keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the sale of such liquors within those areas; to amend the law relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the same; and for purposes of and incidental to the aforesaid objects.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 46.

Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Stacey,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Ashton,
Dr. Hollis,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Cotton.
Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Haynes.

Noes, 19.

Dr. Ross,
Mr. Levien,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Crick,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Gormly.

*Tellers,*Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Chapman.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

8. LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL:—Mr. Bruncker moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years, and for the assessment of incomes of companies and persons owning or chartering ships and the payment of Income Tax on the same; to amend section 23 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895; to amend the provisions for appeals; to limit the deductions from the taxable amount in respect of interest; to provide for valuation rolls; to make better provision in respect of assessment books and refunds of taxes; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.

Question put and passed.

9. MOREE TO INVERELL RAILWAY BILL (No. 2):—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 58.

Mr. Cook,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Simon Phillips,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Young,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. McElhone,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Sleath.
Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Ball,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Molesworth.
Mr. Hughes,	

Noes, 19.

Mr. Wright,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. See,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Reymond,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Black,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Rigg.

*Tellers,*Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Moore.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time.

Mr. Young then moved, That the Bill do now pass.

Question

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th August, 1897.

Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it. Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only sixteen Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Wright, Dr. Ross, Mr. Hurley, Mr. See, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Reymond, Mr. Moore, Mr. Schey, Mr. Ewing, Mr. McFarlane, Mr. Henry Clarke, Mr. Black, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Afleck, Mr. Rigg, and Mr. Lee.

Whereupon Mr. Young moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Moree to Inverell.*"

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

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

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Wright, Dr. Ross, Mr. Hurley, Mr. See, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Reymond, Mr. Schey, Mr. Ewing, Mr. McFarlane, Mr. Henry Clarke, and Mr. Rigg.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Moree to Inverell,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 11th August, 1897.*

10. ARTESIAN WELLS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 12 AUGUST, 1897, A.M.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at twenty-one minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 47.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY 12 AUGUST, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Pauper Funerals at Orange, Wellington, Dubbo, and Bourke:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Are pauper funerals arranged for at a certain price per interment, or how?

(2.) What is the sum at present paid for such funerals at Orange, Wellington, Dubbo, and Bourke, respectively, distinguishing the difference (if any) between adults' and children's funerals?

Mr. Brunner answered,—There is no specified price for conducting such funerals in country districts. They are carried out at the least possible expense to the public, consistent with decency.

(2.) Proposed Road Nundle to Quirindi:—Mr. FitzGerald, for Mr. Levien, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What is being done to expedite the work in connection with the proposed road Nundle to Quirindi?

(2.) Will he kindly state how long this matter has been under consideration?

(3.) Will he also state when the matter will be decided, and what route he proposes to take?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1.) The District Surveyor has the matter in hand; he has this day been requested to expedite action, and to report progress.

(2 and 3.) The papers being with the District Surveyor, the information asked for cannot just now be furnished.

(3.) Temporary Residence of French Soldiers in Victoria Barracks:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House a copy of the minute of the Secretary of State, under which he deemed it to be his duty not to permit French soldiers to take up temporary residence in Victoria Barracks?

(2.) On how many occasions, and on what dates, has the said minute been acted on in such cases?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1.) The document, to which the Honorable Member refers being a State document is, like all other State documents, treated as confidential.

(2.) On three occasions.

(4.) Report of Public Works Committee on proposed City Railway:—Mr. Schey asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has he abandoned all hope of getting, before the end of this month, a report from the Public Works Committee on the proposed extension of the railway system to Hyde Park?

(2.) Can he account for the slow progress of the inquiry?

(3.) What economy or advantage was gained by appointing the said Committee as a Royal Commission to inquire into this question?

(4.) What was the approximate cost (including printing) of the Royal Commission?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) No.

(2, 3, and 4.) The honorable gentleman must know that the Committee is an independent body, working under an Act of Parliament, and its transactions are not under my control. For any information as to cost, &c., I would refer him to the Colonial Treasurer.

(5.) Control of Public Streets and Lanes:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Are public streets and lanes in the various municipalities throughout the Colony (incorporated under the Municipalities Act) vested in the hands of the respective Councils, or are they under the control and charge of the Government?

(2.) Under what section of the Municipalities Act, or Crown Lands Act, have the Government power to cause public roads within municipalities and proclaimed townships to be obstructed by the erection of gateways?

Mr.

12th August, 1897.

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Section 117 of the Municipalities Act of 1867 (31 Vic. No. 12) vests in municipal councils the care, construction, and maintenance of public roads, streets, &c., other than the main roads of the Colony.

(2.) The Public Gates Act of 1875 (39 Vic. No. 10) gives the Minister for Lands authority to grant permission in certain cases to landowners to place public gates across roads, and this power has been extended under the Public Roads Act of 1897 (No. 5), which came into operation on the 1st ultimo.

(6.) Stock Routes in the Wagga Wagga District:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Lands,—When and by whom was an endeavour made in the first instance, without success, to obtain local men to clear stock routes, as stated in a letter from the Lands Department, dated 6th August, and addressed to James Gormly, M.P., in answer to a letter of 21st ultimo, addressed to the Department of Labour and Industry, asking for employment for residents of Wagga Wagga?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Through the local officers when the work was started.

(7.) Proposed Public School at the Experimental Farm, Wagga Wagga:—Mr. Gormly asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) When will a site for the proposed Public School at the Experimental Farm, Wagga Wagga, be dedicated?

(2.) When will the proposed buildings be commenced?

(3.) Will he take such steps as will cause the school to be completed and opened with as little delay as possible?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) Application for a site was made on 4th May, 1897. I understand that the matter is delayed pending survey.

(2.) When the site has been granted.

(3.) Yes.

(8.) Association Ground, Moore Park:—Mr. Watson, for Mr. Black, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Was the piece of land, described in his reply to Mr. Black's Question, of 29th July, once set apart as a military cricket-field?

(2.) Under what Act did the authorities grant this lease?

(3.) Has the Minister any objection to lay upon the Table of this House a copy of the lease, together with the correspondence?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) It was designed as far back as 1852 as a cricket-ground and garden for the use of the military.

(2.) Under the Crown Lands Acts.

(3.) No form of lease is yet issued. If the Honorable Member desires the correspondence or any part of it to be laid upon the Table of this House, will he be good enough to move for the same in the usual manner.

2. PAPERS:—Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

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

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

(4.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during July, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

4. GAOL AND COURT HOUSE AT MUDGEE:—Mr. Robert Jones (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Return to Order, "Gaol and Court House at Mudgee," laid upon the Table and referred to the Printing Committee on 3rd August, 1897, and reported upon on the 5th August, be again referred to such Committee for reconsideration.

Question put and passed.

5. WOMEN'S FRANCHISE BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Fegan moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893, and the Acts amending the same, so as to extend the franchise to adult female persons resident in New South Wales.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 46.

Noes, 11.

Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Mackay,
Dr. Graham,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,

Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Price,

Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. McMillan,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Kelly,
Tellers,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Schey.

Mr. FitzGerald,
Mr. Raymond,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Tellers,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Perry.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.]

G.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th August, 1897.

6. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
- (1.) Liquor Traffic Local Option Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate and prohibit, in accordance with polls taken in certain areas, the sale and the keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the sale of such liquors within those areas; to amend the law relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the same; and for purposes of and incidental to the aforesaid objects;—until Wednesday next.
 - (2.) Law Practitioners Bill; third reading;—until Tuesday next.
 - (3.) Prisoners' Gaol Regulation Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday next.

7. **COUNTRY TOWNS WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

By Deputation from His Excellency.

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 4E.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1887, and the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894; and for other purposes.

*Government House,
Sydney, 12th August, 1897.*

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

8. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Darlington, Mr. Schey, 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 distinction made between day students and evening students of the University, by which day students travel free on the tramways, while repeated applications for similar facilities to evening students have always been refused.”

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

9. **LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL**:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years, and for the assessment of incomes of companies and persons owning or chartering ships and the payment of Income Tax on the same; to amend section 23 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895; to amend the provisions for appeals; to limit the deductions from the taxable amount in respect of interest; to provide for valuation rolls; to make better provision in respect of assessment books and refunds of taxes; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.

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

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

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

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years, and for the assessment of incomes of companies and persons owning or chartering ships, and the payment of Income Tax on the same; to amend section 23 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895; to amend the provisions for appeals; to limit the deductions from the taxable amount in respect of interest; to provide for valuation rolls; to make better provision in respect of assessment books and refunds of taxes; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.

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

- (2.) Mr. Brunker then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years, and for the assessment of incomes of companies and persons owning or chartering ships and the payment of Income Tax on the same; to amend section 23 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895; to amend the provisions for appeals; to limit the deductions from the taxable amount in respect of interest; to provide for valuation rolls; to make better provision in respect of assessment-books and refunds of taxes; and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*”—which was read a first time.

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

12th August, 1897.

10. LICENSING ACTS AMENDMENT BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put.
 The House divided.

Ayes, 30.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Morton,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Watson.
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Griffith,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Law,	
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Ferguson.
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	

Noes, 2.

Tellers,
 Mr. Lonsdale,
 Mr. Fegan.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.
 Bill read a second time.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 13 AUGUST, 1897, A.M.

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

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

Ordered, that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday next.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 48.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 17 AUGUST, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Federal Control over the Railways :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is there any record at the Railway Department of a report having been made or forwarded to the Premier during this year by the late Mr. Eddy as to the desirability or otherwise of establishing some Federal control over the railways?

(2.) Has the honorable gentleman seen the report, or any copy of it?

(3.) If so, will he lay a copy of it upon the Table?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed there is no record in the Railway Commissioners' office of such a report as that referred to.

(2.) Indebtedness of Queensland to New South Wales :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) How much money is owing by Queensland to New South Wales?

(2.) Is it intended to sue for the recovery of the debt?

Mr. Brunker answered,—When a similar Question was asked by the Honorable Member on the 11th September, 1895, the following answer, which applies at the present time, was given :—“ An Act, 26 Vic. No. 8, was passed in this Colony to determine the portions of the Public Debt of New South Wales to be borne by the Colony of Queensland. The Queensland Government had previously passed an Act, 24 Vic. No. 4, to appoint Commissioners for the adjustment of amounts with the Colony of New South Wales, but the Queensland Legislative Assembly, in 1865, declined to appoint Commissioners; nothing, therefore, has been settled. Correspondence on the subject was laid before the Legislative Assembly of this Colony in 1862 and 1865.”

(3.) Queen's Counsellors :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) By whom, and under what authority, are Queen's Counsel appointed in New South Wales?

(2.) What are the responsibilities of Queen's Counsel to the Crown in criminal cases?

(3.) What barristers hold the rank of Queen's Counsel in this Colony?

(4.) Is it intended to strengthen the ranks of Queen's Counsellors in this Colony by the admission of the Right Honorable George Houstoun Reid, D.C.L., P.C.?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council.

(2.) No defence can be undertaken without a license from the Crown.

(3.) The Honorable J. H. Want, the Honorable Sir Julian Salomons, Mr. F. E. Rogers, the Honorable C. E. Pilcher, the Honorable Edmund Barton, Dr. J. J. Donovan, Mr. W. G. Walker, the Honorable C. G. Heydon, and the Honorable R. E. O'Connor.

(4.) Not that I am aware of.

(4.) Mr. Urquhart, Director of Labour in Prisons :—Mr. Watson asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) What were the duties of Mr. McLaren, the late Superintendent of Prison Industries?

(2.) What are the duties of Mr. Urquhart, the Director of Labour in Prisons?

(3.) What practical knowledge has Mr. Urquhart of any of the following trades, viz.:—Bootmaking, bookbinding, brushmaking, blacksmithing, carpentering, tinsmithing, tailoring, matmaking, &c., as carried on by prisoners in H.M. gaols?

(4.) Was it upon the strength of Mr. Urquhart having been five years in a commercial house, and some years as storekeeper in Darlinghurst Gaol, that he was appointed Director of Labour in Prisons, where a practical knowledge of the various trades is required?

Mr.

17th August, 1897.

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) The late Superintendent of Prison Industries had the general supervision of all the trades carried on in the various labour gaols, which he visited at different times. He was expected to keep himself acquainted with the description of the work being carried on at each gaol, to check the labour and bonus schedules, requisitions for building materials, and, whenever practicable, to suggest any new industry that could be introduced.

(2.) The Director of Labour generally controls the overseers in charge of the various trades; and also waits upon the heads of the Government Departments in order to obtain work for the prisoners employed at tailoring, brushmaking, bootmaking, &c. He is responsible that the work turned out is up to sample, and the requirements of the various institutions, and that the Labour Branch is carried on in a business-like way.

(3.) Mr. Urquhart has a sound knowledge of what constitutes good work, derived from many years experience in connection with the Trades Branch of the Prisons' service, and also with a business house.

(4.) He was appointed by the Public Service Board, on the recommendation of the Comptroller-General of Prisons, because it was considered that he had proved himself to be a capable and an efficient officer, well fitted for such a post as that which he now fills.

(5.) Messrs. McNeill, Holehan, and Harkness, Discoverers of the Captain's Flat Mining Field:—

Mr. Crick, for Mr. O'Sullivan, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is he aware that in 1880 a party of miners named Hugh McNeill, Edward Holchan, and William Harkness discovered the Captain's Flat gold, silver, and copper field?

(2.) As the Captain's Flat mining-field has now been in operation for seventeen years, and during the greater portion of that period has maintained a population of 1,000, which is now rapidly increasing, will he take into his consideration the desirableness of granting a reward to the prospectors referred to?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This party put in a claim for a reward, but it was disallowed, as the conditions under which the reward was offered were not fulfilled.

(6.) Exemption of Foreign Consuls from Income Tax:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Consuls representing foreign countries, who are largely engaged in trade, commerce, and industrial pursuits in this Colony, are exempt from the payment of Income Tax?

(2.) If so, the name or names of the Consul or Consuls so exempted?

(3.) By what authority is such exemption allowed?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) No.

(2 and 3.) Answered by No. 1.

(7.) Distribution of Debates on the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia—Draft Bill:—

Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did he observe how briefly and imperfectly the Sydney Press reported the Debates in this House on the Commonwealth Bill?

(2.) In view of this fact, have the Government yet taken any steps to publish the Draft of the Commonwealth Bill for general information?

(3.) If not, will he now fulfil his promise to the House that he would publish the report of the Debates as soon as the Bill had been dealt with by the Assembly?

(4.) Has he been sending to Mechanics' Institutes, Libraries, and Schools of Arts, throughout the country, additional copies of *Mansard*, so that the electors may conveniently read the debates?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) There is only one Draft Commonwealth Bill in existence yet. I do not know if that is the Bill to which the Honorable Member refers; if so, it has already been freely circulated.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) No.

(8.) Boiler Inspection Bill:—Mr. Nelson asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it the intention of the Government to introduce a Boiler Inspection Bill this Session?

(2.) Is he aware that it is a matter of very great importance to steam users that such a Bill should be introduced?

(3.) If the Government have not decided to do so, will he use his best efforts to induce them to introduce a Bill this Session?

(4.) Failing to do so, will the Government raise any objection to a private Member introducing such a Bill?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Government fully realise the necessity for introducing a Bill of this character, and will, if possible, see that it is presented to Parliament this Session.

(9.) Electric Lighting Bill:—Mr. Nelson asked the Colonial Secretary—Is it the intention of the Government to introduce the Electric Lighting Bill this Session; if so, would he give the matter his early consideration?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This Bill has been already prepared. It is now ready for presentation to Parliament as soon as a suitable opportunity offers.

(10.) Cost of Pauper Funerals at Orange, Wellington, Dubbo, and Bourke:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—What is the sum at present paid for pauper funerals at Orange, Wellington, Dubbo, and Bourke, respectively, distinguishing the difference (if any) between adults' and children's funerals?

Mr. Brunker answered,—It is impossible to give a definite Answer to this Question, as the prices paid for pauper funerals vary according to distance.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

17th August, 1897.

- (11.) Patents Office:—*Mr. Watson*, for *Mr. Hughes*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Do the grants of letters patent for signature of His Excellency the Governor come forward regularly?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that unwieldy batches of these deeds are submitted for such purpose?
 - (3.) If so, does not such a course cause unnecessary delay?
 - (4.) Will he request his honorable colleague, the Minister of Justice, to so equip the Patents Office in management and staff that difficulties such as those mentioned will not occur?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

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

(3 and 4.) Answered by No. 2.

- (12.) Allowances to Representatives at the Federal Convention, Adelaide:—*Mr. Neild* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What has become of the Bill passed by this Chamber to provide for the expenses of the New South Wales Representatives to the Federal Convention at Adelaide?
- (2.) Has any sum been paid to any of the New South Wales Representatives in respect of their expenses?
- (3.) If so, how much, and to whom?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) The Bill is now with the Legislative Council.
- (2 and 3.) Nothing has been paid to the New South Wales Representatives.

2. POSTONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

- (1.) Claim of *Mr. Theophilus Stephens*; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of *Mr. Howarth*, "That the Report from the Select Committee on the 'Claim of *Mr. Theophilus Stephens*,' brought up on 11th November, 1896, be now adopted";—until Tuesday, 31st August.
- (2.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
- (3.) Attachment of Wages Abolition Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.

3. PAPERS:—*Mr. Brunker* laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Return to an Order, made on 1st July, 1897,—“Closing of Branch Road, Double Bay.”
 - (2.) General Abstracts of Bank Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 30th June, 1897.
 - (3.) General Abstracts of Banking, Land, Building, and Investment Companies' Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 30th June, 1897.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. ADJOURNMENT:—*Mr. Speaker* stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Botany, *Mr. Dacey*, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The conduct of “Senior Constable Quelch.”

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

5. CLERGY WIDOWS AND ORPHANS FUND (SYDNEY DIOCESE) TRUSTEES BILL:—*Mr. Speaker* reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled “*An Act to vest the property, in or upon the security of which the moneys belonging to the Clergy Widows and Orphans Fund are or may be hereafter invested, in the Trustees for the time being of such Fund; and for other purposes*,”—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence, accompanied by a copy of the Report from, and Minutes of Evidence taken before, the Select Committee thereon.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 17th August, 1897

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

Bill, on motion of *Mr. Brunker*, read a first time.

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

6. LAW PRACTITIONERS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—*Mr. Schey* moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 28.

<i>Mr. Chapman,</i>	<i>Mr. Wheeler.</i>
<i>Mr. Lyne,</i>	<i>Mr. Simcoo Phillips,</i>
<i>Mr. Schey,</i>	<i>Mr. Perry,</i>
<i>Mr. Sleath,</i>	<i>Mr. Fegan,</i>
<i>Mr. Black,</i>	<i>Mr. Carroll,</i>
<i>Mr. Affleck,</i>	<i>Mr. Dacey,</i>
<i>Dr. Ross,</i>	<i>Mr. Macdonald,</i>
<i>Mr. Anderson,</i>	<i>Mr. Carruthers,</i>
<i>Mr. Lee,</i>	<i>Mr. Gormly,</i>
<i>Mr. O'Sullivan,</i>	<i>Mr. Dick,</i>
<i>Mr. Copeland,</i>	<i>Mr. O'Reilly.</i>
<i>Mr. Thomas,</i>	<i>Tellers,</i>
<i>Mr. Watson,</i>	
<i>Mr. Law,</i>	<i>Mr. Ashton.</i>
<i>Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,</i>	<i>Mr. Griffith.</i>

Noes, 25.

<i>Mr. Sec,</i>	<i>Mr. Crick,</i>
<i>Mr. Levien,</i>	<i>Dr. Grubbs,</i>
<i>Mr. Hogue,</i>	<i>Mr. Jessep,</i>
<i>Mr. Wright,</i>	<i>Mr. Bavier,</i>
<i>Mr. Hassall,</i>	<i>Mr. Nicholson,</i>
<i>Mr. Brunker,</i>	<i>Mr. Mahony,</i>
<i>Mr. Young,</i>	<i>Mr. Bull,</i>
<i>Mr. Gould,</i>	<i>Mr. McLean.</i>
<i>Mr. Nelson,</i>	<i>Tellers,</i>
<i>Mr. Pyers,</i>	
<i>Mr. Raymond,</i>	<i>Mr. Frank Farnell,</i>
<i>Mr. McCourt,</i>	<i>Mr. Moore.</i>
<i>Mr. Kelly,</i>	
<i>Mr. Hawthorne,</i>	
<i>Mr. Henry Clarke,</i>	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time.

Mr.

17th August, 1897.

Mr. Schey then moved, That this Bill do now *pass*.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 29.

Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Macdonald
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Gormly.
Mr. Perry,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. Law,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	

Noes, 26.

Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Crick,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Young,	Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Reymond,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Nelson.
Mr. Frank Farnell,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Levien,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. Hassall.
Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Mahony,	
Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. Bavieter,	
Dr. Graham,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Whereupon Mr. Schey moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to regulate the admission of persons to practise in Courts of Law.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to regulate the admission of persons to practise in Courts of Law,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 17th August, 1897.*

7. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Griffith moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

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

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Griffith, *passed*.

Mr. Griffith then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the 'Public Instruction Act of 1880,' so as to render instruction in the Public Schools free.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the 'Public Instruction Act of 1880,' so as to render instruction in the Public Schools free,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 17th August, 1897.*

8. TOTALIZATOR BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—and Mr. Sleath proceeding to move, That this Bill be now read a second time,—

Points of Order:—

(1.) Mr. Crick, drawing Mr. Speaker's attention to clause 4, submitted that a Message from the Governor not having preceded the introduction of this Bill, as required by the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Bill was out of order.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker decided that as the Bill did not originate any tax or impost, or appropriate any portion of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, a Message from the Governor was not required.

(2.) Mr. McLaughlin requested a ruling upon another *Point of Order*, viz.—That the Title and Order of Leave do not embrace any reference to the repeal of the Betting Houses Suppression Act, although the provisions of the Bill proposed its partial repeal.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the Bill was in order.

Mr. Sleath then moved, That this "Bill" be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Crick moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "Bill," and inserting the words, "be referred for inquiry and report to a Select Committee.

"(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Sleath, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Bull, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. T. R. Smith, Mr. Cruickshank, and the Mover,"—instead thereof.

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

Debate continued.

And

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

17th August, 1897.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,

WEDNESDAY, 18 AUGUST, 1897, A.M.

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

Debate ensued.

Question for the adjournment of the Debate put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 21.

Mr. Young,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Afleck,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Morgan.
Mr. Nicholson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Lee,	
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Gormly,	Mr. Levien.
Mr. Rigg,	

Noes, 22.

Mr. Knox,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Wilke,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Dick.
Mr. Travers Jones,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hassall,	
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Watson.

And so it passed in the negative.

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

The House divided.

Ayes, 17.

Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Nelson.
Mr. Black,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hassall,	
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Knox.
Mr. Griffith,	
Mr. Wilks,	
Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. Ashton,	
Mr. Gormly,	
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Wheeler,	

Noes, 25.

Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Afleck,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Dick.
Mr. Garrard,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McCourt,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Crick,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Ferguson.
Mr. Young,	

And so it passed in the negative.

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

And Mr. Watson requiring that the resolutions be put *seriatim*,—

Question,—

(1.) That this Bill be referred for inquiry and report to a Select Committee,—put and passed.

Question, as amended by consent,—

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Sleath, Mr. Hassall, Mr. Knox, Mr. Watson, Mr. Crick, Mr. Cruickshank, Mr. Bruncker, and Mr. McLaughlin,—put and passed.

The House adjourned, at five minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 49.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 18 AUGUST, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Drafting of Government Bills:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) How many persons outside the Public Service have been employed by Ministers since July, 1894, to draft Government Bills?
- (2.) How much money has been paid to such persons during that period?
- (3.) What are the names of the recipients of such moneys, and their respective amounts?
- (4.) Was the Parliamentary Draftsman deemed to be unfit to draft all the Government's Bills?
- (5.) Is the employment of private draftsmen a feature in the retrenchment policy of the Administration?
- (6.) Under what section of the Public Service Act is drafting work given to private draftsmen?

Mr. Brunker answered,—To obtain this information will necessitate a reference to all the Ministerial Departments. If the Honorable Member will be good enough to move for a return in the usual way, it will be prepared and laid upon the Table of this House.

- (2.) Documents relating to the National Australasian Convention:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Will he take a similar course to that adopted in Victoria, and lay upon the Table of this House the following documents, which were laid upon the Table of the Legislature of Victoria:—
 (a) Proceedings of the Australasian Federal Convention, held at Adelaide in 1897; (b) Draft of a Bill to constitute the Commonwealth of Australia; (c) the Commonwealth Bill, showing the variations from the Bill of 1891; (d) Report upon the Financial Proposals of the Commonwealth Bill, by the Accounts Committee appointed by the Acting Premier; (e) Statistical Tables bearing on the question of Federation, compiled in the Government Statist's Office; (f) Memorandum *re* railway proposals of the Draft Federal Constitution, by the Railway Commissioner; (g) Comparative Analysis of the Australian Commonwealth Bill, 1891, and four Federal Constitutions, by the Parliamentary Draftsman; (h) Notes on the Draft Federal Constitution, by Sir S. W. Griffith, G.C.M.G.; (i) Federal Finance—Address by Mr. McMillan, M.P.; (j) The Convention Dilemma, by Mr. R. L. Nash; (k) Notes of Views on Australian Federation, expressed at the National Convention of 1891, &c.; (l) Memoranda and Statistics with reference to Federal Finance, by Sir Philip Fysh, K.C.M.G.; (m) Synopsis of Constitution of Australasian Parliaments, by the Parliamentary Draftsman?

- (2.) Why have the Government of New South Wales withheld from Parliament similar documents in their possession?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Inquiry is being made to-day as to whether the documents asked for are procurable; if they are, there will be no objection to lay them upon the Table of this House.

- (3.) Conditions of Employment at the Lucknow Mines:—Mr. Hurley asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to the conditions to be imposed on miners before they will be employed at the Lucknow mines?
- (2.) Are such conditions as those, giving power to any man to enter and search a private house tenanted by an employee of such mines, recognised by the Department?
- (3.) Will he inform the manager of the Lucknow mines that a search warrant must be first obtained before any man can enter another's premises to search for stolen goods, and that his conditions are not only degrading to the employees, but illegal?

Mr. Gould answered,—I am not aware of the conditions, nor has my attention been drawn to the matter; moreover, it is not within my power to interfere in respect of any agreement that may have been entered into between the mine owners and the employees in reference to the matter referred to.

(4.)

18th August, 1897.

(4.) Issue of Debates on the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia—Draft Bill:—
Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it his intention to issue at once the special edition of *Hansard* containing only the Federation debates to any of the Members applying for copies?
- (2.) Will he issue one copy of each number for every polling-booth in the constituency the Member represents who applies for same?
- (3.) Will he ascertain from the Postmaster-General, and give the reply with replies to above Questions, whether he will forward through the Post Office the copies sent by Members of this special edition?
- (4.) If the copies are not yet available, when will they be so?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) This matter was under consideration for some time. I think it will be possible, after the debate on the Federation Bill in the Legislative Council is concluded, to have the report prepared in *Hansard* form, so that it may be distributed to Members.
- (3.) As *Hansard* is not a newspaper, the Postmaster-General is not authorised by the Postal Acts to circulate the special edition referred to without postage.

(5.) Treatment of Prisoners:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that prisoners who are taken into custody on Saturday night are allowed to remain in custody the whole of Sunday without food of any kind?
- (2.) If not, will he be good enough to state what provision is made for persons so arrested?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) Food is frequently provided by prisoners' friends; if not, they receive the usual Government rations.

(6.) Despatch of Mails:—Mr. Millen, for Mr. Dugald Thomson, asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) When the mail notices announce two steamers leaving on the same day for the one destination, is it not usual to forward correspondence in accordance with the endorsement of the senders; or, where there is no endorsement, to forward by the steamer likely to reach its destination first?
- (2.) Were mails for Wellington by the "Mararoa" and the "Aorangi" announced to close at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. respectively on the 7th instant?
- (3.) Did the Department forward all letters for Wellington, including those endorsed for "Mararoa" by the "Aorangi"?
- (4.) Did the "Aorangi" reach Wellington twenty-four hours later than the "Mararoa"; and, if so, did not the absence of advices, invoices, and bills of lading cause confusion, inconvenience, and loss to the consignees of goods by the "Mararoa"?
- (5.) If this has happened, will he see that steps are taken to prevent a recurrence?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) As none were noticed endorsed to be forwarded by the "Mararoa," all were sent by the "Aorangi."
- (4.) The "Mararoa" arrived before the "Aorangi" owing to an accident to the machinery of the latter, but it is not known how many hours before. It cannot be said whether inconvenience resulted owing to the late arrival of the "Aorangi."
- (5.) If proof is given that any irregularity occurred by the forwarding of a letter, specially marked, by a wrong vessel, the matter will be dealt with.

(7.) Duty on Australian Frozen Meat imported into England:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that a tax or duty is levied on Australian frozen meat when it arrives in England?
- (2.) If so, the amount of duty so levied per lb. or carcase, and how the duty is levied?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) Answered by No. 1.

(8.) Chinese Gambling-dens:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Of the forty-nine Chinese gambling-dens stated by him to be known to the police within the area comprised by Macquarie-street South, and George, Liverpool, and Campbell streets, how many are in Wexford-street, Goulburn-street, Campbell-street, Elizabeth-street, Castlereagh-street, and Pitt-street respectively?
- (2.) How many departments or branches of gambling are carried on in each of the houses or shops referred to?
- (3.) Who are the business proprietors responsible for conducting the respective gambling establishments?
- (4.) Has he yet ascertained the approximate number of Europeans that nightly frequent these establishments?
- (5.) If not, will he instruct the proper officer to have a count of same made?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the police authorities:—

- (1.) In Wexford-street, 6; Goulburn-street, 23; Campbell-street, 11; Elizabeth-street, 0; Castlereagh-street, 6; Pitt-street, 3.
- (2.) In one shop there are four departments; in another, three departments; in twenty-five, two departments; and in the remainder, one department only.
- (3.) Where pak-ah-pu tickets are sold the proprietor is only an agent. Where fan-tan is played different people on different days conduct the games.
- (4 and 5.) The numbers are constantly varying. It is, therefore, difficult to ascertain the approximate nightly average.

18th August, 1897.

- (9.) Nursing Staff of the Coast Hospital :—Mr. Griffith asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it not a fact, as stated by Mr. Griffith, on Tuesday, 10th August, that the "actual salaries" received by the thirty odd nurses and probationers composing the nursing staff of the Coast Hospital amount, in the aggregate, to less than £1,000 a year?
 - (2.) Who is the officer responsible for the statement made by the Chief Secretary, on 17th June last, that an increase in the staff which would be necessitated by the introduction of the eight-hour system would cost £2,591 per annum additional?
 - (3.) What is the total annual remuneration received by Dr. Ashburton Thompson?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Chief Medical Officer:—
- (1.) The "actual salaries" provided on the Estimates, which were submitted before August 10th, for the nursing staff of thirty-four nurses and probationers, amount to £2,915.
 - (2.) The Chief Medical Officer of the Government.
 - (3.) £920.
- (10.) Expiration of Licenses :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it a custom for the police to give notice of the expiration of publicans' licenses; and, if so, will provisions be made for a like arrangement to be carried out in regard to tobacco and other licenses under similar control?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—Though the Act does not require it, it has been the custom for the Licensing Inspectors to intimate to publicans the date of the expiration of their licenses. Tobacco licenses are under the supervision of the Customs Department, and it would not be practicable to give hawkers notice, as they, for the most part, travel all over the Colony.
- (11.) Temporary Drivers on Trains at Hornsby :—Mr. Cann, for Mr. McGowen, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that on several occasions recently two cleaners have been acting as driver and fireman on goods and passenger trains at Hornsby, contrary to gazetted regulations and rules of the Department?
 - (2.) If so, will he take such steps as to prevent a recurrence in the interests of the travelling public?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed that cleaners, who are qualified firemen and competent to undertake the duties of drivers in cases of emergency, are stationed at Hornsby and Milson's Point, and do act in either of the senior capacities under exceptional circumstances, and when so acting are paid accordingly. The circumstances have not changed since a similar Question was replied to this day twelve months.

2. PAPERS :—

Mr. Cook laid upon the Table,—Report of the Postmaster-General for the year 1896.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Return to an Order, made on 1st July, 1897,—“Closing of Whaling Road, North Sydney.”
- (2.) By-laws of the Borough of Plattsburg.
- (3.) By-laws of the Borough of Newcastle, under the Newcastle Paving and Public Vehicles Regulation Act.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (*Limitation of Speeches—Balloting for Select Committees*):—Mr. McCourt, on behalf of the Chairman, brought up from the Standing Orders Committee a Report on Limitation of Speeches (with proposed Standing Orders) and on Balloting for Select Committees. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. MUDGEE SHOW GROUND BILL :—Mr. Robert Jones, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 3rd August, 1897; together with a copy of the Bill as agreed to by the Committee.
- Ordered to be printed.
- Mr. Jones then moved, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday next.
- Question put and passed.
5. TEMPORARY LABOURERS AND WATCHMEN, PUBLIC WHARFS, SYDNEY (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) The number of persons, and their names, who received temporary employment as labourers and watchmen on the public wharfs, Sydney, during the years 1893, 1894, and 1895.
 - (2.) The months in each year so employed.
 - (3.) The amount paid to each person so employed for each term of employment.
- Question put and passed.
6. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to Mr. Schey to lay upon the Table of this House a copy of Sir Samuel Griffiths' "Notes on the Draft Federal Constitution of 1897," presented by command to both Houses of the Parliaments of Queensland and Victoria, and, subject to the approval of the author, a copy of the Notes on Federation and the Draft Bills of 1891 and 1897, contributed by "G.B.B." to the *Evening News*.
- Question put and passed.
7. WHARFAGE RATES AND TONNAGE DUES ACT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Haynes moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and reports between the Treasury Department and the Public Wharfs Office during the year 1895 in regard to the reduction of tonnage dues by certain vessels under the Wharfage Rates and Tonnage Dues Act.
- Question put and passed.
8. PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER AT WILBERFORCE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Morgan moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House the evidence taken at a certain inquiry held by Inspector Dettman into a complaint against the Public School teacher at Wilberforce, together with all documents, papers, and correspondence relating to the said inquiry.
- Question put and passed.

18th August, 1897.

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

- (1.) Liquor Traffic Local Option Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate and prohibit, in accordance with polls taken in certain areas, the sale and the keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the sale of such liquors within those areas; to amend the law relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the same; and for purposes of and incidental to the aforesaid objects;—until To-morrow.
- (2.) Prisoners' Gaol Regulation Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 28th September.
- (3.) Barristers and Solicitors Fees Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 23rd November.
- (4.) Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill; to be considered in Committee;—until Tuesday, 26th October.
- (5.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 26th October.
- (6.) Mining Laws Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.

10. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Molong, Dr. Ross, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The action of the Government in leasing for grazing purposes certain unsold town allotments in the Town of East Molong, and the fencing in of the streets.”

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

Dr. Ross moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

11. COUNTRY TOWNS WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1887, and the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894; and for other purposes.

Question put and passed.

12. LICENSING ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Gould moved, That the report be now adopted.

Question put and passed.

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

13. LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Brunker moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 19 AUGUST, 1897, A.M.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 47.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Ball,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Aspleck,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Cunn,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. McGowen.
Mr. Whiddon,	Tellers,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. O'Reilly.
Mr. Molesworth,	
Mr. Robert Jones,	
Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. Watson,	

Noes, 24.

Mr. F. Clarke,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. See,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Levien,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Burnes,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Piers,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. McLaughlin.

Tellers,

Mr. Price,
Mr. Hassall.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

Ordered, that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for To-morrow.

14. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 50.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 19 AUGUST, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Refund of Deductions to Officers of the Stock Department:—*Mr. Schey*, for Mr. Mackay, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) What is the cause of delay in refunding to officers of the Stock Department the amounts deducted from their salaries on account of the Superannuation Fund?
- (2.) Will he give instructions for the amounts to be paid at once?
- (3.) What rate of interest is it intended to allow them for the money so deducted?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) This matter is being dealt with by the Public Service Board, and, as there are about eighty cases, it has necessarily taken some little time to prepare the particulars in connection with these refunds.
- (2 and 3). This matter will be dealt with shortly.

(2.) Labour Conditions on Mineral Leases:—Mr. Schey asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Referring to *Gazette* No. 632, of the 9th August, why are the dates of the last reports as to the observance of the labour conditions on mineral leases omitted from the return?
- (2.) Why are the holdings known as "authorities," under section 28 of the Mining Act, not included in such return?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) Such information has never been included in the returns published.
- (2.) A separate return of authorities to mine is published half-yearly. The last one appeared in the *Gazette* of the 22nd April, 1897.

(3.) Protection of Native Flora:—Mr. Frank Farnell asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Have any cases been brought under his notice of wanton spoliation and destruction of our native flora?
- (2.) Has any request been made for the preservation of a naturally attractive growth of native flora and forest on the Barrengarry and Cambewarra Roads?
- (3.) Has he given consideration to the question of resuming a strip or a fringe of the roads mentioned, so as to preserve the special character of the scenery, and provide botanical reserves?
- (4.) Is it the intention of the Government to introduce legislation for the purpose of restraining the destruction of the remnant of our flora which is within the immediate neighbourhood of Sydney and its suburbs?
- (5.) Will he give consideration to the matter of preserving those species of our native flora that are in danger of extermination, such as the Christmas bush, Christmas bells, native rose, flannel flower, and waratah, with a view to legislating on the subject?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Representations have been made on the subject.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) Yes, but the matter was not proceeded with, having regard to the excessive prices asked for the land.
- (4.) No, but as far as possible the Crown lands in the neighbourhood of Sydney are being protected from undue spoliation in this respect.
- (5.) Further consideration will be given to the matter.

(4.)

19th August, 1897.

- (4.) Friendly Societies Bill:—*Mr. Howarth*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) In view of the decision of the Supreme Court in the case of Lovett and others *v.* Hill, and its important bearing upon the constitution and government of all Friendly Societies, when will he introduce the Bill dealing with this subject?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the rule or rules now set aside by the Court as *ultra vires* was confirmed and passed by the Registrar of Friendly Societies, as in conformity with the provisions of the Friendly Societies Act?
 - (3.) Will the Bill, when introduced, provide for its administration by a competent authority, subject to penalties for neglect in same?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—
- (1.) A Friendly Societies Bill is now in preparation.
 - (2.) The *Herald* reports, which are generally regarded as authentic, do not show that the By-laws of the Druids, certified to by the Registrar upon compliance with section 8 of the Act, were set aside by any Court as *ultra vires*.
 - (3.) The Government will make due provision for the administration of any Act passed.
- (5.) Board and Maintenance of Nurses:—*Mr. Dacey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the nurses and female attendants at the Hospital for the Insane are charged £27 per annum for board and maintenance, &c.?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the nurses and probationers at the Coast Hospital are charged £50 per annum for board and maintenance, &c.?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—
- (1.) The amount charged is £25.
 - (2.) Yes.
- (6.) Fuel and Cleaning Allowance to Schools:—*Mr. Affleck*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it not a fact that fuel allowance is granted to any full-time school, even though the average is as low as twelve?
 - (2.) Will he consider the advisability of extending the same consideration to half-time schools where the actual average is greater than the above, and where, under present conditions, two supplies of fuel have to be maintained by the teacher?
 - (3.) Will he, in like manner, grant a cleaning allowance for half-time schools?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—
- (1.) Fuel allowances are granted to all classes of schools in localities where the cold is severe.
 - (2.) Answered by No. 1.
 - (3.) Cleaning allowances are granted to teachers of classified Public Schools only. The matter will, however, receive consideration.
- (7.) Mr. Arthur Galton:—*Mr. Affleck*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Did Mr. Arthur Galton receive a commission from the late Government of Sir George Dibbs to write a work relating to the early history of this Colony?
 - (2.) What were the terms of the contract which the then Government entered into with Mr. Galton?
 - (3.) Has the contract, or any part of it, been fulfilled on Mr. Galton's part?
 - (4.) What amount of money (if any) has been paid Mr. Galton in connection with the matter referred to?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—The papers in connection with this matter were, in September, 1894, referred to the Attorney-General, who advised that the agreement entered into between Sir George Dibbs and Mr. Galton, having received no Executive approval, was not legally binding on the Government. No money has been paid to Mr. Galton.
- (8.) Report of Government Analyst on Pink Pills:—*Mr. Affleck*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to the following statement appearing in the *Pharmaceutical Journal of Australasia*, July number:—"Mr. Hamlet, the Government Analyst, has reported to the Board of Health that what are known as Pink Pills contain impure carbonate of iron, green copperas, pearl-ash, and arsenic, and are greatly inferior to other brands of pills. The Board of Health have not taken action so far"?
 - (2.) In view of the above, will he take steps to prevent the poisoning of the people through the medium of these deleterious compounds?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the President of the Board of Health:—No such report has been made by the Government Analyst. The pills were analysed by him, and were reported to contain saccharated carbonate of iron and sulphate of potash, and a trace of arsenic equal to one four-thousandth of a grain. Pills having this composition are an old and commonly-used remedy. They are not deleterious and not poisonous, and no action is thought necessary.
- (9.) Opening of the Zoological Gardens on Sundays:—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. Copeland, asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the resolution of this House, on the 1st of June last, as to the desirableness of opening the Zoological Gardens on Sunday afternoons, is it the intention of the Government to include the sum in the Estimates, and submit the same to the vote of the House?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—The resolution adopted by this House has been noted, and will be dealt with by the Government when considering the Estimates.
- (10.) Selection by Arthur Jeffries, Land District of Deniliquin:—*Mr. Chanter* asked the Secretary for Lands,—When will the papers relating to the inquiry by the Local Land Board at Deniliquin as to the *bonâ fides* or otherwise of Arthur Jeffries, moved for on 16th June, 1897, be laid upon the Table of this House?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—The papers will be laid upon the Table of this House next week.

19th August, 1897.

(11.) Murray Bridge at Moama:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Referring to previous Questions on the subject of redecking the Murray Bridge, at Moama, and his reply that the matter was in the hands of the Victorian Railway authorities, who would probably employ their own workmen, will he, as one-half of the cost of £1,000 is to be defrayed by this Colony, stipulate with the aforesaid authorities that one-half of the workmen shall be employed from the Moama and Deniliquin Districts of this Colony?

Mr. Young answered,—As the Victorian Government have never made any conditions as to the employment of Victorians on the numerous works carried out by New South Wales at the joint expense of the two Colonies, I do not propose to make the stipulation suggested by the Honorable Member.

(12.) Dams on Yanko and Colombo Creeks:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
(1.) How many licenses have been applied for in respect to existing dams on the Yanko and Colombo Creeks, situated on the properties of Messrs. McCaughey, Horsfall, Watt, Thompson, and D. McCaughey?

(2.) What are the names of the applicants?

(3.) Have any of these applications been referred to the Land Board for inquiry; and if so, whose?

(4.) Have any objections been lodged against these applications; if so, by whom?

(5.) Were these applications appointed to be heard by the Urana Land Board on the 19th July last?

(6.) Was the application of Mr. S. McCaughey the only one proceeded with?

(7.) Did the Land Board adjourn the hearing, at the instance of applicant's solicitor, who asked for it on the ground that Mr. McKinney, an officer of the Water Conservation Department, had made an inspection, and that gentleman was too ill to attend?

(8.) Is it not a fact that Mr. McKinney was in the district, and not too unwell to give evidence?

(9.) Did not the local medical man refuse to certify to Mr. McKinney's illness being of that character to prevent him attending and giving evidence?

(10.) Is he aware that the objectors to these applications had produced a very large number of witnesses at very heavy expense, travelling and otherwise?

(11.) Is he aware that the Land Board has decided that the next hearing of these cases shall take place at Narandera, entailing still greater expense on the part of objectors?

(12.) Will he request the Land Board to hear these applications, and objections thereto, at Jerilderie, as being the most central and convenient?

(13.) As shearing operations are now in full swing, will he request the Land Board to delay the hearing until the third week in September, when shearing will have ceased?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Eleven.

(2.) J. S. Hersfall (5), S. McCaughey (2), Watt and Thomson (2), and D. McCaughey (2).

(3.) Yes—all.

(4.) A petition from residents on the Billabong Creek was received, in which special objections were lodged against the dams owned by S. McCaughey and D. McCaughey.

(5.) Yes.

(6.) I am not aware.

(7.) The Chairman of the Land Board reported that he adjourned the hearing of the cases on account of Mr. McKinney's non-attendance.

(8.) Mr. McKinney was in the district, but he was too unwell to attend up to the date of the adjournment.

(9.) I am not aware.

(10.) I was informed somewhat to this effect by the Chairman of the Land Board.

(11.) I am not aware.

(12 and 13.) I will communicate with my honorable colleague the Minister for Lands.

(13.) Suppression of Tote-shops—The Butler Case:—Mr. Carroll, for Mr. Hassall, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) How many convictions have taken place in connection with the suppression of tote-shops from 1st of January to 30th June last?

(2.) What amount has been paid to informers during that period, and to whom?

(3.) What has been the amount of the reward paid to detectives and officers of the Police Force in this Colony in connection with the Butler case?

(4.) To whom has it been paid, and in what proportions?

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

(1.) Fifty-four.

(2.) £41. It is not the practice of the police to disclose the names of the informers.

(3 and 4.) £32. Detectives Roche, McHattie, and McLean, and Sergeant Thorndyke, £6 each; Detective Brown and Constables Conroy, Wilson, and Bressington, £2 each; balance of reward paid to private persons, £43; £75 in all. Above their actual personal travelling expenses the following sums were paid to the officers who escorted Butler from San Francisco:—Detective Roche, £30; Detective McHattie, £25; and Constable Conroy, £15.

(14.) Speech of the Attorney-General on the Commonwealth Bill:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has he any objection to Members being supplied with copies of the Attorney-General's speech on the Commonwealth Bill, so that his honorable and learned colleague's criticisms of the Draft Bill and its draftsmen may be examined by as many electors as possible?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Attorney-General has had a pamphlet published at his own expense, and that no doubt, will be available.

19th August, 1897.

- (15.) Coloured Races Restriction Bill:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has or has not the Secretary of State for the Colonies intimated to the Premier his unwillingness, or disinclination, or refusal, to advise the Queen to assent to the Coloured Races Restriction Bill?
 - (2.) Will or will not the Government at once bring down a Bill for this purpose which the Governor can assent to?
 - (3.) Do the Government intend to redeem their pledge that they would stay the incursion of servile and degraded races into the territory?
 - (4.) Have not the majority of coloured immigrants domiciled themselves within the electorates of East Maitland, Singleton, Bathurst, Sherbrooke, The Manning, and St. George?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—I have no hesitation in saying that the Premier, on his return to the Colony, will be able to give the information asked for by the Honorable Member in his first three Questions. As to Question No. 4, if the Honorable Member had inserted the electorate of Darlington, instead of the six electorates named, I have no doubt he would find where those persons to whom he refers are domiciled.
- (16.) Appointments in the Land and Income Tax Department:—Mr. McFarlane asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it intended to make any permanent appointments of officers over and above those now existing in the Land and Income Tax Department?
 - (2.) If so, when will the permanent appointments be made?
 - (3.) Is he aware that large numbers of temporary officers have been upwards of nine months engaged in the Land and Income Tax Department?
 - (4.) Is he aware that such engagement is contrary to the Public Service Act?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—This Office has not yet been graded. The Public Service Board have deferred doing so until the Department has assumed what might be considered its settled condition. The Board think it would be premature to take action at present.
2. RABBIT BILL:—Mr. Thomas Brown presented three Petitions from Landholders and Selectors resident in Peak Hill and District, representing that Petitioners are seriously affected by the presence of the rabbit and other noxious animal pests, and that they will be materially advantaged by effective legislation dealing therewith; and praying that, when considering the Rabbit Bill, the House will favourably consider the 20th clause of the Rabbit Conference Draft Bill, making it sufficiently elastic to embrace wallabies and other noxious animals.
Petitions received.
3. LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL:—Mr. McLean presented a Petition from the Revd. F. B. Boyce, Chairman of a Public Meeting held in the Centenary Hall, Sydney, on the 12th instant, praying that the Liquor Traffic Local Option Bill now before the House may be passed into law as speedily as possible.
Petition received.
4. PAPERS:—
- Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Report of the Department of Public Works for the year ended 30th June, 1896.
 - (2.) Accounts of the South Head Roads Trust and Richmond Road Trust for the half-year ended 31st December, 1896.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Report of the Public Service Board respecting the Appointment of an Expert in connection with the Dairying Industry, Department of Mines and Agriculture.
 - (2.) Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of the Sydney Cricket Ground for the year ended 30th September, 1896.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. WOMENS FRANCHISE BILL:—Mr. Fegan, pursuant to leave granted on 12th August, 1897, presented a Bill, intitled "*A Bill to amend the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893, and the Acts amending the same, so as to extend the franchise to adult female persons resident in New South Wales*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 7th December.
6. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Sixteenth Report from the Printing Committee.
7. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
- (1.) Clergy Widows and Orphans Fund (Sydney Diocese) Trustees Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 12th October.
 - (2.) Grand Jury Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 12th October.
 - (3.) Australasian Federation Enabling Act Amendment Bill (No. 2); second reading;—until Tuesday next.
 - (4.) Agricultural Holdings Bill; second reading;—until Thursday next.
 - (5.) Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Wednesday next.
 - (6.) North Shore Bridge Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Wednesday next.
 - (7.) Liens on Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday next.
 - (8.) Finance Committee of the Adelaide Convention; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Schey, "That leave be given to William McMillan, Esq., Member for Burwood, to lay upon the Table of this House copies of all papers laid before the Committee of Finance of the Adelaide Federal Convention, and of all evidence taken before such Committee on the question of federalising the railways, and on other financial proposals relating to the Commonwealth Constitution";—until Tuesday, 26th October.
 - (9.) Australasian Federation Enabling Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th August, 1897.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Wellington, Mr. Haynes, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The need for action on the part of the Minister of Justice to rectify the miscarriage of justice in the case of Rachel Dawson, convicted of shooting.”

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.

The House divided.

Ayes, 27.

Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Griffith.
Mr. Nelson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Travers Jones,	
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Afleck.
Mr. James Thomson,	
Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. Watson,	
Mr. T. R. Smith,	
Mr. McLaughlin,	
Mr. Chanter,	
Mr. Perry,	
Mr. Chapman,	
Mr. Wright,	
Mr. Anderson,	
Mr. Schey,	
Mr. Rose,	
Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. Edden,	
Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. Miller,	
Mr. Lovien,	
Mr. O'Sullivan,	
Mr. Haynes,	

Noes, 46.

Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Caun,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Lec,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Morton,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Thomas Brown.
Mr. Bavister,	<i>Tellers.</i>
Mr. Howarth,	
Mr. Harvey,	Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Bull.

And so it passed in the negative.

9. **CONDITIONAL PURCHASE BY GEORGE VINCENT, IN THE DISTRICT OF GUNDAGAI**:—Mr. Travers Jones, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 10th August, 1897.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
10. **MUNICIPAL LOANS FURTHER VALIDATION BILL**:—Mr. Brunker moved, pursuant to Notice, That the consideration of the Municipal Loans Further Validation Bill, introduced in the Assembly during last Session, which was interrupted by the close of the Session, be resumed at the stage reached at the time of such interruption, in accordance with Standing Order No. 295.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration on Wednesday next.
11. **LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL**:—
(1.) Mr. Brunker moved, without Notice, That it is a matter of urgent and pressing necessity that the Land and Income Tax (Amendment) Bill should be passed through its remaining stages this day.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 54.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Afleck,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Nicholson,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Lec,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.
Mr. Lonsdale,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Robert Jones,	
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Harvey,	Mr. McLean.

Noes, 22.

Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Raymond,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Levien,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Price,
Mr. Morton.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Chapman.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(2.)

19th August, 1897.

- (2.) Mr. Brunker then moved, without Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of the Land and Income Tax (Amendment) Bill through its remaining stages this day.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
- (3.) The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Brunker moved, That the report be now adopted.
Question put and passed.
- (4.) Mr. Brunker then moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

	Ayes, 40.		Noes, 12.
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Harvey,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Aisleck,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Morgan,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Lee,	Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Copeland.
Mr. Millen,	Mr. Wheeler,		
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Forguson,	Tellers,	Tellers.
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Mahony.	Mr. Hurley.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Brunker, *passed*.

Mr. Brunker then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years; and for the assessment of incomes of companies, and persons owning or chartering ships and the payment of Income Tax on the same; to amend section 23 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895; to amend the provisions for appeals; to limit the deductions from the taxable amount in respect of interest; to provide for valuation rolls; to make better provision in respect of assessment-books and refunds of taxes; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years; and for the assessment of incomes of companies, and persons owning or chartering ships and the payment of Income Tax on the same; to amend section 23 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895; to amend the provisions for appeals; to limit the deductions from the taxable amount in respect of interest; to provide for valuation rolls; to make better provision in respect of assessment-books and refunds of taxes; and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 19th August, 1897.

12. LICENSING ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Brunker moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Brunker, *passed*.

Mr. Brunker then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable Licensing Courts and Licensing Magistrates to grant or refuse any application for a brewer's or spirit merchant's license; to provide that the business of the holder of any such license shall be carried on only on premises described in the license or in an endorsement made thereon by such Court or Magistrate; to enable a married woman who has obtained a protection order or judicial separation, or a woman whose marriage has been dissolved, or whose husband is an insane patient, to obtain a publican's or colonial wine license; and for those purposes and purposes incidental thereto to amend the Licensing Acts, 1882-1883.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT;—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable Licensing Courts and Licensing Magistrates to grant or refuse any application for a brewer's or spirit merchant's license; to provide that the business of the holder of any such license shall be carried on only on premises described in the license or in an endorsement made thereon by such Court or Magistrate; to enable a married woman who has obtained a protection order or judicial separation, or a woman whose marriage has been dissolved, or whose husband is an insane patient, to obtain a publican's or colonial wine license; and for those purposes and purposes incidental thereto to amend the Licensing Acts, 1882-1883,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 19th August, 1897.

And

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th August, 1897.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 20 AUGUST, 1897, A.M.

13. POSTPONEMENT:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That Order of the Day No. 3 be postponed, to follow Order No. 4.
Debate ensued.
Motion, by leave, withdrawn.
14. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 51.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 24 AUGUST, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Wharfage Fees collected at Coff's Harbour and Byron Bay Jetties:—Mr. McLaughlin asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What was the total amount of wharfage fees collected at Coff's Harbour Jetty during the year 1896-7?

(2.) What amount was collected at Woolgoolga Jetty during the same period?

(3.) Have any fees been collected at Byron Bay Jetty during that period; if so, what amount?

(4.) Have any wharfage fees been charged or collected at any of the Government wharfs along the coast or on the rivers in this Colony; if so, will he state the amount collected at each wharf?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) £175 19s. 6d.

(2.) £73 13s. 11d.

(3.) No fees have been collected by the Government. The jetty was leased from 1st July, 1896.

(4.) No wharfage fees have been charged or collected by the Government outside Port Jackson, except at Woolgoolga and Coff's Harbour, during the year 1896-7. Tonnage dues are charged at Newcastle and Wollongong.

(2.) Immigration of Coloured Aliens:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Are immigrants, belonging to servile and degraded races, habitually arriving in the Colony?

(2.) How many such immigrants have arrived during the last five years?

(3.) Is it a prominent feature in the Ministerial policy to regulate or prohibit the immigration of coloured aliens?

(4.) When is it intended to take the initial step to achieve that aim?

(5.) Why have the Government allowed so many months to pass by without bringing down this measure of protection to the homes of the workers in the community?

(6.) Has this very pressing question been laid aside to fill up the period of the Premier's absence with so-called non-contentious business?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The information is not at present obtainable. Inquiry will be made, and the particulars furnished if they are available.

(3.) Provisions of the Victorian Federation Enabling Act:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Does the Victorian Federation Enabling Act allow the electors to send their votes through the post?

(2.) If so, will he take immediate steps to ask Parliament to enact a similar provision?

(3.) If he is not prepared to bring down such a Bill, will he bring down a Message from the Governor to enable any Private Member to introduce a Bill embodying a provision for voting by post, and authorising the free transmission of voting papers?

Mr. Brunker answered,—There is no provision for this in the Act, but I am not aware whether the regulations framed thereunder provide for it.

(4.) Cost of last General Election:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What was the total cost of the last General Election of Members of the Legislative Assembly?

(2.) What was the total cost of the election of the Representatives of New South Wales to the Federal Convention?

(3.) Will it be possible, without additional cost, to hold a General Election of Members of the Legislative Assembly, and to take a vote of the electors of New South Wales on the specific question of Federation?

(4.) If not, what additional cost will it entail to take the Referendum vote on the day fixed by the Cabinet?

Mr.

24th August, 1897.

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) The General Election of 1895 cost £20,160 17s. 9d. The cost of the Electoral Office for that year was £12,837 1s. 11d.
- (2.) The cost of conducting the Election was £14,367 18s.; advertising, £1,944 10s. 4d; printing, £360 2s. 9d.; total, £16,672 11s. 1d.
- (3 and 4.) When the proper time arrives the matter will receive consideration.

(5.) Wentworth Gold-mining Company:—Mr. Sleath asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Has the Wentworth Gold-mining Company ever had any permit or other legal authority to mine for or remove gold from the Wentworth property?
- (2.) If not, is it a fact that the whole of the gold removed has been and is the property of the Crown?
- (3.) If so, what steps does he intend to take to recover the gold, the property of the Crown, illegally taken from the estate?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1 and 2.) The land has been worked for gold for many years with the consent of the Crown. Royalty has been paid for the gold removed from 1889 up to the time of passing the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894. The company, by virtue of the preferent right they held under the Act, applied for a lease. The Attorney-General advised that they had a legal right to do so, and were exempt from the payment of royalty after the date they applied for the lease.
- (3.) It cannot be said the gold was illegally taken.

(6.) Sunday Trading:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) How many convictions have been made for opening shops on Sundays since the prosecutions commenced about the beginning of July last to present date?
- (2.) What was the number of convictions for each separate week during the time indicated in Question 1?
- (3.) What were the fine and costs in each case; and what is the total amount of fine and costs during the time noted above?
- (4.) In reply to above Questions, will he distinguish the kind of shops, the keepers of which were fined?
- (5.) Has he consulted the Attorney-General or Executive Council about taking action to enforce Sunday closing of shops of all kinds; if so, what is the result; if not, will he do so, and when?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the police authorities as regards Questions 1 to 4:—

- (1.) Eight.
- (2.) Week ending 31st July, five; week ending 7th August, one; week ending 14th August, one; week ending 21st August, one.
- (3.) Four were fined 1s. each without costs; four 5s. each with 2s. 6d. costs; total amount, 34s.
- (4.) All tobacconists.
- (5.) I have not yet consulted the Attorney-General.

(7.) Sewerage for Chatswood:—Mr. Howarth asked the Secretary for Public Works,—What has been done with regard to providing a system of sewerage for Chatswood?

Mr. Young answered,—A surveyor is engaged taking the necessary levels to enable a scheme to be formulated.

(8.) Concrete Bail Floors in the Richmond River District:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the Inspector of Dairies has ordered that concrete bail floors are to be substituted for wooden floors in the Richmond River District?
- (2.) Is he aware that this will involve a considerable outlay, which dairy farmers can ill afford?
- (3.) Has any officer of the Department visited and inspected the bails and milking-sheds at the Hawkesbury Experimental College?
- (4.) Is he aware that the floor of the bails at that college are of wood?
- (5.) Under what regulations are dairy farmers in the north compelled to put other than wooden floors to their bails, when wood is sanctioned and in use at the Government model establishment?
- (6.) Will he at once send instructions to the Inspectors in the Northern Coast Districts to see that the sanitary conditions of dairies are attended to without unnecessary interference in details?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) The Inspector has required impervious flooring to be substituted for wood of one of the kinds and under the circumstances described in Answers given on June 10th and 24th last.
- (2.) No.
- (3 and 4.) The President happens to have seen the cow-sheds and bails at Hawkesbury Experimental College, and is aware that wood is used for some floors.
- (5.) Under section 4, subsection iv, of the Dairies Supervision Act.
- (6.) As already explained in previous Answers referred to above, no unnecessary interference is allowed, and registered dairymen are not obliged to incur any needless or heavy expense; but the sanitation of registered dairy premises is essentially a matter of details.

(9.) The Parliamentary Draftsman:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the large amount of employment given by the Government to persons outside the Public Service in drafting Bills, will he please say—(a) was the Parliamentary Draftsman deemed to be unfit to draft all the Government's Bills; (b) is the employment of private draftsmen a feature in the retrenchment policy of the Government?

Mr. Brunker answered,—(a) No; (b) Private draftsmen have occasionally to be employed owing to pressure of work.

24th August, 1897.

- (10.) **Gratuity to retired Public Servants:**—*Mr. Dick*, for *Mr. O'Reilly*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will Public Servants, retired between the ages of 60 and 65, who have ceased to contribute to the Superannuation Fund, receive the gratuity specified in subsection (II) of section 60, Public Service Act?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—I must refer the Honorable Member to sections 68 and 69 of the Public Service Act, which deal with cases of the kind referred to by him.
- (11.) **Indebtedness of Queensland to New South Wales:**—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Referring to *Mr. Schey's* Question No. 2, of 17th instant, will he please say—
 (1.) Does Queensland owe any money to New South Wales?
 (2.) If so, how much, according to the computation of the Government and Officers of New South Wales?
 (3.) Does this Administration intend to take any action in regard to the matter?
 (4.) If so, what, and when?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—
 (1 and 2.) In the First Annual Report on the Public Accounts, presented to the Legislative Assembly in October, 1872, under the Audit Act of 1870, the Auditor-General stated that "The accounts prepared under the Queensland Debt Act of 1862, 26 Vic. No. 8, are in print, but have never been presented to Parliament. These accounts show a balance in favour of New South Wales (without interest) of £146,590 6s. 9d. In the absence of any expression of opinion on the subject, it is not known whether it is intended to prosecute or to abandon this claim."
 (3 and 4.) This matter will receive consideration.
- (12.) **Distribution of Blankets by the Government:**—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) How many pairs of blankets have been distributed by the Government to charitable bodies, missions, Members of Parliament, and otherwise, since 1st January of this year?
 (2.) How many of such blankets were manufactured in New South Wales?
 (3.) How many of such blankets were procured from the firm of *McArthur & Co.*?
 (4.) What price per pair was paid for those manufactured in New South Wales?
 (5.) What price per pair was paid for those procured from *Messrs. McArthur & Co.*?
Mr. Bruncker answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table a return giving the desired information.
- (13.) **Cost of Water Supply for Newtown:**—*Mr. Rigg* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) What has been the cost of laying water-mains and the reticulation service-pipes, including cost of pipes, throughout the borough of Newtown?
 (2.) What is the total annual revenue received for water supplied throughout the said borough?
Mr. Young answered,—
 The Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage have furnished the following Answers:—
 (1.) £27,170.
 (2.) £5,299.
- (14.) **Tram Tickets sold by Tramway Conductors:**—*Mr. Neild* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) What is the value of tram tickets sold weekly by the tramway conductors?
 (2.) Do they receive any commission on sales made?
 (3.) What is the weekly average of commission on ticket sales saved by conductors selling?
 (4.) Is it not a fact that conductors are frequently out of pocket through making sales of tickets?
 (5.) Will he ask the Railway Commissioners to grant some commission to conductors?
Mr. Bruncker answered.
 (1.) I am informed that the sales amount to about £3,200 per week.
 (2.) No.
 (3.) £32.
 (4.) Losses do not frequently occur, and with ordinary care no loss should take place.
 (5.) The Railway Commissioners consider it undesirable to make a special allowance to conductors, as the selling of tickets comes within their ordinary duty.
- (15.) **Pastoral Leases in the Central Division:**—*Mr. Thomas Brown* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that numerous applications are being lodged for the purpose of converting the pastoral leased lands, either in whole or in part, of said applicants in the Central Division, into scrub leases?
 (2.) What are the number and area embraced in said applications received up to date?
 (3.) Has he decided upon any general policy with respect to such applications; and, if so, what are the terms and conditions of said policy?
Mr. Carruthers answered,—
 (1.) Yes.
 (2.) Thirty-two applications, representing 876,620 acres, have been lodged, some of which have been refused or withdrawn.
 (3.) No; but I propose dealing with each application on its merits, taking into consideration the distance of the land from market, the character of the country, the dryness of the climate, and whether it would be more profitable to the Colony to have the pioneer work of improvement and occupation carried on by the combined capital and enterprise of the pastoralist or not.
- (16.) **Delivery of Letters in the Suburbs:**—*Mr. Neild* asked the Postmaster-General,—
 (1.) Is he aware that the delivery of letters in the suburbs, at a distance of from 1 to 2 miles from the General Post Office, does not take place earlier than 10 a.m.?
 (2.) What is the reason for such late delivery?
 (3.) Will he take steps to facilitate earlier delivery of letters in the localities referred to?
Mr. Cook answered,—
 (1.) No. The letter-carriers who deliver at the suburbs start from the General Post Office at 8 a.m.
 (2.) It cannot be stated.
 (3.) If an instance be given of the locality in which the late delivery takes place, inquiries will be made in the matter.

24th August, 1897.

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 18th August, 1897,—“Public School Teacher at Wilberforce.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return to an Address, adopted on 11th August, 1897,—“Fine imposed upon Mrs. Flood, Paddington Police Court.”

(2.) Return to an Order, made on 23rd June, 1897,—“Appointment of Mr. Payten as Stipendiary Magistrate at Newcastle.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return respecting Distribution of Blankets by the Government.

(2.) Proceedings of the Australasian Federal Convention (with papers ordered to be printed), held at Adelaide, during March, April, and May, 1897.

(3.) Papers on Federation, circulated on consideration of Draft Federal Constitution, 1897, by Legislature of Victoria.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Schey, pursuant to leave granted on 18th August, 1897, laid upon the Table,—Notes on Federation, and the Draft Bills of 1891 and 1897, by G. B. Barton.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. RABBIT BILL:—Mr. Thomas Brown presented a Petition from certain landholders in Dubbo and surrounding districts, praying that, when considering the Rabbit Bill, the House will favourably consider the 20th clause of the Rabbit Conference Draft Bill, making it sufficiently elastic in its provisions to provide protection against other noxious animals, such as hares, wallabies, rats, &c. Petition received.

4. MUNICIPALITIES ACT OF 1867 AMENDING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

(1.) Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Municipalities Act of 1867, to enable Municipalities to lease and otherwise deal with lands within their boundaries upon which rates are due and remain unpaid for a period of three years or more.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Fitzpatrick then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to amend the Municipalities Act of 1867, to enable Municipalities to lease and otherwise deal with lands within their boundaries upon which rates are due and remain unpaid for a period of three years or more,*”—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 28th September.

5. PILOT SERVICE, NEWCASTLE AND SYDNEY (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Dick moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—

(1.) The number of vessels piloted in and out of Newcastle by each pilot during 1896.

(2.) The total number of removals (of all kinds) effected in the harbour of Newcastle during the same year.

(3.) The revenue derived from the services of each pilot during the same year.

(4.) All other work done by the pilots at Newcastle during same year.

(5.) The same information respecting Sydney.

Question put and passed.

6. AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION ENABLING ACT AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2):—Mr. Haynes moved, without Notice, That it is a matter of urgent and pressing necessity that the second reading of the Australasian Federation Enabling Act Amendment Bill (No. 2) should be taken before all other business, and that the Bill should be passed through its remaining stages this day.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 32.

Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Gormly.
Mr. Hogue,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Thomas,	
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Price.
Mr. Wright,	
Mr. Cotton,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. Robert Jones,	
Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. Macdonald,	
Mr. Afleck,	
Mr. E. M. Clark,	
Mr. Wheeler,	
Mr. Howarth,	
Mr. Harris,	
Mr. Parkes,	
Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Ferguson.	

Noes, 47.

Mr. Reymond,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Chanter,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Willis.
Mr. Crieck,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Wuddell,	Mr. Moore.
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	

And so it passed in the negative.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

24th August, 1897.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Wilcannia, Mr. Sleath, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The action of Mining Companies in removing gold, the property of the Crown, without authority.” And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Sleath moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
8. **REAPPRAISEMENT OF CONDITIONAL PURCHASES AND CONDITIONAL LEASES**:—Mr. Moore, proceeding to move, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, in the interests of *bond-fide* settlement, legislation should be introduced to provide for the reappraisement of conditional purchases and conditional leases in certain cases,—
Point of Order:—Mr. Thomas drew Mr. Speaker's attention to the Order of the Day, No. 7, for the adjourned Debate on the motion of Mr. Waddell, and submitted that Mr. Moore's motion, being substantially the same subject, would anticipate the Debate on that Order of the Day.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Speaker said that the objection taken was fatal to this Motion, and he would rule accordingly.
9. **CASE OF SYDNEY COOPER, AS TO MINING UNDER A ROAD, PARISH OF CLYDE, COUNTY OF GOUGH**:—
Mr. Cruickshank moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon all the circumstances attending the case of Sydney Cooper, who was the holder of an authority to mine under a road separating portions Nos. 330 and 413, in the parish of Clyde, county of Gough, such authority being obtained by him as the holder of a document purporting to be a mineral license, but which was held by the Appeal Court, holden at Inverell, not to be a mineral license, as the “butt” was not attached thereto.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Cann, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Lonsdale, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Moore, and the Mover.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
10. **WATER CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT**:—Mr. Affleck moved, pursuant to Notice That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) The total cost to the country of the Water Conservation Department from its inception up to the present date.
(2.) What works have been carried out, specifying those completed from those under construction, by the Water Conservation Department during the existence of the same.
(3.) The total expenditure to date for the works referred to in paragraph (2), not including Departmental expenditure.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 37.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Storey,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.
Mr. Whiddon,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Watson.
Mr. Harris,	
Mr. Morgan,	

Noes, 23.

Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Hogue.
Dr. Ross,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Levien,	Mr. Hurley.
Mr. Crick,	
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. Gornuly,	
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. T. R. Smith,	
Mr. O'Sullivan,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Goodwin,	
Mr. Remond,	
Mr. Miller,	
Mr. Edden,	
Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. Macdonald,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

11. **ESTATE OF THE LATE S. M. SWIFT, OF PETERSHAM**:—Mr. Hughes moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the alleged evasion of Probate duty in connection with the estate of the late S. M. Swift, of Petersham, squatter.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Perry, Mr. McFarlane, Mr. Wood, Mr. McLean, Mr. Dick, Mr. Parkes, Mr. Thomas, Mr. McGowen, and the Mover.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

24th August, 1897.

12. NORTH COAST RAILWAY:—Mr. F. Clarke moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, and in view of the heavy losses of produce incurred by shippers of the northern rivers owing to the unnavigable and dangerous condition of “bar harbours,” the advisability of constructing the North Coast Railway should be immediately referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works.
Debate ensued.
Motion, by leave, withdrawn.
13. REMOVAL OF JOHN KING, TRAM-GUARD:—Mr. Hogue moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all reports, minutes, and other documents relating to the removal, in August, 1896, of John King, tram-guard, from his position in the Tramway Service.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 52.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 25 AUGUST, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Visit of the Premier to London:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did not the Premier, on 7th March last, announce through the Press that he had submitted a minute to the Cabinet on the subject of his projected visit to London?

(2.) Did such minute communicate to the Colonial Secretary that one of the principal reasons which guided the Premier in accepting Mr. Chamberlain's invitation was that Mr. Reid might, while in England, advance the Aliens Immigration Bill, and so present the case as to receive the Royal Assent to it?

Mr. Brunner answered,—As the Premier will be here himself during the next few days, he will be able to give the Honorable Member a reply to these Questions. I am not in a position to do so.

- (2.) Electoral Rolls:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has there been unusual activity of late in the Government Printing Office in connection with the condition of the Electoral Rolls?

(2.) Has the Government any motive in view in getting this work well in hand?

(3.) Do the Government propose while Parliament is in Session to submit to the electors the question of accepting or rejecting the Bill to establish a federation of the Colonies?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1 and 2.) The activity referred to was caused by the necessity of the early publication of Electoral Lists, and the Government Printer's desire to comply with the conditions imposed by the Act.

(3.) It is impossible for the Government to give any decision with regard to the Bill, which is yet incomplete.

- (3.) Exemption of Salary of His Excellency the Governor from Income Tax:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Was the Attorney-General's opinion as to the non-liability of the Governor's salary to pay Income Tax supplied to him officially or privately?

(2.) If supplied officially, was it marked by the Attorney-General to be "private and confidential"?

(3.) Has he been requested by the Governor or the Attorney-General to withhold the opinion from Parliament?

(4.) Has he been advised by the Attorney-General that the opinion is an official paper, which cannot be regarded as a private or confidential communication?

(5.) Does he decline to lay upon the Table a copy of this official paper?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1.) Officially.

(2, 3, and 4.) No.

(5.) Yes.

- (4.) Proposed Railway from Guyra to Grafton or Coff's Harbour:—Mr. McLaughlin asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) How many miles of the proposed railway line from Guyra, *via* Don Dorrigo, to Grafton or Coff's Harbour, have been surveyed?

(2.) How many miles remain unsurveyed?

(3.) Did Messrs. Scarr and Price report concerning this line, on the 12th August, 1890, that it was the best from Grafton to the Tableland, and should be constructed?

(4.) What is the Minister's reason for delaying the completion of the trial survey, and moving for a reference as to the advisability of its construction to the Public Works Committee?

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Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) The whole route has been surveyed. Its length is 157 miles.
- (2.) None.
- (3.) These gentlemen reported that the best way of connecting the Great Northern Railway with the proposed North Coast Line was from Guyra *via* Don Dorrigo to South Grafton.
- (4.) It has not been considered advisable to refer this line to the Public Works Committee up to the present, but the matter will not be overlooked.

(5.) Appointment of Returning Officer for the Electorate of Goulburn:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Did he, on the 11th June last, request the Police Magistrate of Goulburn to convene a meeting of the local Justices for the purpose of nominating a gentleman to fill the position of Returning Officer for the Electorate of Goulburn?
- (2.) Did he subsequently receive a letter from the Police Magistrate informing him that twenty-five Magistrates had, in response to the Police Magistrate's invitation, unanimously nominated Mr. A. G. De Lauret for the position of Returning Officer?
- (3.) Is it a fact that he ignored the unanimous nomination of the Justices in favour of another gentleman?
- (4.) If yes, upon whose recommendation was the appointment filled?
- (5.) Is it a fact that the Goulburn Justices have transmitted to him a resolution expressing their indignation at his action, and at the same time asking for an explanation?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—It is quite true that the Bench of Magistrates at Goulburn were, on the 11th, asked to make a recommendation with regard to the appointment of a suitable person for the position of Returning Officer. No reply was received for nearly three weeks, and in the meantime a person who was considered suitable for the position was appointed. Under any circumstances I decline to be questioned by the Magistracy of Goulburn as to the eligibility of any person I might choose to select for such a position.

(6.) Fund for the Suppression of Scab in Sheep:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Do stockowners in the Colony pay anything at present towards a fund for the suppression of scab in sheep; if so, how much?
- (2.) What becomes of the money; or does it go into a "scab fund" or into the general revenue of the Colony?
- (3.) How long is it since scab in sheep last appeared in the Colony?
- (4.) The amount of accumulated money that is now to the credit of this fund; and how long has it been accumulating?
- (5.) Will he see that steps are taken to abolish the fees collected under the Scab in Sheep Act?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) Yes; the rate is 7s. per 1,000 sheep.
- (2.) The money is paid into the Treasury to a Trust Fund (Sheep Account), and not to the General Revenue of the Colony. The funds raised are used for the purpose of dealing with all diseases in stock, the supervision of travelling stock routes, and the protection of travelling stock reserves, &c.
- (3.) Not since the year 1884.
- (4.) The balance at the Treasury on 31st July last was £5,594 9s. 3d. When the necessary expense incurred in administering the Act is paid there will be little or no surplus at the end of the year.
- (5.) This is not desirable in the public interest, and, moreover, no general desire has been expressed in favour of such a course.

(7.) Dummy Selections on Nanimi Run, near Eugowra:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that one of the alleged dummy selections that was forfeited some time back on Nanimi, near Eugowra, Land District of Molong, and county of Ashburnham, has since been reselected by one James Herbert, who was previously declared to be a dummy selector?
- (2.) Is it true that the Local Land Board, in the face of these facts, has again confirmed James Herbert's selection?
- (3.) What steps does he intend to take to deal with the matter, so that the public may be protected against dummyism?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—My honorable colleague is not aware, but inquiry will be made and necessary action taken in regard to the matter. If the facts be as the Honorable Member's Question seems to infer, my honorable colleague will not hesitate to act in the public interest; but the policy of Parliament has so largely placed the administration of land matters in the Local Land Boards and Land Appeal Court that he cannot go behind their decisions.

(8.) Dummy Selectors on Nanimi Run, near Eugowra:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Have any steps yet been taken by the Crown Solicitor to initiate criminal proceedings against the six dummy selectors on Nanimi Run, near Eugowra, Molong district, county of Ashburnham, and which were declared to be dummy selections and forfeited in 1896?
- (2.) Why is the case being so long delayed?
- (3.) When are criminal proceedings likely to be commenced in these cases, or does the Minister decline to take any further action in the matter?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The matter is still in the hands of the Crown Solicitor, who is in communication with the Police Department. I may add that the duty of my honorable colleague ceases when these cases have been remitted to the Crown Law Office for such proceedings as the law and evidence may warrant.

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(9.) Railway Deviation between Orange and Mullion Creek:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it the intention of the Railway Commissioners shortly to make a deviation of the railway between Orange and Mullion Creek, on the Western line; if so, what are the distance and expense of haulage likely to be saved?

(2.) How much is the proposed deviation likely to cost?

(3.) Would the Railway Commissioners take into consideration the propriety of extending the railway from Molong to Wellington (40 miles), where it was originally surveyed and proposed to be carried out in 1878?

(4.) Has the construction of the Western railway line from Orange to Wellington, *via* Stuart Town, in place of by Molong (as originally proposed), not proved a loss to the revenue of the Colony?

(5.) Does the extension of the line from Molong to Wellington pass through rich and valuable agricultural land, while the other passes through a barren country?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) I am informed the Railway Commissioners propose to make some improvements in the existing line between Orange and Mullion Creek, in order to secure better grades with consequent great convenience and economy in the railway working. The deviation between 194 miles and 196½ miles will convert a 1 in 40 grade to 1 in 70 on the up journey, and on the down journey 1 in 40 to 1 in 55.

(2.) The cost of the deviation is estimated at £7,500.

(3.) The Railway Commissioners have no authority in the matter of the initiation of new lines.

(4.) The earnings and expenses are not kept separately for the section referred to, and, therefore, the information cannot be given.

(5.) There is no detailed information at the moment available which will permit of this Question being definitely replied to.

(10.) Instalments on Conditional Purchases in the Deniliquin Electorate:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Will he, in consideration of the loss and suffering inflicted upon all classes of landholders in the Deniliquin Electorate, consequent upon the late drought, grant a suspension of payment of instalments for one year to all selectors in arrears?

(2.) Will he grant such extension without the infliction of a fine?

Mr. Brunker answered,—My honorable colleague invites the Honorable Member's attention to his replies given on the 20th May last to the Honorable Member for Queanbeyan, and to himself on the 27th of that month to similar Questions. The Department is aware of the severity of recent seasons in the Deniliquin District.

(11.) Loading of Vessels near old Township of Huskisson, at Jervis Bay:—Mr. Morton asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has he been informed that Mr. Kethel, M.L.C., a member of the Board of Exports, has stated recently in London that the loading of vessels cannot be carried on in all weathers near the old township of Huskisson, at Jervis Bay?

(2.) As leases for wharfage purposes have been applied for, will he obtain a report from the Marine Board as to whether shipping can safely be carried on in all weathers at the place named?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The Marine Board have reported that Jervis Bay is usually calm, but never dangerous even during easterly gales, being so capacious that shelter can be found in one or other of the smaller bays contained therein.

(12.) Pitt Town Village Settlement:—Mr. Morgan asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) What amount of money has the Pitt Town Village Settlement cost the country since it was started to the present time?

(2.) Whether there has been any return for that expenditure; and what amount?

(3.) Whether he is aware that the condition of the soil is barren and unproductive?

(4.) Whether it is his intention, considering the poorness of the soil, of spending any more money upon this settlement?

(5.) What does he intend doing with this settlement; and how many men will be employed thereon, and under what conditions?

(6.) What will be the probable cost (yearly) of maintaining this settlement; and what return does he expect to get therefrom, and how?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1 and 2.) The Honorable Member should apply to the Minister for Lands, under whose Department the settlement referred to was conducted.

(3.) This is a matter of opinion; the soil is not of the best quality, but is not unproductive.

(4, 5, and 6.) It is intended to use the land for the purpose of a Casual Labor Farm on the leongatha system. The cost of maintenance, and the return, will largely depend upon the number of men who may be employed.

(13.) Subsidy to Municipalities:—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it intended to grant a special subsidy to Municipalities this year?

(2.) If so, what amount in the £1 will be so granted?

(3.) When will the money be made available?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This matter will receive consideration when the Estimates for Expenditure for the year 1897-8 are being prepared.

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- (14.) Shorthand taught at the Sydney Technical College:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Has the teaching of shorthand been discontinued at the Sydney Technical College; and, if so, for what reason?
 - (2.) What was the average attendance at this class when existing?
 - (3.) Has it been urged as one of the reasons for discontinuing this class that shorthand can be readily acquired by self-instruction; and has not the same been urged in regard to some other subjects taught at the College?
 - (4.) Are such classes permitted at Ashfield, Newtown, North Sydney, and Petersham; and, if so, why are not equal advantages extended to residents of other city and suburban districts?
 - (5.) In view of the large number of students likely to be served by the teaching of shorthand at the Sydney Technical College, will he restore this branch of education to the programme of College classes?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Forty-six.
 - (3.) (a) No. The reason given was that there was not sufficient accommodation, the rooms being required for purely technical classes. (b) No.
 - (4.) (a) Yes; but the teachers are paid by fees only. (b) Applications will receive consideration, but, as before stated, this is not looked upon as a purely technical subject.
 - (5.) No. Ample provision for instruction in shorthand exists elsewhere.
- (15.) Exchange of Private Lands for Crown Lands in the Wagga Wagga District:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he have notices inserted in the local newspapers when inquiries are about to be held before the Local Land Board, Wagga Wagga, on applications made to exchange private lands for Crown lands, so that persons who desire to oppose such exchanges may appear before the Local Land Board and give evidence?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—In accordance with the provisions of section 47 of the Crown Lands Act of 1895, every proposal for an exchange is notified in the *Gazette*, and in a local newspaper. Moreover, any information sought for by the local Parliamentary representatives in regard to proposals for exchange will be readily afforded to them by the Department.
- (16.) Chinese Gambling Dens:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Referring to Question 8, of the 18th August, will he please give the names of any of the persons who are known to conduct pak-ah-pu or fan-tan games on any of the nights when these have been played at any of the forty-nine gambling dens mentioned in his previous Answers herein referred to?
 - (2.) Will he please give the names of as many persons as are known to the police or other authorities as proprietors, or managers-in-charge, or agents-in-charge, of any of such forty-nine gambling establishments, or any of the departments thereof?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—There are some Chinese who have been arrested by the police to-day, but, as no charge has been proved against them, it would not be right to give the names until they have been brought before the Court.
- (17.) Case of Thomas Suffield:—Mr. Schey asked the Minister of Justice,—In view of the doubts expressed on all sides of the House that there has been a miscarriage of justice in the case of Thomas Suffield, will he send for the papers in this case, and see if those doubts are well-founded, with a view to recommending His Excellency the Governor to grant Suffield his freedom?
- Mr. Gould answered,—This case has been repeatedly considered, first by my predecessor, Mr. R. E. O'Connor, who gave the matter special consideration, and subsequently by my immediate predecessor, Mr. Slattery, but neither of these gentlemen felt justified in interfering with the finding of the jury. Since then my attention has been frequently directed to the case, and I have very carefully considered the representations made and reports submitted, but have seen no reason to dissent from the opinions formed by my two predecessors in office.
- (18.) Payment of Pension to Sir William Windeyer:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it his intention, in accordance with section 51 of the Constitution Act, to suspend the payment of the judicial pension of Sir William Windeyer during the period he is executing the office of Judge in the Colony of Newfoundland?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—As far as I know the position taken up by Judge Windeyer does not in any way jeopardise his pension under the 51st section of the Constitution Act, but I will make inquiry into the matter. I may inform the Honorable Member that the Government have received no official intimation of Judge Windeyer's appointment.
- (19.) Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia—Draft Bill:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—If the Commonwealth Bill, as finally drafted by the Convention, should not contain the fundamental principles insisted on by this House, will the Government refrain from referring to the electors the question of the acceptance of the Bill?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—I may be permitted to suggest to the Honorable Member that it will be time enough to give a reply to this Question when the Commonwealth Bill has been finally dealt with.
- (20.) Local Option Bill:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it on behalf of the Government that the Postmaster-General is seeking leave of this House to introduce a Local Option Bill?
 - (2.) If not, under what rule of the House is the notice listed in Government Business?
 - (3.) Will he remove the notice from the list of Government Business, and proceed with Bills of practical utility, such as the Pyrmont Bridge Bill, which will afford means of employment to a section of the workless workers of the community?

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Mr. Brunker answered,—In reply I may be permitted to say that this is not a Government measure, but it was a question considered by the Members of the Government before taking the oaths of office. I am afraid that the Government, perhaps, may be liable to some censure for placing the measure first on the business-paper in consequence of having followed a dangerous precedent which had been already established in this House.

(21.) Report by the late Mr. Eddy on Federal Control of the Railways:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did the Government Printer print any (and, if so, how many) copies of a report by the late Mr. Eddy on the subject of the federal control of the railways?

(2.) Has the Government Printer in his possession the manuscript, or a proof, or a revise, of such report?

(3.) If so, will the honorable gentleman lay a copy of it upon the Table of this House for the information of Honorable Members as well as the electors of the Colony?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) 312 copies were printed by the Government Printer.

(2.) The manuscript was delivered, with proofs, to the late Chief Commissioner, at his request.

(3.) No copies of the paper in question are now in the Government Printing Office.

(22.) Evidence by the late Mr. Eddy on Federal Control of the Railways:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did he, on 1st July, say that the evidence given by the late Mr. Eddy to the Finance Committee of the Adelaide Convention on the federal control of the railways "is the property of the public, and ought to be in the hands of Honorable Members"?

(2.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House his own copy of the report of Mr. Eddy's evidence, so that it may become the property of the public as well as of himself?

(3.) Did he, on 6th July, say that he had written to the Clerk of Parliaments at Adelaide for a copy of the said report?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I have laid upon the Table all the documents I had in my possession with regard to the Adelaide Convention.

(23.) Indebtedness of Queensland to New South Wales:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In view of the very large sum of money which he stated, on the 24th August, was owing by Queensland to New South Wales, is it the intention of the Administration to take advantage of the law which permits one Colony to recover a debt from another by an appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council?

(2.) Was not a dispute between New South Wales and Victoria as to the ownership of Pentland Island, in the river Murray, settled by a reference or an appeal to this tribunal?

Mr. Brunker answered,

(1.) The matter will receive consideration.

(2.) Yes, and the Order-in-Council approving of the report of the Judicial Committee was laid upon the Table of this House on 5th November, 1872.

(24.) Salaries of Inspectors of Stock:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it intended to restore to Inspectors of Stock the salaries they received before the grading of the Stock Branch of the Public Service Board, which has been declared by the Attorney-General as illegal?

(2.) If not, what is the reason for not doing so?

(3.) If it is not intended to do so, will the Minister refer the Questions to the Stock Boards for an expression of opinion?

(4.) Are the sums deducted from the Inspectors' salaries, and paid to the Superannuation Account, to be refunded with compound interest; if so, when?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1 and 2.) The salaries of the Inspectors will be dealt with as soon as the Estimates are passed, and they will be paid at such rates as the importance of the duties they are called upon to perform merit.

(3.) This is not necessary.

(4.) This matter is being dealt with by the Public Service Board.

(25.) Sergeants' Mess of the Permanent Artillery, Victoria Barracks:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Sleath, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has Captain Savage taken charge of the Sergeants' Mess of the Permanent Artillery, Victoria Barracks?

(2.) In what capacity is he employed; does his rank carry with it the position of auxiliary caterer or manager of the Sergeants' Mess?

(3.) Is it a fact that an increase of about 25 per cent. has been added to the price of the rum, whisky, and gin, per bottle, supplied to Sergeants; and, if so, are such increases due to instructions issued by the new manager of the mess, Captain Savage?

(4.) Will he cause an inquiry to be made into the matter, to ascertain if the Adjutant has been deposed, and Captain Savage appointed in charge of the management of the mess, or to the position of mess caterer?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1 and 2.) No; but Major Savage is a member of a committee that supervises the mess.

(3 and 4.) There have been no complaints made, as far as can be ascertained, as to the increased price of rum, &c., but if any complaints are made through the proper channel they will receive every consideration.

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- (26.) Government Assessors' Unimproved Valuation of Property in Balmain :—Mr. McFarlane asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) What is the total amount of Government Assessors' unimproved valuation of property in Balmain?
 - (2.) The total amount to which those valuations have been increased, and upon which taxpayers have been assessed?
 - (3.) The like information respecting Shoalhaven, The Clarence, Tainworth, and Kiama Districts?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—
- (1.) The information is not at present available.
 - (2.) In the majority of instances, and with very few exceptions, upon reassessment the valuations of the original assessor have been reduced and not increased.
 - (3.) It would entail serious hindrance to the progress of the work if the preparation of this and similar information be insisted upon. Under the Validating and Amending Bill provision is made for the public inspection of the valuation books, which contain all the evidence of reassessment and variation in values, and will afford the desired information.
- (27.) Wooden Floors in Cow-bails in the Southern Districts :—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he ascertain from the Health Board their reasons for sanctioning the use of wooden floors to cow-bails in Government establishments and Southern Districts, and refusing to sanction the use of similar floors to cow-bails in the Northern Coast District?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—The Board of Health has not sanctioned the use of wooden floors to cow-bails in Government establishments, and has no control over the Experimental Farm, which is not a registered dairy. The directions given to Inspectors in the South Coast Districts and in the rest of the Colony are exactly the same, and it is not known that any difference has been made between registered dairymen on the South Coast and in other Districts.
- (28.) Improvement Leases near Jervis Bay :—Mr. Hassall, for Mr. Price, asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he be good enough to lay upon the Table of this House copies of all papers dealing with the improvement leases near Jervis Bay, granted to a Mr. Withers?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—Papers of this character should be moved for in the usual way, and reason shown for their production. No opposition will be shown if good reason be adduced to warrant the motion.
2. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Brunker (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That in view of the adjournment for holding the Federal Convention, 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 on Thursday next.
- Question put and passed.
3. PAPERS :—Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 - (2.) 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 of 1897.
 - (3.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from Sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 - (4.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 - (5.) Notification of an additional subsection (*d*) to Regulation No. 35, and Amended Regulations Nos. 165 and 170, under the Crown Lands Acts.
 - (6.) Report of the Public Service Board in connection with the Appointment of a Principal Assistant Medical Officer to the Government and Micro-biologist to the Board of Health.
 - (7.) Report of the Public Service Board in connection with the Appointment of a Viticultural Expert in the Department of Mines and Agriculture.
 - (8.) Regulations, under the Public Service Act of 1895, relating to Charitable Institutions. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. VOTE FOR UNCLASSIFIED ROADS FOR 1897-98 (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Frank Farnell moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) How the instalment of the Vote for 1897-98 for Unclassified Roads has been apportioned.
 - (2.) The names of the electorates for which the respective amounts have been allotted.
 - (3.) The names of the roads the money was given for expenditure upon, distinguishing the "classified," or scheduled, from the "unclassified."
- Question put and passed.
5. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
- (1.) Australasian Federation Enabling Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.
 - (2.) Reappraisal of Conditional Purchases and Conditional Leases; adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Waddell, "That, in the opinion of this House,—
- " (1.) The right of reappraisal which has been given to conditional purchasers within special areas under clause 36 of the 1895 Land Act should be extended to all resident *bonâ fide* holders of ordinary conditional purchases.
- " (2.) The provision contained in clause 35 of the 1895 Land Act for the redetermination of the rentals of conditional leases should be made immediately applicable";—until Tuesday, 23rd November.

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6. ADJOURNMENT:—

Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Balmain South, Mr. Law, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The state of the Government Road, between Crescent-street and Iron Cove Bridge, Rozelle, Balmain, and the necessity of the Government repairing the same.”

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

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

Debate ensued.

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

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

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Frank Farnell, Mr. Crick, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Wilks, and Mr. Wheeler.

7. LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Cook 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 regulate and prohibit, in accordance with polls taken in certain areas, the sale and the keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the sale of such liquors within those areas; to amend the law relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the same; and for purposes of and incidental to the aforesaid objects.

Point of Order:—Mr. Lync, taking exception to this subject being placed amongst the Government Orders of the Day, submitted that, as it was not a measure of Government policy, it was not entitled to the place assigned to it, and should not come under the operation of Standing Order No. 125.

Mr. Speaker said that he gave a ruling, on 5th October, 1893, that a similar Bill, which had been introduced by a Minister and included in Government Business, was in its right place. He saw no reason now to change that opinion, and he declared the present motion to be properly before the House.

Question put and passed.

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

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

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Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

8. PAPER:—Mr. Schey, pursuant to leave granted on 18th August, 1897, laid upon the Table,—“Notes on the Draft Federal Constitution framed by the Adelaide Convention of 1897,” by Sir Samuel Griffith, G.C.M.G.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

9. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunner moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at ten minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 53.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 26 AUGUST, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Government Advertisements:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is the Government Printer's Department the only source from which official advertisements are given to the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the other metropolitan newspapers?
 (2.) If not, from which Departments are advertisements sent without reference to the Government Printer?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) No.
 (2.) Railways, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, Registrar-General's Department, and the Probates and Intestate Estates Office. The cost of advertising by the last two-mentioned Departments is paid from fees and the separate estates.

- (2.) Australasian Federation:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has he seen an intimation from the Colonial Office to the effect that, if it should be deemed judicious to take that extreme step, the Governor in Council may appoint a batch of twenty Members to the Legislative Council, with a view to the adoption of an Address to the Crown praying the enactment of the Commonwealth Bill?
 (2.) Has he seen a communication from the Colonial Office, asking the Government to submit a list of the names of those persons who have rendered loyal aid to the Federal question?
 (3.) Has he been informed that it would be very agreeable to the Imperial Government if the Government of New South Wales would go to the country with the Commonwealth Bill directly the Federal Convention has completed its labours, and while the electors are favourably impressed by lengthy Press reports of the speeches of the Imperial federationists at the Convention?

Mr. Brunker answered,—No.

- (3.) Sydenham-Belmore and Strathfield to Hornsby Junction Lines:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What are the separate daily number of trains run on the Sydenham-Belmore line—Strathfield to Hornsby Junction—Milson's Point and Hornsby line?
 (2.) What was the increase or decrease of earnings for 1896, exclusive of special earnings on each of those lines?
 (3.) What is the area and value of excess of lands resumed for railway purposes on the Milson's Point line, and is the same charged to capital cost—and on the Sydenham-Belmore line or Strathfield-Hornsby Junction line (if any)?
 (4.) What was the increase of earnings for 1896 on the North Shore line compared to that on the Sydenham-Belmore line?
 (5.) Was the loss on the Sydenham to Belmore line for working expenses and interest in 1896 increased approximately by £600, while that on the North Shore line had decreased by £5,400?
 (6.) In view of the progress of the North Shore line, will the Commissioners place the travelling public on this line upon an equal footing with other suburban lines, both in regard to train service, convenience, and quality of conveyance?

Mr. Brunker answered,—There will be no objection to supply the information asked for if moved for in the form of a return in the usual way.

(4.)

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- (4.) Stamp Duties (Amendment) Bill :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Did he, on 20th May, move the second reading of a Bill to enable the State to recover probate duties from the estates of persons who transferred their properties before death?
 - (2.) Was the Bill introduced in consequence of a judgment of the Supreme Court?
 - (3.) Did the debate on the second reading of the Bill and the proceedings in Committee extend from 11 p.m. to 11.5 p.m.?
 - (4.) What has become of the Bill?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The official records of the House will supply the information asked for by the Honorable Member.

- (5.) Australasian Federal Convention :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has he yet taken any steps to furnish to Libraries, Mechanics' Institutes, Schools of Arts, and Public Institutions, copies of the Federal Constitution under the Crown, framed and approved by the Australasian Federal Convention, at Adelaide, South Australia, on 23rd April, 1897?
 - (2.) If not, what reason does he assign for not affording to the electors of the Colony an opportunity to examine the provisions of the Bill?
 - (3.) Is it intended to publish in the *Government Gazette* a copy of the proposed Federal Constitution, showing the amendments suggested in the same by this House?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1 and 2.) Yes, the copies have already been furnished.

(3.) When the Federal Constitution Bill is framed and approved the fullest opportunity will be afforded to the electors of the Colony to make themselves acquainted with its provisions.

- (6.) Temporary Accommodation of French Soldiers in Victoria Barracks :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is the despatch under which he refused to French soldiers temporary accommodation in the Victoria Barracks a "numbered" despatch, or a "secret" despatch, or a "confidential" despatch?

(2.) Has it already been laid before Parliament?

(3.) If so, when?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Confidential.

(2 and 3.) No.

- (7.) City Railway Extension :—Mr. Schey asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What would be the approximate expenditure in labour and material in extending the railway from Redfern Station into the city by the western route to the Circular Quay?

(2.) In the event of the railway system being extended to the Circular Quay by the western route, what work would be provided in its construction—(a) for skilled trades; (b) for unskilled labour, pick-and-shovel men, &c.?

Mr. Young answered,—These Questions cannot be answered, as the scheme has not been worked out, nor has any estimate been prepared.

- (8.) Overtime worked by Sorters at the General Post Office :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Postmaster-General,—Referring to Mr. Brunker's reply to Questions asked by Mr. E. M. Clark, on the 27th July last, will he state whether—

(1.) Is it not a fact that sorters appointed prior to 1893 work overtime without extra pay?

(2.) Whether it is not a fact that for work on Sundays and Good Fridays some sorters are paid and some are not paid?

(3.) On what occasions have that portion of the staff receiving overtime payment been required to work longer hours than those receiving no overtime payment?

Mr. Cook answered,—

(1.) Some, who were not required to work overtime prior to 1893, have now, in common with others, to do so when required.

(2.) A few officials attend on Sunday afternoon to see to the despatch of the Northern, Western, and Southern mails, which are closed the previous night, and they receive overtime for that special attendance. On Good Friday mails are received and despatched as on other holidays, no overtime being allowed.

(3.) On the occasion of the arrival and despatch of English mails.

- (9.) The Patents Office :—Mr. Neild asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is he aware that amongst those doing business with the Patents Office there is extreme dissatisfaction regarding its constitution and method of working?

(2.) Is it a fact that an officer, at a low remuneration, performs all the responsible work, while the nominal chief initials his junior's minutes and signs the letters?

(3.) Was it not one of the reasons for the passing of the Public Service Act that there was to be such a reorganisation of the Service that officers were to have the credit, and proper remuneration, for doing their work?

(4.) Has he any objection to the appointment of a Select Committee of this House to inquire into the whole working of this important Department of the Public Service?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) I am not aware, but I understand there is a desire on the part of some of those who have considerable business with the Patents Office that the scope of the Patents Office should be extended.

(2.) No.

(3.)

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(8.) It was one of the objects of the passing of the Public Service Act that increased economy, without interfering with the efficiency of the Service, should be attained.

(4.) I do not see any necessity for the appointment of a Select Committee, more especially in view of the fact that, in connection with, and in contemplation of, the passing of the new Act respecting Patents, Trade Marks, and Designs, shortly to be submitted to Parliament, and also with a view of increasing the usefulness of the Patents Office, it will then be necessary to fully consider the propriety of introducing certain important alterations in the management and arrangements of the office.

(10.) The South Head Road Trust:—Mr. Jossep asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What are the names of the Commissioners of the South Head Road Trust?
- (2.) The date of their respective appointments?
- (3.) The number of meetings held during the years 1894, 1895, and 1896?
- (4.) The attendance of each Commissioner at the meetings held during that period?
- (5.) The amount of money paid out of the Consolidated Revenue to the said Trust?
- (6.) The amount of money paid during that period on account of repairing and maintaining the roads under the control of the said Commissioners?
- (7.) The amount of money (if any) standing to the credit of the Trust on the 30th June, 1897?
- (8.) Will he consider the advisability of increasing the number of the Commissioners of the said Trust?

Mr. Young answered,—All the information required is not at present at my disposal, but I will institute inquiries with a view to procuring Answers to these Questions, and when received I will communicate the result to the Honorable Member.

(11.) Deviation at Butler's Hill, on Road Wyong to Yarramolong:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Lands,—Has the deviation at Butler's Hill, on the road from Wyong to Yarramolong, yet been established?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Yes; the road was confirmed in the *Government Gazette* of the 11th instant.

(12.) Deviation on Road from Howe's Valley to Putty:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) On what date was application made for the establishment of a deviation on the road from Howe's Valley to Putty?
- (2.) Has the deviation been established; if not, why?
- (3.) When will it be established?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—If the deviation referred to be of the Bulga road, within Ridge and Chapman's lands, in the parish of Gullongullong, county of Hunter, the proposal was made by the Department of Public Works in July, 1896. The deviation has been surveyed, and the road will be notified in the *Government Gazette* of the 28th instant.

(13.) Boring Operations at Trangie Bore:—Mr. Simeon Phillips asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that boring operations at Trangie Bore have been stopped?
- (2.) What is the reason for this stoppage?
- (3.) Has he received any reports from officers of the Department with regard to the bore?
- (4.) If so, what is the nature of such reports?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The work at this bore was stopped, as the Government Geologist, after an examination of the strata, reported that it was not likely that artesian water would be obtained at the site.

(14.) Refund of Deductions to Officers of the Stock Department:—Mr. Hassall, for Mr. Mackay, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Adverting to the replies given on 19th instant respecting refusal of Superannuation payments to officers of the Stock Department, what length of time is it likely to take the Public Service Board to deal with the eighty cases mentioned?
- (2.) Have any cases been dealt with; if so, why cannot they be paid at once?
- (3.) Have any claims been paid?
- (4.) Is he aware that the delay in making refunds is a loss to many of these officers, by reason of its preventing them making arrangements for life assurance policies or other investments in place of the pensions anticipated when deductions were being made from their salaries and paid to the Superannuation Fund?
- (5.) How long is it since the Attorney-General gave his opinion; and can he fix any date when payment is likely to be made?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The details in regard to the Superannuation payments have now been prepared by the Public Service Board, and the whole question is shortly to be considered by the Government.

(15.) Tamworth-Manilla Railway:—Mr. Collins asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Have arrangements been completed for the resumption of the land in connection with the Tamworth-Manilla Railway?
- (2.) Will the resumptions cost more than the amount specified in the Act, namely, £2,000?
- (3.) Does he intend carrying the work out by the system of day-labour or by contract?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) No. The arrangements will be completed as soon as the line is proclaimed, which will probably be early next week.
- (2.) No.
- (3.) I cannot state at present.

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- (16.) Salary Increases to Pilots and Boatmen under the Marine Board Regulations:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that, under the Marine Board Regulations of 1885, pilots and boatmen were entitled to an annual increment of £10 and £5 respectively until the maximum salary in each case was attained?
 - (2.) Is he aware that these increases were stopped four years back, pending some contemplated alterations in the Regulations?
 - (3.) Is he aware that great injustice is done to some men in the Service by the refusal of the Department to pay the increases provided by the Regulations, which are still supposed to be in force?
 - (4.) In any scheme of reorganising the Service, will he take into consideration the advisableness of paying the accumulated increases which were provided by the Regulations of 1885, and which have been withheld for the last four years?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2, 3, and 4.) The increases were stopped because there was a general reduction of salaries in other Departments.
- (17.) Wilberforce Settlement:—*Mr. Frank Farnell*, for Mr. Morgan, asked the Secretary for Lands,— Whether it is his intention to convert the leases of the Wilberforce Settlement into homestead selections?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—The question has received consideration, but the law requires to be amended before Homestead Titles can be given to the settlers.
- (18.) Refund of Deposit Money on Crown Lands:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that before unsuccessful applicants for land can obtain a refund of their deposit money they must write to the Department and ask for same?
 - (2.) Is it not possible to simplify the mode of procedure, and thus relieve said applicants of the inconvenience and loss of time thus entailed?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1.) Assuming that the Honorable Member's Question refers to the refund of deposits and survey fees to persons who are unsuccessful at the ballot, I may state that immediately after a ballot the Land Agent refunds their deposits, &c., to all the unsuccessful applicants who are present if they withdraw their applications; but if they do not withdraw the applications are sent to the Land Board for decision, and to direct refund to the remaining unsuccessful applicants.
 - (2.) The matter is under consideration.
- (19.) Fidelity Guarantee Premiums of Public Servants:—Mr. Simeon Phillips asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Will he state by what authority Public Servants are charged with fidelity guarantee premiums, which are deducted from salaries?
 - (2.) To what company (if any) are such premiums paid?
 - (3.) What amounts have been paid to the Government through embezzlements of Public Servants?
 - (4.) To what companies were premiums paid prior to introduction of Public Service Act, 1895?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1.) Deductions are made from salaries, as it is considered fidelity guarantee premiums should be paid by officers occupying positions placed under security.
 - (2.) Premiums are not paid to a company. In the year 1891 a Treasury Guarantee Fund was established, to which Fund premiums are now paid.
 - (3.) It would be difficult to ascertain the amount embezzled by Public Servants, as the records for many years past would require to be searched. To enable the information to be supplied a period should be specified.
 - (4.) Prior to the introduction of the Public Service Act the premiums were not paid to a company, but to the Treasury Guarantee Fund since 1891.
- (20.) The Patents Office:—Mr. Anderson asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to an article which appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* of the 18th instant on the management of the Patents Office?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that an applicant for a patent received a letter from the Patents Office, stating that a difficulty which had arisen was "wholly due to the Commissioner, who cannot get through his work, and whose time has been taken up to an unusual degree by the cyanide business, which, together with his other duties, has been a great deal more than he is able to perform"?
 - (3.) Is the work of the Patents Office so unduly interfered with through the attention given the cyanide case that applicants for patents are not able to obtain their grants within a reasonable time; and, if this is a fact, will he immediately take steps to prevent its continuance?
 - (4.) Is he aware that persons are deterred from applying for patents in New South Wales because of delays in dealing with patent applications?
 - (5.) Is it not a fact that there have been instances in which loss has been occasioned to inventors in this Colony owing to delays in the Patents Office?
 - (6.) Will he take such steps as are necessary to cause letters patent to be issued immediately on application, or at least within one month from the date of application, so that patentees may at once be able to reap the benefit of their labours?
- Mr. Gould* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) No.
 - (3.) No.
 - (4.) No instance has been brought under the notice of myself or of the Patents Office.

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(5.) I am not aware of any.

(6.) A reasonable and sufficient time must be allowed for the proper investigation of applications for letters patent, to enable persons to see how their interests might be affected by intending patentees, to permit of legitimate opposition, and to generally safeguard the public in respect of grants for monopolies, but in no case is any undue delay permitted to interfere with the interests of patentees.

(21.) Crude Ore sent to Sydney from the Lucknow Mines:—*Mr. Affleck*, for *Mr. McGowen*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did the Railway authorities inform the manager of the Lucknow Mines, or any other person, that 50 tons, or any quantity, of crude ore had been sent to Sydney by the miners within the last few months?

(2.) Is it the custom of the Department to furnish information *re* consignments only to the person sending the consignments?*Mr. Brunker* answered,—

(1.) I am informed that nothing is known of the matter referred to.

(2.) It is not the custom to furnish information regarding consignments, except to the consignors.

(22.) Sunday Trading:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did he, on 14th August, receive a deputation on the Sunday trading question from the Council of the New South Wales Branch of the Evangelical Alliance?

(2.) Did a member of the deputation urge upon him that it was the duty of a Government to see that the laws did not fall into desuetude?

(3.) Did a member of the deputation request that the Sabbath laws should be enforced with regard to all classes—tobacconists, fruit-sellers, and newspaper-sellers?

(4.) Did the honorable gentleman agree with the deputation that while we had Sabbath observance laws they should be enforced without fear or favour?

(5.) Did he also promise to bring the prayer of the deputation before the Cabinet, and to make an effort to have the matter dealt with in a manner that would be satisfactory to the deputation?

(6.) Did he, on 23rd July, tell a deputation of small shopkeepers that he agreed with a good deal that had been said about the necessity for the sale of light refreshments on Sunday, but could not see why tobacconists should keep open on that day; that he did not wish to unduly hamper a man who was striving his utmost to get a living, and to maintain a wife and family, and that the law would not be carried to extremes?

(7.) Did he also promise to deal with people who write, publish, and take advertisements for newspapers on Sunday?

(8.) Has he submitted the prayers of the deputation to the Cabinet, in accordance with his promises; and, if so, what decision did the Cabinet come to?

Mr. Brunker answered.—I cannot do better than refer the Honorable Member to the source upon which his Questions are based for the information sought.(23.) Tram Tickets sold by Tramway Conductors:—*Mr. Neild* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to his Answer given to *Mr. Neild* on Tuesday, 24th August,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that one tram conductor has usually to manage two, and frequently three, cars, collecting tickets from nearly 200 passengers, and selling tickets and giving change?

(2.) Is it not reasonable that conductors should receive some allowance to cover losses arising through giving change when selling tickets?

(3.) Will he recommend the giving of such an allowance to the Railway Commissioners?

Mr. Brunker answered.—I am informed that—

(1.) One conductor has charge of two cars; when three cars are attached an assistant conductor is provided.

(2.) Losses do not frequently occur, and with ordinary care should not take place.

(3.) The question is purely one for the Railway Commissioners to deal with.

(24.) Newcastle Pasturage Reserve:—*Mr. Edden* asked the Minister for Lands,—As there are a large number of unsold allotments of land on the Newcastle Pasturage Reserve, will he consider the advisability of introducing an amending Act, so that the said land can be leased for building or other purposes?*Mr. Brunker* answered.—The matter will receive consideration.2. RABBIT BILL:—*Mr. Thomas Brown* presented the following Petitions, representing that Petitioners are seriously affected by the presence of the rabbit and other noxious animal pests, and that they will be materially advantaged by effective legislation dealing therewith; and praying that, when considering the Rabbit Bill, the House will favourably consider the 20th clause of the Rabbit Conference Draft Bill, making it sufficiently elastic to embrace wallabies and other noxious animals:—

(1.) From Farmers and Landholders in the Condobolin Land District, and being members of the Melrose and Walker's Hill and other Farmers Associations and others.

(2.) From Selectors and Landholders resident in the Condobolin District, and members of the Mowabla and Kiacatoo Farmers and Selectors Association.

(3.) From Selectors and Landholders resident in the Bulbodney District, and being members of the Bulbodney Selectors Association.

Petitions received.

3. 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 Appendices, relating to the proposed Railway Extension from Redfern to St. James' road.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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4. PAPERS:—Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—
 (1.) Report of Commissioners of Fisheries for the year 1895.
 (2.) Report of Commissioners of Fisheries for the year 1896.
 (3.) Report on Vaccination for the year 1896.
 (4.) Amended Regulations, under the Public Service Act of 1895, respecting Police Magistrates' Examinations.
 (5.) Return to an Order, made on 16th June, 1897,—“Selection by Arthur Jeffries, Land District of Deniliquin.”
 (6.) Report of the Department of Lands for the year 1896.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Brunker moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House, at its rising this day, do adjourn until Tuesday, 5th October next.
 Question put and passed.
6. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Australasian Federation Enabling Act Amendment Bill postponed until Tuesday, 5th October next.
7. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Grafton, Mr. See, 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 very unsatisfactory working of the new Telegraph Code, and the losses and delays occasioned thereby.”
 And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
 Mr. See moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and negatived.
8. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Seventeenth Report from the Printing Committee.
9. PAPER:—Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—Report on loss of Stock since 1st January, 1897.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
10. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Legislative Council's Message of 11th August, in reference to the amendments in this Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday, 6th October.
11. PYRMONT BRIDGE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put.
 The House divided.

Ayes, 49.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Young,	Dr. Graham,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Ball,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Neild,	Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Black,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. See,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Thomas Brown.
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Smiles,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Simcon Phillips,	Mr. Gillies.

Noes, 12.

Mr. FitzGerald,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Aspleck,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Dick.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Collins,
Mr. Perry.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Wednesday, 6th October.

12. CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA—DRAFT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having, in accordance with section 26 of the “*Australasian Federation Enabling Act, 1895*,” duly considered the Draft Federal Constitution framed pursuant to the said Act, herewith transmits the amendments suggested by it therein for the information of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 26th August, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
 President.
 SCHEDULE

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS SUGGESTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

- Page 1, Title. *Omit* "Commonwealth" *insert* "Dominion"; and substitute the word "Dominion" for the word "Commonwealth" wherever occurring in subsequent parts of the Bill.
- Page 1, Preamble, line 2. *After* "Constitution]" *insert* "acknowledging Almighty God as the Supreme Ruler of the Universe"
- Page 1, Preamble, lines 2 and 3. *Omit* "indissoluble"
- Page 1, clause 1, lines 12 and 13. *Omit* "the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia" *insert* "The Australian Dominion Constitution Act."
- Page 2, clause 3, line 3. *Omit* "Federal"
- Page 2, clause 4, line 6. *Omit* "Unless it is otherwise expressed or implied, this Act" *insert* "The provisions of this Act relating to the Constitution of the Dominion"
- Page 2, clause 5. At end of clause *add* "Original States" shall be taken to mean such States as form part of the Dominion at the date of its establishment, "New States" shall be taken to mean such States as may thereafter be admitted into or constituted by the Dominion.
- Page 2, clause 7, lines 27 and 28. *Omit* "and all treaties made by the Commonwealth"
- Page 2, clause 7, line 31. *Omit* "and treaties"
- Page 2, clause 7, line 32. *After* "ships" *insert* "excepting Her Majesty's ships and vessels of war"
- Page 2, clause 7, line 32. *Omit* "last" *insert* "first"
- Page 2, clause 7, line 32. *Omit* "or" *insert* "and"
- Page 2, clause 7, line 33. *Omit* "is" *insert* "are"
- Page 3, clause 8, line 2. *Omit* "Federal" *insert* "Dominion"

CHAPTER I.

THE PARLIAMENT.

PART I.—GENERAL.

- Page 3, clause 1, line 12. *Omit* "Federal"
- Page 3, clause 1, line 13. *Omit* "Representatives" *insert* "Assembly," and substitute the word "Assembly" for the word "Representatives" when designating the second House of Parliament.

PART II.—THE SENATE.

- Page 4, clause 9, lines 20 and 21. *Omit* "six Senators for each State, and each Senator shall have one vote," *insert* "Members representing the States in proportion to their population. But no State shall have less than three Senators. The Senate shall consist of not less than forty Members."
- Page 4, clause 9, line 29. *Omit* "equal" *insert* "proportionate"
- Page 4, clause 9, line 30. *Omit* "six" *insert* "three"

PART III.—THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ASSEMBLY.

- Page 7, clause 25. *Omit* clause 25.

PART IV.—PROVISIONS RELATING TO BOTH HOUSES.

- Page 9, clause 44. *Omit* clause 44.
- Page 11, clause 47. *Omit* "Any person, being a Member of the Senate or of the House of Representatives, who directly or indirectly accepts or receives any fee or honorarium for work done or services rendered by him for or on behalf of the Commonwealth, whilst sitting as such Member, shall thereupon vacate his place."
- Page 11, clause 48. *Omit* :—
"Until the Parliament otherwise provides, no person, being a Member, or within six months of his ceasing to be a Member, shall be qualified or permitted to accept or hold any office the acceptance or holding of which would, under this section, render a person incapable of being chosen or of sitting as a Member."
- Page 11. *After* clause 48 *insert* the following new clause :—
"If a Member of a House of the Parliament of a State is, with his own consent, chosen as a Member of either House of the Parliament of the Dominion, his place in the first-mentioned House of Parliament shall become vacant.
"And if a Member of the Senate or House of Assembly of the Dominion Parliament is, with his own consent, chosen as a member of a House of the Parliament of a State, his place in the Dominion Parliament shall become vacant."
- Page 11, clause 50, line 38. *Omit* "Federal" *insert* "Dominion"
- Page 11, clause 50, line 39. *Omit* "Federal" *insert* "Dominion"

PART V.—POWERS OF THE PARLIAMENT.

- Page 12, clause 52, subsection II. *Omit* "Customs and excise and bounties but"
- Page 12, clause 52, subsection III. *Omit* subsection III.
- Page 13, clause 52, subsection XVI. *Before* "Insurance" first occurring *insert* "Assurance and"
- Page 13, clause 52, subsection XVI. *Omit* "excluding State Insurance not extending beyond the limits of the State concerned"
- Page 13, clause 52, subsection XIX. *Omit* "and"
- Page 13, clause 52, subsection XIX. *After* "insolvency" *insert* "and lunacy"
- Page 13, clause 52, subsection XXV. *Omit* "throughout the Commonwealth"
- Page 13, clause 52, subsection XXV. *Omit* "the States" *insert* "a State in other parts of the Dominion"

26th August, 1897.

- Page 13, clause 52, subsection XXVIII. *After* "criminals" *insert* "and lunatics"
 Page 13, clause 52, subsection XXIX. *Omit* "and treaties"
 Page 13, clause 52, subsection XXXII. *After* "transport" *insert* "but only"
 Page 13, clause 52, subsection XXXIII. *Omit* subsection XXXIII.
 Page 13, clause 52, subsection XXXIV. *After* "extension" *insert* "but only"
 Page 14, clause 54, line 42. *Omit* "having for their main object" *insert* "for"
 Page 16, clause 61, line 22. *Omit* "Federal" *insert* "Dominion"
 Page 16, clause 62, line 28. *Omit* "Federal" *insert* "Dominion"
 Page 16, clause 63, line 36. *Omit* "Federal" *insert* "Dominion"
 Page 17, clause 69, line 19. *After* "On" *insert* "a date to be proclaimed by the Governor-General
 "after"
 Page 17, clause 70, line 38. *Omit* "Federal" *insert* "Dominion"

CHAPTER III.

THE FEDERAL DOMINION JUDICATURE.

- Page 18, clause 74, lines 41 and 42. *Omit* "and the judgment of the High Court in all such cases
 "shall be final and conclusive"
 Page 19, clause 75, line 5. *Omit* "No" *insert* "An"
 Page 19, clause 75, line 6. *Omit* "any" first occurring *insert* "the Supreme"
 Page 19, clause 75, line 7. *After* "court" *omit* remainder of clause *insert* "subject to such con-
 "ditions and restrictions as may from time to time be provided by Orders in Council"

CHAPTER IV.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

- Page 20, clause 84. *Omit* the clause.
 Page 21, clause 86. *Omit* the clause.
 Page 21, clause 88. *Omit* the clause.
 Pages 22, 23, and 24, clauses 90 to 94 inclusive. *Omit* the clauses.
 Page 24, clauses 96, 97, and 98. *Omit* the clauses.
 Page 25, clause 105. *Omit* the clause.
 Page 25, clause 106. *Omit* "and the net produce of all imposts and charges imposed by a
 "State on imports or exports shall be for the use of the Commonwealth; and any such
 "inspection laws may be annulled by The Parliament of the Commonwealth."

CHAPTER VI.

NEW STATES.

- Page 26, clause 114. *After* "States" in line 26 *omit* remainder of clause.
 Page 26, clause 115, lines 31 and 32. *Omit* "any territory surrendered by any State to and
 "accepted by the Commonwealth or"

CHAPTER VII.

MISCELLANEOUS.

- Page 27, clause 118. *After* "shall be" in line 12 *omit* remainder of clause, *insert* "in Sydney in
 "the Colony of New South Wales."
 Page 27, clause 120, line 30. *After* "natives" *insert* "and aliens not naturalised."

CHAPTER VIII.

AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION.

- Page 27, clause 121. *Omit* "to the electors qualified to vote for the election of Members of the
 "House of Representatives not less than two nor more than six calendar months after
 "the passage through both Houses of the proposed law," *insert* "to the State Parliament
 "in the manner proper for the passage of Bills, not less than two nor more than six
 "calendar months after the passage through both Houses of the Dominion Parliament
 "of the proposed law. And if a majority of two-thirds of the Members present in each
 "House of the State Legislature in each State shall approve of the proposed law it shall
 "be presented to the Governor-General for the Queen's assent."
 13. ARTESIAN WELLS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair,
 and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of
 the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 27 AUGUST, 1897, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.
 On motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Wednesday, 6th October.

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

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-two minutes after One o'clock a.m. until *Tuesday, 5th
 October*, at Four o'clock p.m.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 54.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 5 OCTOBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Railway Passes issued through the Labour Bureau:—Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What is the total number of passes on the railways of the Colony issued directly or indirectly through the Labour Bureau since the establishment of that institution?
- (2.) What is the total sum paid and payable to the Railway Department in connection with such passes?
- (3.) How many holders of such tickets have paid their liabilities to the Department?
- (4.) What is the total sum refunded?
- (5.) How many holders have so far failed to pay for the tickets issued to them?
- (6.) What is the total sum due to the Department in connection with these passes?

Mr. Brunner answered,—These Questions should be addressed to the Minister for Labour and Industry. If, however, the Honorable Member will move for the information in the usual way, there will be no objection to laying it upon the Table.

- (2.) Draft Report on proposed City Railway:—Mr. Neild asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Was not the Draft Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, upon the proposal to extend the railway further into the city, drawn up, printed, and in the hands of the members of the said Committee the day before such Committee met to consider their decision?
- (2.) Was not such Draft Report drawn up and printed before the said Committee had concluded the taking of evidence?

Mr. Young answered,—I have no knowledge of the matter, nor have I any means of obtaining the information desired by the Honorable Member.

2. PAPERS:—Mr. Brunner laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) By-laws of the Borough of East Maitland.
 - (2.) By-law of the Municipal District of West Narrabri.
 - (3.) By-law of the Municipal District of Waratah.
 - (4.) By-law of the Municipal District of Camden.
 - (5.) Report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into charges preferred against the medical attendant and matron of the Mudgee Hospital, in connection with the treatment of Mary Beattie, now deceased; together with Evidence, &c.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

- (1.) Prisoners' Gaol Regulation Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
- (2.) Municipalities Act of 1867 Amending Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 26th October.
- (3.) Small Debts Recovery Act Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Tuesday, 9th November.
- (4.) Agricultural Holdings Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 26th October.
- (5.) Mudgee Show Ground Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 19th October.
- (6.) Australasian Federation Enabling Act Amendment Bill (No 2); second reading;—until Tuesday next.
- (7.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Thursday next.

4. CONSTRUCTION OF RAILWAYS THROUGH PRIVATE LAND:—Mr. Affleck moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, no "more" branch lines of railway should be constructed unless there be a clause in the Bill providing that where the line passes through private land (unless town lots) the land required shall be granted free of cost by deed to the Crown, or a bond entered into that a sum equal to the cost of resumption shall be paid to the Constructing Authority or Minister for Works, before any tender for the construction of the said line of railway shall be accepted.

Debate ensued.

Mr.

5th October, 1897.

Mr. Price moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "more," in the first line, and inserting the words "lines of railway should be constructed unless provision is made for the application of the betterment principle" instead thereof.

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

Point of Order:—Mr. Moore requested Mr. Speaker to rule as to the relevancy of the proposed amendment.

Mr. Speaker said that, in his opinion, the amendment was so wide of the subject of which notice had been given as to constitute it a substantive motion. He must rule against it.

Debate continued.

Original Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 5.		Noes, 46.	
Mr. Watkins,	1	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Black,	1	Dr. Ross,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Dick.		Mr. Schey,	Mr. Waddell,
<i>Tellers,</i>	1	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. James Thomson,		Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Affleck.		Mr. Cook,	Mr. Nelson,
		Mr. Perry,	Mr. Copeland,
		Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. M. T. Phillips,
		Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Carroll,
		Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Hughes,
		Mr. Young,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
		Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Mahony,
		Mr. Gould,	Mr. Moore,
		Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Wilks,
		Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. McLean,
		Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. McCourt,
			Mr. Reid,
			Mr. Haynes,
			Mr. Bruner,
			Mr. Nicholson,
			Mr. Griffith,
			Mr. Archibald Campbell,
			Mr. Gormly,
			Mr. Watson,
			Mr. Lee,
			Mr. Bull,
			Mr. Bavister,
			Mr. Macdonald.
			<i>Tellers,</i>
			Mr. Rose,
			Mr. Dugald Thomson.

And so it passed in the negative.

5. GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS:—Mr. Griffiths moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, the Government being now in a position to ascertain "through its Factory Inspectors" the wages paid by the various local manufacturers, no future Government contract should be given to any firm which does not pay full union wages.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Rose moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the words "through its Factory Inspectors."

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

Debate continued.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put,—That this Debate be now adjourned.

The House divided.

Ayes, 38.		Noes, 12.	
Mr. Bruner,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Gormly,	Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Schey,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Black,	Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Perry,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. McGowan,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Neild,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Harris,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. James Thomson,		Mr. Rose.
Mr. Mahony,			

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 34.		Noes, 11.	
Mr. Bruner,	Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. James Thomson,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Affleck,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Young,	Mr. McGowan,	Mr. Neild,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Hogue.	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Harris,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Wilks.	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Howarth,		<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Dacey,		Mr. Perry,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Thomas Brown,		Mr. Schey.
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Griffith,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

New South Wales.

No. 55.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 6 OCTOBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Lease of Wharfs at Circular Quay:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1) Did he, on the 9th September, 1896, in reply to Mr. McGowen, M.P., for Mr. E. M. Clark, state that two wharfs at Circular Quay were under lease to the North Shore Ferry Company, and that the leases expired on the 31st October, 1897, and 30th September, 1898, respectively?
 (2.) Is it a fact that this reply was not correct, and that the principal lease does not expire until 30th April, 1899?

Mr. Reid answered,—I have received the following reply from the Public Wharfs Department:—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes. In replying to the Question on 9th September, 1896, the dates given were the original ones, but on account of the length of time taken to complete the leases a lease of three years, from 1st May, 1896, was approved of for No. 1 jetty. The minute in reference to this latter was overlooked when replying to the Question on 9th September, 1896, and the original dates given from the lease-book.

- (2.) Land Boilers Inspection Bill:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to his promise on the 10th November last, and that of the Acting Premier on the 17th August, is it proposed to introduce without delay a Bill dealing with the inspection of land boilers?

Mr. Reid answered,—Such is the intention of the Government.

- (3.) The Navigation Laws:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to the reply given to the Question of Mr. E. M. Clark, M.P., on the 29th April, when will he introduce the Bill to reform the Navigation Laws?

Mr. Reid answered,—So soon as the course of public business will permit.

- (4.) Bridge over River at Kempsey:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) The names and prices of each tenderer for bridge over river at Kempsey?

(2.) Is it a fact that McKenzie's tender for above bridge was £18,325 2s. 10d., and Taylor's, whose tender was accepted, was £18,650?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) H. McKenzie and Son, £18,325 2s. 10d.; Taylor and Murphy, £18,650; C. McClure, £19,289 14s.; S. McGill, £19,418; Hungerford and Sons, £19,901 7s.; Pickles and Smith, £20,740 7s. 3d.

(2.) When the tenders came to be analysed, and certain portions which could be omitted were struck out of both tenders, it was found the difference between the two was only £66.

- (5.) Reduction of Fares and Rates on the Railways:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the late reduction in fares on tram-lines in Sydney and suburbs, is it the intention of the Railway Commissioners to grant a similar concession and reduction of fares on railway lines in the interior, or a reduction in rates or freightage on farm produce?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that it is not at present proposed to make any alterations in the direction indicated.

- (6.) Bridges over the Little River:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he see that provision is made on the Estimates for 1897-8, for the erection of two bridges over the Little River, on the mail route from Parkes to Wellington, *via* Mount Aubery and Ycoval, the river in winter time being dangerous to cross, and a serious drawback to farmers in that locality, who, in flooded seasons, are prevented from getting their produce to market?

Mr. Young answered,—At present there is no intention to erect these bridges, as it is considered the traffic does not justify the expenditure.

(7.)

6th October, 1897.

- (7.) Telephone at Newcastle:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for *Mr. Dick*, asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Has his attention been directed to an account of the telephone organization at Newcastle, headed "A Telephone Grievance," which appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* of 4th instant?
 - (2.) Will he call for a report, with a view to placing the Newcastle telephone system on a more satisfactory basis?
- Mr. Garrard* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) I have already called for a report.
- (8.) The Military Estimates:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for *Mr. Dick*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he arrange that the Military Estimates be so prepared as to distinguish between—(1) Permanent Artillery and Staff; (2) Partially-paid Forces; (3) Naval Forces; (4) Volunteer Forces?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—I shall endeavour to arrange this matter with the Chief Secretary.
- (9.) Woodport Public School:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Wheeler*, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—When is it intended to invite tenders for additions to the Woodport Public School?
- Mr. Garrard* answered,—Tenders will probably be invited next month.
- (10.) Appraisements made by *Mr. McMillan*:—*Mr. Perry* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Was a *Mr. McMillan* employed to appraise the special areas in the Germanton Land Board District?
 - (2.) Was this *Mr. McMillan* recommended for the position by any Member of this House?
 - (3.) If so, by whom?
 - (4.) Were *Mr. McMillan's* appraisements of these special areas ridiculously high, and out of all proportion with the valuations afterwards fixed by the Germanton Land Board?
 - (5.) Did not the Germanton Land Board at a recent meeting reduce the appraisements made by *Mr. McMillan* by fully 40 per cent.?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—*Mr. McMillan* was not employed to appraise the special areas in the Germanton Land Board District; but he offered his services as an expert witness to prove to the Land Board, when the cases came up for reappraisal, that their previous valuations were far too low. When the inquiries were held, *Mr. McMillan* did not produce sufficient evidence to prove his statement.
- (11.) Amendment of the Mining Laws:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is it held that when gold is found on a settlement lease it cannot be worked except with the consent of the lessee?
 - (2.) If so, will he bring in a Bill to amend the law so that gold leases can be got for land containing gold within settlement leases?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—No. Provision is made in the lease for authority to be granted by the Minister for Mines to any person to dig and search for gold or any other minerals, and for the cancellation of the whole or part of the settlement lease if the importance of discovery of gold or other mineral searched for will warrant such a course.
- (12.) Prisoners before the Circuit Courts:—*Mr. Haynes* asked the Minister of Justice,—With regard to the present Circuit Courts, how many prisoners stand charged with offences the penalty of which is death?
- Mr. Gould* answered,—Seven.
- (13.) Influx of Criminals to New South Wales:—*Mr. Haynes* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has there been a large influx of criminals to New South Wales, and particularly Sydney, during the last half-year?
 - (2.) Is he aware that there are general complaints of the total inadequacy of the police protection afforded in the sense of a patrol throughout the Colony?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police:—
- (1.) There has not been any unusual influx of criminals to New South Wales, though there is a constant migration of this class from one colony to another.
 - (2.) Applications are frequently received for additional police, and I lately approved of some increase being made in anticipation of a vote by Parliament.
- (14.) Dynamite throwing at Lucknow:—*Mr. Black* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Having regard to the reward offered for the apprehension of anyone who may be afterwards convicted of throwing dynamite at Lucknow on a recent date, will he alter the terms thereof in order that it may include anyone found guilty of "placing" the dynamite in position?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—There will be no objection to amend the notification in the form suggested.
- (15.) Mining at Captain's Flat:—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Secretary for Mines,—In view of the large development of mining at Captain's Flat, will he cause an official survey to be prepared, showing the position of the various mines and leases for the guidance of investors?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—The unsurveyed leases are now being surveyed, and an official map is being prepared which will shortly be ready for issue.
2. OLD AGE PENSIONS:—*Mr. Molesworth* presented a Petition from *J. D. Langley*, Rural Dean, Chapter of West Sydney, praying for the speedy passing into law of a Bill that, under proper safeguards, may provide State Pensions for the aged.
- Petition received.

6th October, 1897.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Report of the Nautical s.s. "Sobraon" for the year ended 30th April, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Amended Regulation No. 156 under the Crown Lands Acts.
- (2.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved for Sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (3.) Abstract of Alterations and Cancellations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (4.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (5.) Copies of *Gazette* Notices, setting forth the mode in which it is proposed to deal with the Dedication of certain Lands, in accordance with the provisions of the 105th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18, and the 41st section of the Act 53 Victoria No. 21.
- (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.) Return to an Order, made on 1st July, 1897,—“Exchange of Land on Yanga Station, near “Balranald.”
- (8.) Return to an Order, made on 12th May, 1897,—“Stockton Colliery Disaster.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Condobolin, county of Cunningham, for the Supply of Water to the Town of Condobolin.
- (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, at Marrickville, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for Drainage Works for Western Suburbs of Sydney.
- (3.) Return to an Order, made on 5th August, 1897,—“Roads in the Walcha Division, Tamworth “Road District.”
- (4.) Amended Regulation No. 324 under the Crown Lands Acts.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Return to an Order, made on 23rd June, 1897,—“The Unemployed.”
- (2.) By-law of the Borough of North Sydney.
- (3.) Amended Regulations under the Volunteer Force Regulation Act of 1867.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Fourteenth Annual Report under the Inscribed Stock Act of 1883.
- (2.) Amended Regulation No. 48 under the Public Service Act of 1895.
- (3.) Amended Regulation No. 18 under the Public Service Act of 1895.
- (4.) Regulation under the Public Service Act of 1895.
- (5.) Substituted Regulation No. 20 under the Public Service Act of 1895.
- (6.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during August, 1897.
- (7.) Return to an Order, made on 2nd June, 1897,—“The Civil Service.”
- (8.) Return to an Order, made on 18th August, 1897,—“Temporary Labourers and Watchmen, “Public Wharfs, Sydney.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. CONSTITUTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend sections Nos. 44 and 45 of the Constitution Act. Question put and passed.
5. REFUSAL OF TRANSFERS OF CONDITIONAL PURCHASES TO MARRIED WOMEN (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Perry moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and correspondence with reference to and leading up to the issue of a circular to Crown Lands Agents, instructing them to refuse transfers of conditional purchases to married women. Question put and passed.
6. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
 - (1.) Australasian Federation Enabling Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
 - (2.) Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Wednesday next.
 - (3.) North Shore Bridge Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Wednesday next.
 - (4.) Attachment of Wages Abolition Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday next.
 - (5.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Parkes, “That this Bill be now read a second “time”;—until Wednesday next.
 - (6.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Wednesday next.
7. PYRMONT BRIDGE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a third time. Question put and passed. Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, *passed*. Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to sanction the removal of the present Pyrmont Bridge, and the construction in lieu thereof of a Timber Bridge with Steel Swing Span, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in their report presented on 6th December, 1894.*” Question put and passed.

Ordered,

6th October, 1897.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the removal of the present Pyrmont Bridge, and the construction in lieu thereof of a Timber Bridge with Steel Swing Span, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in their report presented on 6th December, 1894,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th October, 1897.*

8. ARTESIAN WELLS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Sydney Smith moved That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Smith, *passed.*

Mr. Smith then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to 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.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

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

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th October, 1897.*

9. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Legislative Council's Message of 11th August, 1897, in reference to the amendments in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee insists upon its disagreements to the Council's amendments in the Bill.

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

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 11th August, 1897, in reference to the Hunter District Water and Sewerage Act Amendment 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. Bruncker, Mr. Dick, Mr. Edden, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Gillies, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Lyne, Mr. James Thomson, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Young.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th October, 1897.*

10. SERVICE OF EQUITABLE PROCESS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

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

11. PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a deepwater harbour at Port Kembla.

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

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

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

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to sanction the construction of a deepwater harbour at Port Kembla.

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

(2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a deepwater harbour at Port Kembla,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday, 20th October.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th October, 1897.

12. COUNTRY TOWNS WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL (No. 2):—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1887, and the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894; and for other purposes.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 56.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 7 OCTOBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) The Cyanide Patent:—Mr. Neild asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to an article on page 7 of the *Bulletin*, of 31st July, 1897, referring to the "cyanide case"?

(2.) Is it a fact that the Examiner of Patents has before him for decision a request for leave to amend the specification of the cyanide patent?

(3.) Is it a fact that this request is opposed by Messrs. Sydney Smith and John Want; and are these the same gentlemen who hold office in the Government; and, if so, has their action Executive approval?

(4.) If the Answer to the previous Question is in the affirmative, what is their action estimated to cost, and to what fund or vote will the amount be charged?

(5.) In the event of an appeal from any decision of the Examiner of Patents, who will decide the application to amend?

(6.) Is the Honorable the Minister for Justice personally interested as a member of any mining or other company, or otherwise, in the use of cyanide solutions for the recovery of gold, either as a licensee under the patent or regardless of the patent; and, if so, will he hear and determine any appeal from the Examiner of Patents?

(7.) In order to obviate scandal upon the administration of the Patents Law Amendment Act, 1895, will he take steps to have the decisions in the first instance made purely formal, and leave the final determination to the Courts of Justice?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) One of the oppositions has been lodged by the Crown Solicitor on behalf of the Honorable J. H. Want, Attorney-General, and Honorable Sydney Smith, Minister for Mines.

(4.) It is not possible to furnish an Answer at this stage.

(5.) The Minister of Justice.

(6.) I am not so interested.

(7.) This appears to be unnecessary.

- (2.) Grading of Postmasters:—*Mr. E. M. Clark*, for *Mr. F. Clarke*, asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Has the Regulation, allowing Postmasters graded at less than £130 per annum to become unofficial, been repealed?

(2.) If so, what provision (if any) has been made for such officials?

Mr. Cook answered,—No, it has not been repealed; but I understand that the whole of the Regulations are now under revision by the Public Service Board.

- (3.) Refund of Rent to Pastoral and Homestead Lessees:—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. Waddell*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is it true that, in cases where pastoral and homestead lessees are entitled to a refund of rent paid in excess of that recently fixed to be the rental from the 1st of last January, the Minister has refused to make such refunds, but has ordered that credit should be given for such in next year's payments?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Yes, in those cases where the adjustment of rental was completed but a short time prior to the date when the following year's rent became due.

(4.)

7th October, 1897.

(4.) Water Reserve No. 30, Parish of Gullongullong:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Has a lease of Water Reserve No. 30, parish of Gullongullong, been given to any person or persons?
- (2.) If so, to whom, and on what terms and conditions?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) To E. P. O. Capper as an annual lease for grazing purposes, subject to the conditions specified in the *Government Gazette* of the 31st August last.

(5.) Leave of Absence to the Police:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that constables in the Metropolitan area are allowed fourteen days' leave of absence per annum?
- (2.) Are the police stationed in country districts allowed the same leave?
- (3.) Will he make such arrangements as will allow policemen in all districts to have fourteen days' leave of absence per annum, seeing that they have to be on duty seven days per week?

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

- (1.) When practicable, constables in the Metropolitan police are allowed one day's leave in a month, and occasional special leave.
- (2 and 3.) No reasonable application for leave by country police is refused, but the duties are not so trying as in Sydney.

(6.) Provisions under the Crown Lands Act of 1895:—Dr. Ross, for Mr. Rose, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) In consideration that sections 13 and 24 of the Crown Lands Act of 1895 provide that improvements in areas set apart for homestead selection and settlement leases should be appraised prior to being thrown open for settlement, why are such provisions not carried out?
- (2.) Is he aware that the neglect to carry out such provisions has entailed a great loss of time and money on selectors, besides casting doubts on the validity of their titles to such lands?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—It is not by any means clear that the law is as supposed by the Honorable Member; but, in order to remove any doubts on the subject, the Crown Lands Bill of 1897, which deals incidentally with the question, has already been passed by this House, and is now before the Legislative Council for their concurrence. It is not, however, apparent that the action taken by the Department has had the effect stated by the Honorable Member.

(7.) Alleged Assault Case at Orange:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Sleath, asked the Minister of Justice,—Is it a fact that, in the case of alleged assault against one McFarlane at Orange, a bill has been filed against three men, notwithstanding that McFarlane has taken a sworn declaration that none of the three men were even present when the alleged assault was committed?

Mr. Gould answered,—The following Answer has been supplied by my honorable colleague, the Attorney-General:—"I decline to answer any Questions affecting the administration of Justice in "criminal cases while the cases are *sub judice*."

(8.) Appointment of Prosecutor in connection with the Lucknow Strike:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Sleath, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that Mr. C. E. Pilcher, Q.C., has been briefed by the Government to prosecute the miners for offences alleged to have been committed in connection with the Lucknow strike?
- (2.) What fee is being paid to Mr. Pilcher for this work?
- (3.) When was the last occasion that Mr. Pilcher was briefed by the Crown for a country circuit?
- (4.) Is it customary for the Crown to brief a Q.C. in small cases of this kind?

Mr. Gould answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by my honorable colleague, the Attorney-General:—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) 1889.
- (4.) It has always been customary for Queen's Counsel to attend Circuit Courts on behalf of the Crown.

(9.) Public Works in the Manning Electorate:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Schey, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he lay upon the Table a return showing—(a) The amounts appropriated for Public Works in the Manning Electorate during the last three years; (b) the amounts actually expended on such works during the same period; (c) the amounts spent on works during the same period without or in advance of appropriations?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—My honorable colleague has no objection if moved for in the usual way.

(10.) Distances of Two-penny Tramway Sections from Bent-street:—Mr. Law asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What are the distances of the various two-penny tramway sections from Bent-street, Sydney?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the distances are as under:—To Bondi Junction, 3 miles 49 chains; Kensington, 3 miles 20 chains; Waterloo, 3 miles 37 chains; Enmore, 3 miles 74 chains; Johnson-street, Leichhardt, 3 miles 59 chains; Wigram-street, Forest Lodge, 3 miles 12 chains; Dowling-street, 2 miles 35 chains; Glebe Point, 3 miles 13 chains.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

7th October, 1897.

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Abstract of After Auction Purchases proposed to be validated under the 44th section of the Act 58 Vic. No. 18.

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

(3.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Spicer's Creek Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other Holdings.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Cook laid upon the Table,—Contracts with the Peninsular and Oriental and Orient Steam Navigation Companies respecting the Australian Mail Service.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

4. SERVICE OF EQUITABLE PROCESS BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Gould, read a third time, and *passed*.Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend and declare the law relating to the Service of Process in the Supreme Court in its Equitable Jurisdiction; and for other purposes connected therewith.*"Question put and *passed*.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend and declare the law relating to the Service of Process in the Supreme Court in its Equitable Jurisdiction; and for other purposes connected therewith,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th October, 1897.*5. RULINGS OF MR. SPEAKER (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That, with a view to protect the privileges of this House, and of the Members thereof, and also with a view to the proper transaction of the business of this House, Standing Order No. 161 is hereby amended by the addition of the words following, viz.:—Any decision by Mr. Speaker affecting any business under consideration, or any business sought to be introduced or transacted in this House, whether such decision be by way of assent, denial, refusal, or otherwise, is a ruling within the meaning of this Standing Order, and may be dissented from as herein provided.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 25.

Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Rose,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Hayes,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Barnes.
Mr. Lyne,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,	Mr. Haynes.
Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. Lonsdale,	
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	
Mr. Robert Jones,	
Mr. E. M. Clark,	
Mr. Gillies,	
Mr. Davis,	
Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. McElhone,	
Mr. Perry,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Carroll,	

Noes, 35.

Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Collins,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Knox,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Gormly.
Mr. Afleck,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Lee,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Waddell.
Mr. Whiddon,	
Mr. Garrard,	

And so it passed in the negative.

6. LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to further consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate and prohibit, in accordance with polls taken in certain areas, the sale and the keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the sale of such liquors within those areas; to amend the law relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the same; and for purposes of and incidental to the aforesaid objects.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 8 OCTOBER, 1897, A.M.

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

Ordered, that the reception of the resolution stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday next.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and *passed*.

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

F. W. WEBB,
*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 57.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 12 OCTOBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Crown Lands in the Western Division:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has he refused to gazette the attachment of any resumed area to a leasehold area in the Western Division, which attachment has been recommended by the Local Land Boards?

(2.) If yes, was such refusal based on the fact that the rent of the area to be so attached was fixed by the Land Appeal Court at a less rate than that of the leasehold area?

(3.) Is he aware that section 8 of the Crown Lands Act of 1895 provides no such basis for such a refusal?

(4.) Is he aware that the said section provides that the attachment shall be gazetted before the question of rent shall be determined?

(5.) Is he aware that his action entirely defeats the intention of the Legislature in enacting the said section for the purpose of giving a more secure tenure, in order to promote expenditure of private moneys in effecting improvements on Crown lands?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes, as a matter of policy.

(3.) The power conferred on the Minister in section 8 of the Crown Lands Act of 1895, is both from its language and according to the 23rd clause of the Interpretation Act (passed this Session) a discretionary one.

(4.) No.

(5.) No.

- (2.) Justices of the Peace:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is the Government aware that the rule in Queensland regarding the appointment of Justices of the Peace is to issue a special *Gazette* notice annually of appointments, and that consequently all appointments only stand good for the year?

(2.) Will he bring the matter under the notice of the Executive Council for consideration, and recommend that such a plan may become the practice of the New South Wales Government?

(3.) Has the Government any idea of how many persons whose names are now on the roll of Justices of the Peace are dead, bankrupt, or have assigned their estates, or who are publicans, or have left the Colony; if so, will he give the numbers?

(4.) If the information is not at present available, will he apply to every Clerk of Petty Sessions, or acting Clerk of Petty Sessions, to send in a return of all Justices of the Peace known to them who are in the above stated positions?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am not aware of any rule of the kind in the neighbouring colony of Queensland, and there is no intention on the part of the Government to disturb the present system of appointment of magistrates in this Colony.

(3 and 4.) Steps will be taken to provide this information if the Honorable Member will move for it in the usual way.

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

(1.) How many persons or companies hold land as freehold under £1,000 value, and subject to the Land Tax; and (a) what is the total sum charged them; (b) how many of them have paid their tax?

(2.) The same questions regarding all between £1,000 and £20,000?

(3.)

12th October, 1897.

- (3.) The same regarding all between £20,000 and £100,000?
 (4.) The same regarding all over £100,000?
 (5.) How many chargeable with Income Tax have paid the same?
 (6.) How many chargeable with Income Tax have not paid the same; and what is the amount unpaid?

Mr. Reid answered,—The compilation of the desired information, which is not at present available, will take some time and cause expense. It will, however, be furnished, if moved for in the usual way.

- (4.) Blankets supplied to Members of Parliament:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Who were the Members of Parliament who received the fifteen pairs of blankets from the Government during the year, as stated in the return laid upon the Table of this House to the order of Mr. Schey?

(2.) For what purpose were the blankets given to the said Members of Parliament?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—In the form in which the distribution was made it is impossible to answer the Question put by the Honorable Member. So many applications were made by Members of Parliament for distribution in a form that would not apply directly to themselves, that I am prevented from giving the information asked for.

- (5.) The Colonial Sugar Company's Works at Pymont:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Colonial Sugar Company keep their works at Pymont going on the Sunday?

(2.) If so, under what Act are they privileged to keep their works going on Sunday?

(3.) If they do keep their works going on Sunday, and are not privileged by any Act, will he draw the attention of the Inspector-General of Police to the fact?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—From a police report obtained it would appear that only work of necessity is performed on Sundays.

- (6.) Prickly-pear on Road from Bulga to Howe's Valley:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that a portion of the road from Bulga to Howe's Valley is being overrun with prickly-pear?

(2.) If so, will he direct that they be destroyed by the maintenance men?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) I am informed that the prickly-pear is growing along many parts of this road.

(2.) The Local Officer reports that nothing is being done to eradicate the pear except where it interferes with traffic; he further states that it is spreading from the adjacent private and Crown lands, which are infested more thickly than the road.

- (7.) Ten-mile Hollow Road, Mangrove Creek:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) On what date in May last was a tender accepted for work on the Ten-mile Hollow Road Mangrove Creek?

(2.) What time was given for completion of the work?

(3.) Who was the contractor?

(4.) Why was the contract cancelled?

(5.) Was the contractor disqualified; and, if so, for what length of time?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) No tender was accepted in May, but one was accepted on the 7th June.

(2.) Eight weeks.

(3.) Charles Woodbury.

(4.) Because the contractor failed to proceed with the work. (Twenty days after expiry of the contract time the work was still untouched.)

(5.) For the reasons given in the last Answer the contractor was disqualified for three months.

- (8.) Selection by Arthur Jeffries, Land District of Deniliquin:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—When will the papers relating to the inquiry by the Local Land Board, at Deniliquin, as to the *bona-fides* or otherwise of A. Jeffries, moved for on the 16th June, be laid upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Young answered,—Copies of these papers were laid upon the Table of the House on the 26th August last.

- (9.) Regrading of the Government Printing Office:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to the statements made on the motion for adjournment, contained in *Hansard* report of 21st July, 1897, respecting the regrading of the Government Printing Office?

(2.) Will he inquire into this matter, as promised by the Acting Colonial Treasurer?

Mr. Reid answered,—The matters referred to by Mr. McGowen on the motion for adjournment on the date named, viz., the 21st July last, were:—(1) That certain papers relating to the refusal of gratuities to persons whose services in the Government Printing Office have been dispensed with, were not included in the return which he had moved for; and (2) The general question that gratuities had been refused by the Public Service Board to certain persons retired from the establishment named. With regard to the first matter, the whole of the papers relating to the Printing Office cases were forwarded to the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade at his request some time back, it being understood that he proposed to ask Mr. McGowen to personally inspect the papers and pick out the cases he referred to. The second matter is dependent upon the decision to be arrived at by the Government upon the minute submitted by the Board in April last, in which directions were asked as to what action should be taken in regard to the payment of gratuities where the employment was of a purely casual nature.

(10.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th October, 1897.

- (10.) Commission on Sale of Funded Stock :—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Department of the Treasury has altered its arrangement for payment of commission on the sale of three per cent. Funded Stock, whereby commission is now paid to stock and share brokers only?
 - (2.) Can he see his way to return to the previous arrangement, allowing all who take up the debentures as agents to participate in the commission?
- Mr. Reid answered,—As at present advised, we do not propose to pay any commission or brokerage in future upon the Stock in question.
- (11.) Harbour and River Improvements at Camden Haven :—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. See, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What sum has been voted for harbour and river improvements at Camden Haven?
 - (2.) What is the estimated cost of the whole of the projected improvements?
 - (3.) Has the matter of the abovenamed improvements been referred to the Public Works Committee, in accordance with the Act?
 - (4.) Have tenders been invited for the work, or is it being carried on by day labour?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) £5,000.
 - (2.) The survey is only just completed, but the estimate for the whole of the projected improvements has not yet been prepared.
 - (3.) No, but it will be submitted to the Public Works Committee if it is found that the scheme will cost over £20,000.
 - (4.) The quarry is being opened up, a tramway thereto formed, and steps are being taken to commence the work by day labour.
- (12.) Loans to Municipalities :—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it true that, in a number of cases where Municipalities have borrowed money to erect town-halls, the Governor has given his sanction in writing for such Municipalities to mortgage the general rates as part security of such loans?
 - (2.) Is it true that the Crown Solicitor has just given it as his opinion that the law does not give power to mortgage the general rates in such cases?
 - (3.) If the Governor's warrants issued in the cases referred to have been illegally granted, what action does the Government intend to take to make valid such loans?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—
- (1.) No.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) Answered by No. 1.
2. PAPERS :—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Return respecting the South Head Roads Trust.
 - (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for the improvement of Cook's River, near Tempe.
 - (3.) Notification of resumption under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Dyke, county of Clarke, for a Bridge over Lagoon Creek.
 - (4.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for Drainage Works for the Western Suburbs of Sydney.
 - (5.) Return to an Order, made on 25th August, 1897,—“Vote for unclassified Roads for 1897-98.”
 - (6.) Report, together with Plans, on the prospects of Irrigation and Water Conservation in New South Wales, by Colonel F. J. Home, C.S.L., Royal Engineers (Retired).
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
3. COUNTRY TOWNS WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL (No. 2) :—Mr. Young, pursuant to leave granted on 6th October, 1897, presented a Bill, intitled “*A Bill to amend the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1887, and the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894; and for other purposes.*”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Thursday, 21st October.
4. CLOSING OF BRANCH ROAD, DOUBLE BAY—CLOSING OF WHALING ROAD, NORTH SYDNEY (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Returns to Order, “Closing of Branch Road, Double Bay,” and “Closing of Whaling Road, North Sydney,” laid upon the Table, and referred to the Printing Committee on the 17th and 18th August, 1897, respectively, and reported upon on the 19th August, be again referred to such Committee for reconsideration.
Question put and passed.
5. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
- (1.) Amended Life Assurance Encouragement Bill; second reading;—to follow Order No. 10.
 - (2.) Illegitimacy Disability Removal Bill; second reading;—to follow Order No. 1, as postponed.
 - (3.) Municipalities Franchise Extension Bill; second reading;—to follow Order No. 3, as postponed.
 - (4.) Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill; second reading;—to follow Order No. 4, as postponed.
 - (5.) Grand Jury Bill; second reading;—to follow Order No. 5, as postponed.
 - (6.) Prisoners' Gaol Regulation Bill; second reading;—to follow Order No. 7, as postponed.
- Point of Order* :—Mr. Crick submitted that these postponements, though allowed by general consent, were in reality irregular, because postponements should only take place from day to day.
Mr. Speaker said that he thought the intention of the Standing Order, which he admitted was not very clearly expressed, was to permit postponements only from one sitting day to another. That course would, in future, be taken, except in the case of Government Business on Government Days.
- (7.) Australasian Federation Enabling Act Amendment Bill (No. 2); second reading;—until To-morrow.
 - (8.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading—until Thursday next.

12th October, 1897.

6. **USURY LIMITATION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

7. **MEDICAL BILL**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—
MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act for the amendment of the Laws respecting the Medical Profession, and for the establishment of a Medical Council*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 12th October, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Neild, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Thursday next.

8. **CLERGY WIDOWS AND ORPHANS FUND (SYDNEY DIOCESE) TRUSTEES BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read, Mr. Molesworth moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

9. **AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION ENABLING ACT AMENDMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Neild, for and by authority of Mr. Levien, moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 46.

Noes, 27.

Mr. Sec,	Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Bull.
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Asleck,	Mr. Brunker,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Crick,	Mr. Reid,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Gould,	Mr. Molesworth.
Mr. Ball,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Garrard,	
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Wright,	Mr. Young,	
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Chapman,	
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Edden,	Mr. Millen,	
Mr. Pvers,	Mr. Collins,	Mr. Copeland,	
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Cook,	
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Lee,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Raymond,	
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Davister,	Mr. Rose,	
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Hawthorne,	
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Anderson,	
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Greene,	
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Wood,	Mr. Mahony,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Willis.	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	
Mr. Smailes,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Millard,	
Mr. Howarth,		Mr. Harris,	
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Price,	Mr. H. H. Brown,	
Mr. Dick,	Mr. Neild.	Mr. McMillan,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.

Ordered, that the adoption of the report stand an order of the Day for To-morrow.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 58.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 13 OCTOBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Refund of Superannuation Money to Stock Inspectors:—Mr. Barnes asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) When will the amounts paid by Stock Inspectors to the Superannuation Fund be returned to them?
- (2.) What is the cause of delay in making the refund?
- (3.) What rate of interest is to be allowed them?

Mr. Cook answered,—The question is now engaging the attention of the Government, and it is expected a decision will be arrived at in the course of a few days.(2.) Government Metallurgical Works at Clyde:—*Mr. McFarlane*, for *Mr. Waddell*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) What is the total cost of the plant and buildings at the Government Metallurgical Works at Clyde?
- (2.) How long is it since the manager commenced to treat parcels of ore for the public?
- (3.) How many tons of ore have been treated up to the 1st of October, 1897?
- (4.) What has been the average number of tons of ore treated per week since the works were opened?
- (5.) What is the total amount of salaries and wages paid per week for carrying on the works?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) Cost of buildings, machinery, land, and siding, £6,146 9s. 1d.
- (2.) Parcels of ore have been treated for the public since the 24th September, 1896—say, fifty-three weeks to 1st October, 1897.
- (3.) The amount of ore treated up to the 1st October, 1897, 197 tons 8 cwt.
- (4.) Average number of tons of ore treated per week, 3·72. It is pointed out, however, that the works were not established for the purpose of treating ores in bulk, but merely for small experimental parcels not exceeding 10 tons.
- (5.) Since the chlorination and cyanide plants were added the salaries and wages, exclusive of the Government Metallurgist, who is engaged on other work in addition to the management of these works, amount to £13 18s. 2d. per week.

(3.) Reduction of Fare on the Crown-street Tram:—*Mr. Whiddon* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) In view of the fact that many of the 2d. sections on the tramways have been increased in distance to nearly double that of the Crown-street line, and seeing that this line is about equal to that of the Bridge-street to Railway Station line, will he confer with the Commissioners, with a view to having the fare made the same as that charged to the railway, viz., 1½d.?
- (2.) As a number of the residents of Surry Hills and Redfern have been placed at a serious disadvantage by the alteration in the fares on the Randwick and Coogee line (from Cleveland-street to Coogee), will he take into consideration the desirability of reverting to the rates charged previous to such alteration so far as this section is concerned?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am informed there is a considerable difference in the distance between the two lines referred to, and there are exceptional circumstances connected with the traffic on the railway line which do not exist on that to Crown-street.
- (2.) A great concession generally has been made by the reduction in the number of sections, and until practical experience has demonstrated the ultimate result of the change the Commissioners cannot see their way to make further alterations at the present time.

(4.)

13th October, 1897.

- (4.) Consolidation of the Land Laws :—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) When is it his intention to submit for approval of this House the Bill to consolidate the Land Laws?
 - (2.) Is it his intention to push it forward, so as to have it on the Statute Book of the Colony this year?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—The Bill will be proceeded with this Session.
- (5.) Electric Tramway to Rose Bay :—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) When was authority given by this House for the construction of an electric tramway to Rose Bay?
 - (2.) At what points does the said line begin and finish, and what was the estimated cost of same?
- Mr. Young* answered,—
- (1.) The special authority of Parliament is unnecessary, as the cost is under £20,000.
 - (2.) Point of commencement—At the terminus of the Cable Tramway at Ocean-street, New South Head Road. Point of termination—Opposite the wharf at Rose Bay. Estimated cost—£13,225.
- (6.) Electors' Rights :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Does he know that many electors leave the electorates they have rights for, and go into others, and do not get their rights transferred?
 - (2.) Will he direct the Registrars, when he knows of such cases, to send out notices that unless they apply for a transfer they will be struck off the Roll after having left the electorate six months?
 - (3.) Will he issue notices to Registrars to carry out the law in this matter in all cases brought under their notice as above?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1.) Yes; but application for transfer of electors' rights is not compulsory under the Act.
 - (2 and 3.) Instructions have been issued to Registrars not to object to names of persons which appear upon the General Lists on the grounds "Left the district" when the persons are still resident in New South Wales, as the principal Act (sec. 38) provides for the cancellation of the enrolment for the original district upon transfer of right, and the amending Act of 1896 (sec. 2) provides for inquiry to be made regarding such enrolment, and entry forthwith of name of applicant on the Additional Roll for the new district upon receipt of the certificate that the applicant is then duly enrolled for the district for which he previously held an elector's right.
- (7.) Bridges between Narrandera and Buckingbong :—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the three bridges between Narrandera and Buckingbong are now in such a state of disrepair that a serious accident may occur if fresh bridges are not at once erected?
 - (2.) What steps does he intend to take to avert such a danger?
- Mr. Young* answered,
- (1.) I am aware that the bridges referred to have fallen into disrepair.
 - (2.) A sum of money has been noted for consideration on the Draft Estimates for the renewal of these structures.
- (8.) Rent of Residences occupied by Public School Teachers :—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Has the Public Service Board placed a rental value on the residences occupied by Public School teachers of 100 per cent. over and above the actual letting value of such residences?
 - (2.) Has this matter been brought before the Board by several of the Public School teachers who are suffering in this manner?
 - (3.) Has any action been taken to remedy the injustice complained of?
 - (4.) From what date have these exorbitant rentals been charged?
 - (5.) When will they be reduced to fair rentals?
 - (6.) Will any of these teachers who have been so mulcted by overcharges in their rentals obtain a refund of such overcharge?
- Mr. Garrard* answered,—These Questions should have been addressed to the Right Honorable the Premier, who is charged with all matters relating to the Public Service Board.
- (9.) Holidays to Railway Employces :—Mr. Molesworth asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that for some time past it has been customary to grant the railway employees one day in each year for their annual picnic?
 - (2.) Is it also a fact that for the last three years this privilege has been denied to the men employed at the Redfern and Darling Harbour goods-sheds?
 - (3.) If so, will he state the reason of this refusal, and arrange that a similar concession be made to them as is now enjoyed by their fellow employees?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—I am informed that it is the practice to allow the railway employees the concession of a holiday for an annual picnic. It recently came under the Commissioners' notice that an anomaly exists in regard to the general observance of the concession, and they appointed a Board of officers to report on the matter, so that the practice throughout the Department might be made uniform. The Commissioners will deal with the matter when the report is submitted.
- (10.) Position of Assistant Architect :—Mr. Dacey asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Government refused to call for competitive designs for the new Parliament buildings because the Works Department possessed officers whose architectural ability was second to none in the Colony?
 - (2.) Have the Public Service Board informed him that there is no person in the Public Service fit or qualified to fill the position of Assistant Architect?
 - (3.) Will he give the name of the gentleman whose advice warranted the Public Service Board in certifying that no person in the Public Service is fit or qualified and available for the vacant position?
- Mr.

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Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) I am not aware of such a refusal; nevertheless I am of opinion that the architectural ability of the Government Architect is so unquestionable that it would be unnecessary to call for competitive designs for any of our public buildings.

(2.) Yes; for the position of Principal Assistant Architect.

(3.) The Public Service Board, in conformity with the Act, reported that in their opinion there was not any person in the Public Service capable of filling the position.

- (11.) Removal of Inmates from old Woollen Mills, Parramatta:—*Mr. Affleck*, for *Mr. O'Reilly*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—When does he propose to remove to less inflammatory and more comfortable quarters the 1,100 inmates now confined in the old woollen mills, George-street, Parramatta?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am aware of the danger and inconvenience that are probable during the occupation of this building, but some complications have arisen with regard to a report of the Public Works Committee on the proposed new building, and in view of the difficulties which stand in the way no immediate action can be taken in the matter.

- (12.) Reassessment of Schoolmasters' Residences:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) How long have the Public Service Board been considering the reassessment of schoolmasters' residences?

(2.) When will their decision be made known?

(3.) Is the decision to be based on an inquiry into the merits of the various buildings, or on the basis of the teachers' classification?

Mr. Garrard answered,—These Questions should have been addressed to the Right Honorable the Premier, who is charged with all matters relating to the Public Service Board.

- (13.) Minute by the Auditor-General on the Public Accounts:—*Mr. Lyne* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—With reference to the following item, which is taken from a minute sent by the Auditor-General to the Treasurer, under date 19th August, 1896:—“Accrued interest, premiums, and interest on deferred payments of instalments of Loans improperly credited to the General Loan Account, £370,981 7s. 5d.”,—will he state where, in the published accounts of the Colony, that item is finally dealt with; and whether it was credited in such a way as to reduce the deficit accruing in 1894?

Mr. Reid answered,—The deficiency accruing up to 31st December, 1894, namely, £1,324,000, was brought forward to the debit of the account for the half-year ending 30th June, 1895, and the £370,981 referred to, reduced to £345,699 13s. 9d., was credited to the account, and reduced the total deficiency on the last-mentioned date, when the account was practically closed. I would refer the Honorable Member to the Ways and Means Accounts, laid upon the Table on 27th August, 1895.

- (14.) Appeals by Railway Employeys:—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the total number of cases in which railway servants have appealed to the Commissioners under the terms of the Railway Act for the twelve months ending 30th June, 1897?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the number of cases of appeal heard by the Railway Commissioners for the period in question was 196.

- (15.) Accident on the Tramway at Barrack Hill:—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Does not Part 3 of the Railway Act provide that all accidents on railways and tramways shall be reported to the Minister?

(2.) If so, will he lay upon the Table of this House copies of all papers, reports, &c., connected with the accident on the tramway at Barrack Hill, on Sunday, 11th July, 1897?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) The Railway Act provides that accidents on the railway involving personal risk shall be reported to the Minister.

(2.) I have to point out to the Honorable Member that the case referred to was most thoroughly inquired into by the Railway Commissioners, and information duly afforded to the Minister. The men concerned were heard personally by the Railway Commissioners on appeal, and all the requirements of the Railway Act duly observed. No good purpose would be served by laying the papers upon the Table of this House in the opinion of the Commissioners.

- (16.) The Public Accounts:—*Mr. Lyne* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House a return showing—(a) The funded debt of the Colony of New South Wales on 1st July, 1897; (b) the total amount of Treasury Bills current on same date that have been issued for Public Works; (c) the total amount of Treasury Bills current on same date issued in aid of revenue, or for any other purpose; (d) the total amount owing by Government to the Post Office Savings Bank on same date; (e) the total amount owing by Government to the Savings Bank of New South Wales on same date; (f) the floating deficiency in the shape of bank overdrafts, or otherwise, on same date; (g) the total amount of advances made from revenue, on same date, which have to be repaid out of Loans; (h) the Centennial Park and Martin Place Suspense Accounts on same date; (i) and any other liabilities of any kind not enumerated above?

Mr. Reid answered,—Most of the information required will be found in the Ways and Means Statements, but any not so furnished will be laid upon the Table as soon as possible after the financial speech has been made.

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- (17.) Regulation of Dance-rooms :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) When will the Bill for the alteration of the law relating to the regulation of dance-rooms, &c., be introduced?
 (2.) Does he intend to push it through before the close of the present Session, as promised by him some time ago?
 (3.) If not, will he give assistance to any private Member to bring in and pass such a Bill?
 Mr. Bruncker answered,—Provision will be made in the Municipalities Bill which is now in course of preparation.
- (18.) Local Option Bill :—Mr. Copeland asked the Postmaster-General,—Is it his intention to proceed with the Local Option Bill this Session; if so, when?
 Mr. Cook answered,—I am unable yet to say, but the Honorable Member will have due notice if it is decided to do so.
- (19.) The Railway Estimates :—Mr. Dick, for Mr. O'Reilly, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Does he propose to make provision on the Estimates for an increase in the rolling-stock to meet the requirements of the Government railways?
 Mr. Reid answered,—I will bring the matter the Honorable Member refers to before the Commissioners.
2. PAPERS :—Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—
 (1.) Return respecting Typhoid Fever in Sydney and Suburbs from 1876 to 1895, and certain particulars respecting other infectious diseases, viz., Measles, Scarlet Fever, and Diphtheria.
 (2.) Regulations of the Orange Fire Brigade Board, under the Fire Brigades Act, 1884.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 29th July, 1897,—“Leave of Absence granted by Public Service Board.”
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
3. CONSTITUTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—Mr. Neild, pursuant to leave granted on the 6th October, 1897, presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to amend sections 44 and 45 of the Constitution Act 18 and 19 Victoria; chapter 54,*”—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
4. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
 (1.) Government Business, Nos. 1 to 13 ;—until To-morrow.
 (2.) General Business :—
 (1.) Illegitimacy Disability Removal Bill ; second reading ;—until To-morrow.
 (2.) Municipalities Franchise Extension Bill ; second reading ;—until To-morrow.
 (3.) Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill ; second reading ;—until To-morrow.
 (4.) Grand Jury Bill ; second reading ;—until To-morrow.
 (5.) Prisoners' Gaol Regulation Bill ; second reading ;—until To-morrow.
 (6.) Eight Hours Bill ; second reading ;—until Tuesday next.
 (7.) Public Service Act Amendment Bill ; second reading ;—until Tuesday next.
5. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council :—
 MR. SPEAKER,—
 The Legislative Council agrees to the Free Conference requested by the Legislative Assembly in its Message, dated 6th October, 1897, on the subject of the Council's amendments disagreed to by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council in the Hunter District Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill, and appoints that the same be held in the Back Library at the hour of half-past seven o'clock on Wednesday next, and that the Honorable Alexander Brown, the Honorable William Portus Cullen, the Honorable George Day, the Honorable Andrew Garran, the Honorable John Hughes, the Honorable Samuel Edward Lees, the Honorable John Macintosh, the Honorable William Hilson Pigott, the Honorable Charles Edward Pilcher, and the Honorable William Joseph Trickett, be the Managers thereof on its behalf.
- Legislative Council Chamber,
 Sydney, 13th October, 1897.*
- JOHN LACKEY,
 President.
6. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Gloucester, Mr. Price, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The action of the Government in not carrying out the provisions of the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act.”
 And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
 Mr. Price moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and negatived.
7. CLERGY WIDOWS AND ORPHANS FUND (SYDNEY DIOCESE) TRUSTEES BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Molesworth, read a third time, and passed.
 Mr. Molesworth then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to vest the property, in or upon the security of which the moneys belonging to the Clergy Widows and Orphans Fund are or may be hereafter invested, in the Trustees for the time being of such Fund; and for other purposes.*”
 Question put and passed.

Ordered,

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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 vest the property, in or upon the security of which the moneys belonging to the Clergy Widows and Orphans Fund are or may be hereafter invested, in the Trustees for the time being of such Fund; and for other purposes,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 13th October, 1897.

8. AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION ENABLING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Neild moved, That the report be now adopted.

Question put and passed.

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

9. SYDNEY AND NORTH SYDNEY BRIDGE AND TRAMWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 14.

Mr. F. Clarke,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Howarth.

Tellers,

Mr. Price,
Mr. E. M. Clark.

Noes, 64.

Mr. Copeland,
Mr. See,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Bruncker,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. McElhone,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Waddell,

Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Greene,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Millard,

Mr. Cook,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. H. H. Brown,
Mr. Morton,
Dr. Graham,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Bull.

Tellers,

Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Moore.

And so it passed in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Clark, the Order of the Day was discharged.

Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.

10. NORTH SHORE BRIDGE BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading of this Bill,—Mr. Hogue moved, That the Order of the Day be postponed until To-morrow.

Question put and negatived.

(2.) Mr. Hogue then moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 16.

Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Morton,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Howarth,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Carroll.

Tellers.

Mr. Price,
Mr. Hogue.

Noes, 55.

Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. See,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. McElhone,
Mr. Bruncker,
Mr. Barnes,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Molesworth,

Mr. Wood,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Greene,
Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Harris,

Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Bull,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. H. H. Brown,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Watson.

Tellers,

Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Bavister.

And so it passed in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Hogue, the Order of the Day was discharged.

Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.

11. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Attachment of Wages Abolition Bill postponed until To-morrow.

13th October, 1897.

12. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate on the motion of Mr. Parkes, "That this Bill be now read a second time,"—

And the Question being put,—

The House divided.

Ayes, 49.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Young,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. See,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Lync,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Price,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. H. H. Brown,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. McElhone,	Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Diek,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. O'Reilly.
Mr. Cotton,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Parkes.
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Perry,	
Mr. Afleck,	
Mr. Wheeler,	

Noes, 25.

Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Copeland,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Morton,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Gormly.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Hogue.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

13. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY TUNNEL-ROADWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Parkes moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 37.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Parkes,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Millen,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Afleck,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Millard.
Mr. Lync,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Molesworth.
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Rigg,	
Mr. Jessep,	
Mr. Lonsdale,	
Mr. Reid,	
Mr. Wilks,	
Mr. Cotton,	
Mr. Robert Jones,	
Mr. See,	
Mr. Cruickshank,	
Mr. Price,	
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	

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Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Copeland,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Morton,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Law,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Gormly.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Watson.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 59.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 14 OCTOBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Coal supplied to the Railway Department:—Mr. Edden asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) How many tons of coal are annually used by the Railway Department?
- (2.) How many tenders were accepted by the Railway Department for the supply of coal for the year 1897?
- (3.) What are the names of the coal companies whose tenders were accepted?
- (4.) What is the price paid for the coal supplied by the various companies?

Mr. Reid answered,—There will be no objection to furnish this information if moved for in the usual way.

(2.) Rental Value on Residences occupied by Public School Teachers:—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has the Public Service Board placed a rental value on the residences occupied by Public School teachers of 100 per cent. over and above the actual letting value of such residences?
- (2.) Has this matter been brought before the Board by several of the Public School teachers who are suffering in this manner?
- (3.) Has any action been taken to remedy the injustice complained of?
- (4.) From what date have these exorbitant rentals been charged?
- (5.) When will they be reduced to fair rentals?
- (6.) Will any of these teachers who have been so mulcted by overcharges in their rentals obtain a refund of such overcharge?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) The value placed on teachers' residences is in some cases, no doubt, in excess of the actual letting value.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) The matter has for some time been under consideration, but the question is a very large one, and some difficulty has been experienced in arriving at a satisfactory settlement.

(4, 5, and 6.) The Public Service Board have had the greatest difficulty in coming to a just conclusion on this subject, as it is found impracticable to rate the quarters exactly in accordance with their commercial value. The whole difficulty has arisen from the fact that section 61 of the Public Service Act provides that from the commencement of the Act the 4 per centum deduction for superannuation purposes shall be made from all salary and emoluments other than forage, equipment, or travelling allowances, thus necessitating a definite value being placed upon all official residences.

(3.) Reassessment of Schoolmasters' Residences:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) How long have the Public Service Board been considering the reassessment of schoolmasters' residences?
- (2.) When will their decision be made known?
- (3.) Is the decision to be based on an inquiry into the merits of the various buildings, or on the basis of the teachers' classification?

Mr. Reid answered,—I refer the Honorable Member to the Answer I have given to a similar Question asked by the Honorable Member for the Nepean this day.

(4.)

14th October, 1897.

- (4.) Duties of Mr. Coghlan, now visiting England:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is Mr. Coghlan now visiting England with a view, among other duties, to inspect the Agent-General's accounts, and reorganise that Department?
 - (2.) Are Mr. Coghlan's expenses, or any portion of them, being paid, or to be paid, by the Government?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—
- (1.) Mr. Coghlan having obtained leave of absence to visit England, the opportunity was taken to depute him to inquire into the Agent-General's Office, with a view to the grading of the staff, which is a duty imposed upon the Public Service Board by the Public Service Act.
 - (2.) I am not aware that the expenses, or any portion thereof, are to be paid by the Government; the salary will, of course, be paid.
- (5.) The Dredge "Alcides":—Mr. Perry asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is he aware that a number of men were sent from Sydney to Ballina for the purpose of dismantling the dredge "Alcides"?
 - (2.) Did he take any steps to ascertain whether there were men in the Ballina District competent to do the work?
 - (3.) Is he aware that there are at present in the Ballina Electorate retrenched dredge-hands and other Government employees who would have been glad of the few days' work which was given to the Sydney men?
 - (4.) Will he in future send men from Sydney to country districts to do work which would be gladly undertaken by unemployed workmen in the country, or will he give the workmen in the country a chance of employment?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) No.
 - (3.) Only two retrenched dredge men are recorded as residing in the Richmond River District.
 - (4.) The master and crew of nine, sent to Ballina for the special work of dismantling, were not Sydney men, but the permanent crew of a country dredge under repairs, who could be spared for this special trip, instead of taking on additional hands, who would be strangers to this class of work, whereas the men sent were trained hands, who otherwise would not have been advantageously employed.
- (6.) Amended Timber Regulations Bill:—Mr. Pyers asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is it his intention to introduce the long-promised Amended Timber Regulations Bill this Session?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—The matter is receiving attention, with a view to the introduction of a Bill to deal with forests and timber-getting.
- (7.) Mr. Brodie, Chief Inspector of Fisheries:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that Mr. Brodie, Chief Inspector of Fisheries, with others, has recently been net-fishing in closed waters in Lake Macquarie?
 - (2.) If so, is it intended to prosecute the parties concerned?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—As there is no means of communicating with Mr. Brodie at present to ascertain the fact, I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will postpone his Question until next Tuesday, when I shall be in a position to furnish full particulars.
- (8.) Persons employed on board the N.S.S. "Sobraon":—Mr. Hughes asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) What are the names and rank of persons employed on board the N.S.S. "Sobraon" to whom the provisions of the Public Service Act apply?
 - (2.) Also the names and rank of persons to whom the said Act does not apply?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I will lay this information, in the form of a return, upon the Table next week.
- (9.) Selection by Arthur Jeffries, Land District of Deniliquin:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—Referring to the Return to Order, laid upon the Table of this House on the 26th August last, relating to the inquiry by the Local Land Board, Deniliquin, as to the *bonâ-fides* or otherwise of Arthur Jeffries, in respect to his selection, No. 96-43, for 262½ acres,—
- (1.) What was the finding of the Board in this case?
 - (2.) Did not the evidence of Mr. Wilshire, Conditional Purchase Inspector, prove Jeffries' *bonâ-fides*?
 - (3.) Was that not corroborated by a number of independent witnesses?
 - (4.) Upon whose report did he act when he sent this case on for inquiry under section 20 of the Crown Lands Act of 1894?
 - (5.) Will he state the nature of that report, and the names of the persons making it?
 - (6.) Is he aware that Arthur Jeffries has been put to a considerable amount of expense and loss of time in being called upon to prove his *bonâ-fides*?
 - (7.) Will he make provision for the repayment to Arthur Jeffries of the amount of money he has been compelled to expend in respect to this case?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—I must refer the Honorable Member to the papers in this case, laid upon the Table on the 26th August last, for the information he requires.
- (10.) Administration of the Birds Protection Act:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that two men were lately mulcted at the Forbes Police Court in the penalty of £10 for shooting in contravention of the Game Laws?
 - (2.) At whose instigation were such men brought before the Police Court at Forbes?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that two more men since then have also had to pay fines of £2 and £3 each at the Forbes Police Court for a similar offence?

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(4.) Will he make inquire of the police at Forbes if a contravention of the Game Laws has not within the last two weeks taken place at Euabalong, near Forbes, and if any attempt has been made by the police to bring the transgressors of the law to justice; if not, why not?

(5.) Has his attention been directed to a report of the matter that appeared in the *Forbes Times* of the 9th October instant, under the signature "Theodomas," and also in the *Daily Telegraph* of the 8th instant?

Mr. Bruncker answered.—I have no information in regard to the matters referred to, but I will call for a report from the Police.

(11.) Cadet Corps in connection with Public Schools:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) The number of Cadet Corps in the Colony in connection with our Public Schools?

(2.) The number in each corps?

(3.) The name of the school to which the corps belongs?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I will lay this information, in the form of a return, upon the Table next week.

(12.) Regulations under Public Health and Dairies Supervision Acts:—Mr. F. Clarke asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Regulations recently issued by the Board of Health, with reference to the requirements of the Public Health and Dairies Supervision Acts, are pressing with undue severity on many dairymen and milk-vendors?

(2.) Will he cause careful inquiries to be made, with a view of rendering such Regulations more practical and better adapted for application to sparsely-populated country districts?

Mr. Reid answered.—No new Regulations under the Dairies Supervision Act have been issued by the Board of Health, and it is not known that those gazetted on 18th November, 1887, are pressing with undue severity on dairymen and milk-vendors. The Act was recently extended to the Macleay River District, and the dairymen having neglected to comply with its requirements during the three months' grace allowed by Statute, made complaint that the local authority threatened to refuse to register them, whereby their business would be interfered with. Although this was entirely due to their own neglect to comply with the law, the Board, nevertheless, advised the local authority to enforce the Act with discretion, and so as not unduly to harass the applicants, but, at the same time, to take care that it was not altogether ignored. No further communication having reached the Board, it is believed that this concession has had the desired effect.

(13.) The Tick Pest:—Mr. F. Clarke asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) What steps (if any) are being taken to prevent the introduction of the tick pest into this Colony?

(2.) Considering the proximity of the northern parts of this Colony to Queensland, and the loss which would be incurred by stockholders if the plague spreads, will he at once take steps to prevent its introduction, and also practically test the efficacy of inoculation as a remedy?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered.—This Government is in constant communication with the Queensland Government, and obtaining information as to the prevalence of tick fever there, and the steps taken to prevent its spread. A proclamation has been in force since 4th February, 1896, against the introduction of Queensland cattle from the portion of that Colony infected or suspected of being infected; and cattle from clean portions are only admitted on declaration by the owner that they are free from disease, and certificate by an Inspector for the district from which they come to the same effect, and after close inspection at the Border. More than one Intercolonial Conference has been held at the instance of this Colony for the purpose of concerting measures for dealing with the pest, and preventing its spread from Queensland. Every possible precaution is taken against the introduction of the disease into this Colony, and inoculation will be adopted when it is absolutely proved to be a safe and effective preventive. This has not been the case so far, as the Department of Agriculture, Queensland, in a communication to this Department last month, stated that, "while encouraging results have been produced, it has not yet been proved scientifically " to be a complete protection or preventive."

(14.) Visit of Messrs. Coghlan, Vernon, and Anderson, to England:—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) With respect to the visits to England of the public officers, Messrs. Coghlan, Vernon, and Anderson, from what sources are the expenses paid?

(2.) Are they public or private?

Mr. Reid answered.—Mr. Coghlan.—Allowed full salary payable from the amount provided for the position he occupies as member of the Public Service Board. Mr. Vernon.—Allowed full salary payable from the amount voted for the position of Government Architect, and an amount not exceeding £200 (subject to Parliament voting same) to cover the actual cost of travelling expenses. £200 has been paid by Public Works Department in anticipation of a vote being obtained. Mr. Anderson.—Allowed full salary payable from the amount voted for the position of Principal Librarian; also, subject to vote of Parliament, actual travelling expenses not exceeding £200. This amount has not yet been paid.

(15.) Model or Government Farms:—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) As a question of public policy, can he state to what extent the Government intend to go in the matter of the establishment of model or Government farms?

(2.) Does he favour the establishment of State farms in every district, or does he propose to confine them to distinctly different zones; and has he considered the matter of future expenditure in this regard?

Mr.

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Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The policy of the Government is to establish these farms in different zones where the soil and climate is distinct in character, and it is proposed to have demonstrated at other smaller farms in different centres the improved systems of working proved by the experiments made at the Government Model Farms. The question of the cost involved in the establishment of a farm is always taken into consideration, and it is held that the advantages to be derived from improved methods of cultivation justify the expenditure of public funds to improve the condition of agriculture, and to extend educational facilities to the farmers and producers of the Colony.

(16.) Old-age Pensions :—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has his attention been directed to the fact that the Government of New Zealand intend to devote £120,000 of their surplus of £524,000 to the maintenance of a system of old-age pensions?
- (2.) If so, will he take into consideration at an early date the desirableness of legislating for the establishment of a system of old-age pensions in New South Wales?

Mr. Reid answered,—This is a very large Question, and I confess I cannot at present announce any policy in connection with it. I would be very glad if the Honorable Member would draw up a scheme for me if he is not busy.

(17.) Tamworth—Manilla Railway :—*Mr. Moore* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will tenders be invited for the construction of the Tamworth—Manilla railway?

Mr. Young answered,—Tenders will be invited before the end of this month.

(18.) Wentworth Gold-mining Company :—*Mr. James Thomson*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Has any complaint been lodged against the Wentworth Gold-mining Company for non-compliance with the labour conditions?
- (2.) What action does he intend to take?
- (3.) Will he see that the mining law is complied with?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—A communication was received from the Honorable Member on the 12th instant, and a petition from miners and others in the district this morning, but he is doubtless aware that, under the 34th section of the Mining on Private Lands Act, the Warden is the only person empowered to deal with the question of the suspension of labour conditions, and before taking action I communicated with him, and am in receipt of his reply to the effect that an application was received by him on the 8th instant for suspension of the labour conditions, and that he has appointed the 22nd instant as the date for hearing the case. He also advises me that he has granted suspension of the labour conditions pending such hearing.

(19.) Works at Cook's River :—*Mr. Wheeler*, for *Mr. Molesworth*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he state when the authorised works at Cook's River will be carried out?

Mr. Young answered,—Tenders will be invited next week.

(20.) The Strike at Lucknow :—*Mr. Hughes* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has he received a letter from *Mr. Lock*, the manager of the Wentworth Gold-mining Company, Lucknow, in connection with the matters under dispute, or in reference to the labour conditions under the Act under which the lease is granted?
- (2.) If so, what was the nature of such letter, and the nature of his reply (if any)?

Mr. Reid answered,—

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

(21.) Members of the Public Works Committee :—*Mr. Haynes* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has his attention been called to the disposition of public business as concerns one of his Departments, whereby a number of Members of Parliament forming the Public Works Committee are able to remain away from their Parliamentary duties while the House is sitting, and discharge duties for which they draw large fees and expenses?
- (2.) Can he see his way to terminate this practice?

Mr. Reid answered,—There is no doubt that this subject is one which should engage the attention of the Government before the close of the Parliament.

2. LICENSING LAWS :—*Mr. Willis* presented a Petition from certain residents of New South Wales, stating that, in the opinion of Petitioners, the present measure of Sunday-closing has been very beneficial in the reduction of the number of arrests for intemperance; and praying the House not to consent to any alteration of the law to provide for the opening of public-houses at certain hours on Sundays.
Petition received.

3. TRUCK BILL :—*Mr. Young* presented a Petition from certain residents at Kendall, Camden Haven, &c., praying that the Truck Bill now before the House may be amended so as to bring timber-getters under the protection of the proposed law, and that the measure may be placed upon the Statute Book with the least possible delay.
Petition received.

4. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS :—*Mr. Lee*, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendix, and Plans, relating to the proposed new Bridge at Glebe Island.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

14th October, 1897.

5. ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1897-8, AND STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS FROM VOTE ADVANCE TO TREASURER ON ACCOUNT OF SERVICES OF THE YEAR 1896-7:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 49.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the accompanying Estimates of Expenditure for the year ending 30th June, 1898, together with a Statement of payments from the vote "Advance to Treasurer, 1896-7," on account of the Services of the year 1896-7, submitted for Parliamentary Appropriation in Adjustment of the Advance Vote.

Government House,
Sydney, 14th October, 1897.

Ordered to be printed, together with the accompanying Estimates and Statement, and referred to the Committee of Supply.

6. ENTRY ON PRIVATE LAND BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 50.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to provide for the entry on any lands for the purposes of making preliminary surveys for railways, tramways, waterworks, sewerage works, canals, stormwater channels, drains, embankments for the protection of low-lying lands from flood-waters, or other works.

Government House,
Sydney, 14th October, 1897.

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

7. SERVICE OF EQUITABLE PROCESS BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 51.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend and declare the law relating to the Service of Process in the Supreme Court in its Equitable Jurisdiction; and for other purposes connected therewith*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,
Sydney, 14th October, 1897.

8. PAPERS:—

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during September, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Accounts of the South Head Roads Trust for the half-year ending 30th June, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

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

- (1.) Illegitimacy Disability Removal Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
- (2.) Municipalities Franchise Extension Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
- (3.) Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday next.
- (4.) Grand Jury Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday next.
- (5.) Prisoners' Gaol Regulation Bill; second reading;—until Thursday next.
- (6.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Thursday next.
- (7.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Thursday next.

11. ENTRY ON PRIVATE LAND BILL:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide for the entry on any lands for the purposes of making preliminary surveys for railways, tramways, waterworks, sewerage works, canals, stormwater channels, drains, embankments for the protection of low-lying lands from flood-waters, or other works. Question put and passed.

14th October, 1897.

12. COAL MINES REGULATION ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Archibald Campbell moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Wednesday next.
13. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.
The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
(2.) *Resolved*,—That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding £1,347 for the Establishment of His Excellency the Governor for the year 1897–8.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
14. WAYS AND MEANS (*Financial Statement*):—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 15 OCTOBER, 1897, A.M.

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

15. PAPER:—Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Estimates of the Ways and Means of the Government of New South Wales for the year 1897–8.
Ordered to be printed.
16. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
The House adjourned accordingly, at One o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 60.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 19 OCTOBER, 1897.

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

CLERGY WIDOWS AND ORPHANS FUND (SYDNEY DIOCESE) TRUSTEES BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
HAMPDEN, Message No. 52.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "An Act to vest the property, in or upon the security of which the moneys belonging to the Clergy Widows and Orphans Fund are or may be hereafter invested, in the Trustees for the time being of such Fund; and for other purposes,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,
Sydney, 15th October, 1897.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Imports of Flour, Maize, &c.:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) The number of bags of flour imported into the Colony from 1st October, 1896, to 1st October, 1897?
- (2.) The number of bags of wheat, oats, barley, peas, maize, and all kinds of other seeds?
- (3.) The number of bags of potatoes, chaff, bales of chaff, bales of hay, straw, &c.?
- (4.) The value of all the above imports?
- (5.) The quantity of jam, fruit, pumpkins, butter, bacon, cheese, hams, eggs; also the value of all the above?

Mr. Reid answered,—I will lay upon the Table a return giving the required information, if moved for in the usual way. I would suggest that the exportations should be taken into the account also.

(2.) Net-fishing in Closed Waters in Lake Macquarie:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that Mr. Brodie, Chief Inspector of Fisheries, with others, has recently been net-fishing in closed waters in Lake Macquarie?
- (2.) If so, is it intended to prosecute the parties concerned?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) Such is not the case.
- (2.) Answered by No. 1.

(3.) Road at Jerry's Plains Hill, near Morrisett:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the road at Jerry's Plains Hill, near Morrisett, is in an almost impassable condition?
- (2.) Will he approve of the urgently-required work at this place being commenced at once?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will postpone these Questions until Thursday, to enable me to receive a report from the Local Road Superintendent upon the state of this road.

(4.) Alleged Cases of Dummying on New Angledool Station, near Walgett:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that there are eight homestead leases of about 10,240 acres each on New Angledool Station, Narren River, near Walgett (and originally belonging to the late Mr. Newcomen), alleged to be flagrant cases of dummyism?
- (2.) Will he see that steps are taken to have a searching investigation made into the matter?
- (3.) Did the Progress Committee of New Angledool ever on any occasion report to the Lands Department the existence of these alleged dummy homesteads; if so, when, and what steps (if any) have been taken in the matter?
- (4.) What action (if any) do the Government intend to take to put a stop to this alleged wholesale system of land dummyism which is carried on in the Colony?

Mr.

19th October, 1897.

Mr. Brunker answered,—The New Angledool Progress Committee asked the Minister to “cause some inquiries to be made as to the *bona fides* of homestead and other leases in the Narran district,” but when asked to specify the leases refused to do so. If the Honorable Member will furnish the required information inquiry will be made, but until reliable evidence is forthcoming the Government are powerless to deal with the alleged wholesale system of dummying.

- (5.) Lavatories for Second-class Railway Carriages:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Railway Commissioners to have all second-class carriages fitted up with suitable lavatories for the better convenience of the travelling public on long journeys; if so, when?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that it is the intention of the Railway Commissioners to extend the use of the second-class lavatory carriages, and additional carriages will be provided as speedily as other rolling-stock requirements will permit.

- (3.) Road from Nyngan to Bobadah:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
(1.) How long is it since an application was first made for a road to be surveyed from Nyngan to Bobadah?
(2.) When will this road be gazetted?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) The first application for the opening of this road was made by *Mr. Waddell, M.P.*, on the 16th November, 1896, and, after necessary report, the surveyor was instructed to survey the proposed line, plan of which was forwarded to this office on the 7th of last month.
(2.) In about a week.

- (7.) Selection by Arthur Jeffries, Land District of Deniliquin:—*Mr. Chanter* asked the Secretary for Lands,—Referring to Question No. 9, on 14th October, and Answer thereto, will he supply the information required in paragraphs Nos. 4 and 5, as the papers laid upon the Table of this House on 26th August do not supply it?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The information received was of a confidential character, and was submitted to the Crown Law Officers for advice as to proceedings thereon, and no useful public purpose would be served by disclosing details.

- (8.) Postage on the *Mining Manual of Australasia*:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Lyne*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is the *Mining Manual of Australasia* a Government publication?
(2.) If not, is he aware that circulars, &c., in reference to this publication, are sent throughout the Colony under cover of O.H.M.S. envelopes?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This is not a Government publication; but it is designed to supply a want that has been much felt by the mining public in obtaining information regarding mining properties in the whole of the Colonies. The information is to be made as complete as possible; and it is considered of such importance that the Government of one of the Colonies has subsidised the work to the extent of some £600 and a free pass over the railway lines. Assistance of the kind was asked from this Department, but declined. The proprietor then pointed out that the names of lessees of mining properties in New South Wales were only obtainable from the official books, and asked that circulars, which he provided, might be despatched by the Department. As the information when published will be of great value to those engaged in mining, I agreed that the Department should render some help by sending the circulars to the mine-owners, and the whole cost of this, even if postage were paid, would not exceed the sum of £10.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Return respecting the Public School Cadet Corps.
(2.) Return showing names and rank of persons employed on board the N.S.S. “*Sobraon*.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Amended Gaol Regulation No. 35.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Return respecting the Finances of the Colony.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—Report of the Royal Commission to Inquire into the Management of the Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board; together with Minutes of Proceedings, Evidence, and Appendices.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. RETIREMENT OF MR. DAVID BARNETT, GLEBE ISLAND ABATTOIRS (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. Neild* moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers relating to the retirement of *Mr. David Barnett*, for seven years Sub-inspector at Glebe Island Abattoirs. Question put and passed.
5. COAL USED BY THE RAILWAY DEPARTMENT (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. Edden* moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) The number of tons of coal annually used by the Railway Department.
(2.) The number of tenders accepted by the Railway Department for the supply of coal for the year 1897.
(3.) The names of the coal companies whose tenders were accepted.
(4.) The price paid for the coal supplied by the various companies.
Question put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th October, 1897.

6. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
- (1.) Eight Hours Bill; second reading;—until Thursday next.
 - (2.) Public Service Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Thursday next.
 - (3.) Illegitimacy Disability Removal Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday, 27th October.
 - (4.) Municipalities Franchise Extension Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday, 27th October.
 - (5.) Attachment of Wages Abolition Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
7. **SUNDAY TRADING BILL**:—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 and regulate Sunday trading.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
8. **WORKING HOURS OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES**:—Mr. McGowen moved, pursuant to Notice,—That, in the opinion of this House, all Government employees (servants of the Railway Commissioners included) "should" work not more than forty-eight hours in any one week.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Garrard moved, That the Question be amended by inserting after the word "should," in line 2, the words "as far as practicable."
Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted.
Debate continued.
Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted,—put and negatived.
Original Question then put and passed.
9. **CLAIM OF JAMES AND PATRICK GUIHEN, OF KANGAROO VALLEY**.—Mr. Alexander Campbell, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 27th July, 1897, together with Appendix.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
10. **COLLISION BETWEEN THE "SOL" AND "ALATHEA" STEAMERS**:—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Collision between the "Sol" and 'Alathea' steamers," brought up on 11th November, 1896, be now adopted.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 24.

Dr. Ross,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Canu.
Mr. Hogue,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. T. R. Smith,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,	Mr. Macdonald.
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. Travers Jones,	
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Neild,	
Mr. Thomas,	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. Perry,	

Noes, 32.

Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Aflack,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Reid,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Lonsdale.
Mr. Rigg,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Bavister,	
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Gormly,	Mr. Cruickshank.

And so it passed in the negative.

11. **SUGAR INDUSTRY IN THE NORTH COAST DISTRICTS**:—Mr. McFarlane moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House,—
- (1.) It is expedient that a Royal Commission be appointed to inquire into and report upon the following:—(a) As to the possibilities of continuing the sugar industry in the North Coast Districts, and, if so, under what conditions; (b) as to the most satisfactory arrangements to be made for mutual advantage between the cane-planters and the manufacturers, with the view to continuing the industry; (c) as to the best methods of cultivating land for sugar crops, and the selection of suitable varieties of cane for producing the best and most reliable crops; (d) as to the terms upon which the cane-growers might, with the assistance of the Government, acquire the Colonial Sugar Refining Company's mills and plant; (e) as to whether it would be practicable or politic to introduce into these districts the system in practice in Queensland under the Sugar Works Guarantee Act; (f) as to the possibility, in the event of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company removing their mills and plant, of capitalists embarking in the erection of milling machinery in these districts; (g) as to the most profitable purpose to which lands in use for cane-growing may be put in the event of the sugar industry being abandoned, having in view a liberal employment of European labour and the securing of profitable markets for the productions raised; (h) and, generally, into all matters appertaining to the sugar industry, the relations of planter and manufacturer, and landlord and tenant, and to report, accompanied by recommendations, fully thereon.
 - (2.) That the foregoing resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
- Debate ensued.
Mr. Molesworth moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday, 9th November.

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

F. W. WEBB,
*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 61.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 20 OCTOBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Proposed Railway from Liverpool to Mulgoa:—*Dr. Ross*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has the survey of the railway line from Liverpool to Mulgoa been completed?

(2.) If so, will he say when the report will be ready?

(3.) Will he have this matter dealt with, and placed before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works during the present Session?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) I am informed the report will be ready in about six weeks.

(3.) I will consider this when the report is before me.

(2.) Imports and Exports *via* the Darling River:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Willis, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has he any objection to laying upon the Table of this House a return showing—(a) The value of the imports received into New South Wales in the towns situated on the river Darling, both from Victoria and South Australia, for the past three years; (b) the value of the exports from New South Wales, per river Darling, both to Victoria and South Australia for the last three years; said return to specify the different items of produce, such as wool, &c.?

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.

(3.) Increments to Officers of the Marine Board:—*Mr. Chanter* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that no annual increment has been paid to the officers of the Marine Board, as provided for in the Regulations, since the 31st December, 1892?

(2.) What are the reasons for depriving these officers, if entitled to the receipt of this annual increment, of its payment?

(3.) Is it intended to recoup these officers the amount due to them in any other form?

(4.) If so, when, and in what manner?

Mr. Reid answered,

(1.) Not since the 31st December, 1893.

(2.) The increases under these Regulations were suspended because of the reductions made in other Departments of the Government Service.

(3 and 4.) The Government are in possession of a Report from the Royal Commission dealing with these matters, which will be attended to shortly.

(4.) Public Roads Schedule:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will he lay upon the Table of this House the Road Schedule, showing the distribution of the Road Vote for 1897-98?

Mr. Young answered,—So soon as the Estimates of my Department are ready to be dealt with.

(5.) The Unemployed:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—What is the total number of unemployed registered on the books of the Sydney Labour Bureau for the month of September in each year from its establishment to the 1st October, 1897?

Mr. Garrard answered,—September, 1892, 751; September, 1893, 977; September, 1894, 754; September, 1895, 1,104; September, 1896, 584; September, 1897, 385.

(6.)

20th October, 1897.

(6.) Maintenance of Fire Brigades by Insurance Companies:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to the fact that, though the law enacts that insurance companies shall contribute one-third of the cost of providing apparatus and maintaining fire brigades, they have availed themselves of a technical defect in the statute to refuse or neglect to pay their subsidies towards the maintenance of fire brigades?

(2.) If so, will he take steps to at once remedy the defect in that law?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I have to inform the Honorable Member that a Bill has been prepared, and will be introduced as early as possible. It may be satisfactory to the Honorable Member to know that the provision to which he refers in his Question has been inserted in the Bill.

(7.) Pupil-teachers:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Will he state the number of pupil-teachers who have passed the examination this year, but who are still without appointments?

(2.) The total number of such pupil-teachers awaiting appointments?

(3.) Is there any system to prevent the list increasing to such an extent as to prevent the possibility of appointment to those who pass?

(4.) Is it a fact that only female pupil-teachers from the Education Department are eligible for appointments in the Telephone Exchange?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) Thirty-two applicant pupil-teachers.

(2.) Sixty-five applicant pupil-teachers in the whole Colony.

(3.) Yes; all examinations are now competitive, and only the number likely to be required within a reasonable period are accepted.

(4.) I am unable to say. Applicant pupil-teachers have been taken on by the Post Office Department.

(8.) Settlement Leases on the Derribong and Weemabah Subdivisions:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has the Dubbo Local Land Board granted or confirmed of late any settlement leases on the Derribong and Weemabah subdivisions; if so, to whom, and the area in each case respectively, and annual rent per acre of the same?

(2.) What is the assessed capital value per acre of the land or settlement leases so granted on these subdivisions?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Board has not yet reported to Head Office as to their decisions on applications made for settlement leases on Derribong and Weemabah holdings, but inquiry will be made and the result communicated to the Honorable Member.

(9.) Fees to Jurors attending Courts:—Mr. Waddell asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) What are the rates paid per day to jurors for attending Courts?

(2.) What is the allowance per mile paid for distance travelled by jurors when attending Courts?

(3.) Under what authority are these payments sanctioned?

(4.) Is it his intention to amend the law, and increase the payments for such services?

Mr. Gould answered,—I will lay upon the Table of this House a return giving the information sought for.

(10.) Medical and Dentists Bills:—Mr. Frank Farnell, for Dr. Graham, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will he, in view of promises made, afford an opportunity this Session for dealing with the Medical Bill and the Dentists Bill, already passed by the Legislative Council, and now before the Legislative Assembly as the measures of a private Member?

(2.) Referring to a statement made by him last Session, when the Public Health Bill and Pharmacy Bill were being dealt with, that the Government also desired to see a Medical and Dentists Bill carried into law, as essential safeguards to the public health, will he grant an opportunity for dealing with these important measures before this Session closes?

Mr. Reid answered,—If the Dentists Bill is not likely to meet with opposition I may be able to do something in the way of giving the Honorable Member a chance of dealing with it. As to the Medical Bill, that is not a Bill which the Government has introduced, and it would be a matter of very serious consideration with me as to whether I could take it up.

(11.) Dummying on Crown Lands:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has the Lands Department ever suffered to any great extent from persons who have fraudulently taken up Crown lands in the capacity of dummies for other people?

(2.) Will he state the number of convictions (if any) that have taken place by persons who have dummyed land under the various Land Acts since 1861?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) The public interest and estate has undoubtedly suffered in this respect.

(2.) There is no record of these in the Lands Department, which deals only with the penalty of forfeiture.

(12.) Additions to the General Post Office:—Mr. Hughes asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Why are the additions to the General Post Office being still delayed?

(2.) Is he aware that room for at least fifty more men could readily be found in connection with the above?

(3.) Will he see that the matter is expedited?

Mr. Cook answered,—These Questions should be addressed to the Secretary for Public Works.

(13.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

20th October, 1897.

- (13.) Barbed-wire Fences:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Seeing that accidents continually occur with barbed-wire fences, will he see that some steps are taken to prevent barbed-wire from being used in fences on the main or public roads in the Colony.
 - (2.) Is it a fact that Road-Superintendent Stillwell, of Orange, was nearly killed at Wellington last week from this very cause?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) I am not aware of the accidents referred to. This Department does not put up barbed-wire fencing on the roads, and I have no power to prevent property-owners so doing.
 - (2.) I am not aware that Mr. Stillwell's injury was due to a barbed-wire fence.
- (14.) Circulars sent to Chairman of Local Land Boards and District Surveyors:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he lay upon the table of this House all circulars that he has sent to Chairman of Local Land Boards and District Surveyors during the present year?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—Inasmuch as these circulars are in most instances of a confidential character, I cannot undertake to comply with the request of the Honorable Member.
- (15.) Refunds of Income Tax:—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. See, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What amount has actually been refunded to the persons who paid the tax, out of the £305,316 7s. 4d. collected under the head of Income Tax, for the year ending 30th June, 1897?
 - (2.) What amount is yet to be returned?
 - (3.) What amount has actually been refunded out of the £125,640 sterling, collected under the head of Income Tax for the period from the 1st July to 30th September, 1897?
 - (4.) What amount is yet to be returned?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) The total amount actually refunded on account of Income Tax from 1st July, 1896, to 30th June, 1897, was £25,545 8s. 6d.
 - (2.) See reply to Question 4.
 - (3.) The total amount actually refunded on account of Income Tax from 1st July to 30th September, 1897, was £21,952 0s. 2d., but it is not possible at the present time to apportion it as desired.
 - (4.) It is estimated that there are further sums, totalling about £5,000, which are now in course of refund.
- (16.) The Public Accounts:—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. See, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—The names of the Banks in which the Government keep the Public Accounts?
- Mr. Reid answered,—The Banks in which the Public Accounts are kept are—in London, the Bank of England, the London and Westminster Bank; in Sydney, the Bank of New South Wales, the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney (Limited), the City Bank.
- (17.) Drawback and Refund of Duties Special Appropriations:—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. See, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he be good enough to inform the House how the amount of £50,748 16s. is made up, under the heading of drawbacks and refund of duties in the Special Appropriation, for the period 1st July to 30th September, 1897?
- Mr. Reid answered,—There was no such expenditure under the heading of drawbacks and refund of duties during the period mentioned.
- (18.) Expenses of the Federal Convention, 1897:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—How much money has been spent on the Federal Convention up to this date, distinguishing the amount spent in 1891 from 1897 respectively?
- Mr. Reid answered,—It will be more convenient to give the information in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.
- (19.) Improvements to Entrances of Manning, Macleay, and Bellinger Rivers:—Mr. McFarlane asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What are the respective amounts that have been voted for improving the entrances to the Manning, Macleay, Nambucca, and Bellinger Rivers?
 - (2.) What amount has actually been expended upon each of these works to date?
 - (3.) What is the estimated amount each work will cost?
 - (4.) Is it the intention of the Government to refer them to the Public Works Committee, in order that the whole of the works may be fully investigated, and the most useful and practical method adopted in regard to the whole of the schemes?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) Manning River, £27,000; Macleay River, £16,000; Nambucca River, £8,000; Bellinger River, £27,000.
 - (2.) Manning River, £21,176 18s. 5d.; Macleay River, £13,473 16s. 8d.; Nambucca River, £4,645 7s. 6d.; Bellinger River, £23,524 8s. 2d.
 - (3.) Recent reports from the Engineer-in-Chief for Public Works show that the following expenditure would be necessary:—Manning River, £114,000; Macleay River, £102,500; Nambucca River, £73,000; Bellinger River, £36,500.
 - (4.) That is my intention.
- (20.) Dogs Registered during 1897:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) The number of dogs that have been registered in the Colony during the present year?
 - (2.) The amount received in registration fees?
 - (3.) Will he see that some steps are taken to compel owners to provide all registered dogs with leather or other suitable collars, or distinguishing badge and registered number, to enable the public and police to distinguish the registered from unregistered?

Mr.

20th October, 1897.

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been received from the Inspector-General of Police:—

(1 and 2.) It would take considerable time and labour to procure this information from all the Clerks of Petty Sessions in the Colony, but the particulars will be obtainable at the Treasury when the returns are received. I may add, for the Honorable Member's information, that the time for registration only expired on the 14th instant, and considering that there are about 300 Courts of Petty Sessions to receive returns from it is impossible for me to supply the information.

(3.) The Act authorises the destruction of all dogs at large without a collar with name and address of owner engraved thereon.

- (21.) Selection by Arthur Jeffries, Land District of Deniliquin:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—Referring to Questions No. 9, of 14th October, and No. 7, of 19th October, and the replies thereto, will he now, in consideration of the utter unreliability of the information he received having been proved before the Land Board, recoup the selector Arthur Jeffries the amount of his costs at the Land Board hearing?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The matter will be considered on return of the papers from the local Land Board if an application to that effect is made to me.

- (22.) Rent of School Teachers Residences:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Will he instruct the Public Service Board to assess the rental of school residences on the merits of the various buildings as against any general scheme of classification?
 (2.) How long have the Board now been considering this question of revising rentals of school-teachers' residences?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Public Service Board have to carry out their duties in accordance with the directions laid down in the Public Service Act, but, as I explained last week in an Answer given to a previous Question on this subject, the Board have had some trouble in coming to a just conclusion, the matter being surrounded with considerable difficulties. The Board, however, hope very shortly to come to a definite decision on the subject.

2. LITHGOW CO-OPERATIVE COAL COMPANY RAILWAY BILL:—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), praying for leave to bring in a Bill to authorise the construction of a railway from land in the parish of Marangaroo, to communicate and connect with the Great Western Railway. And Mr. Hogue having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Daily Telegraph* and *Lithgow Mercury*, newspapers, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—
 Petition received.

3. RABBIT BILL:—Mr. Thomas Brown presented a Petition from landholders and selectors resident in the Bulbodney District, being members of the Bulbodney Selectors' Association, representing that Petitioners are seriously affected by the presence of the rabbit and other noxious animal pests, and that they will be materially advantaged by effective legislation dealing therewith; and praying that, when considering the Rabbit Bill, the House will favourably consider the 20th clause of the Rabbit Conference Draft Bill, making it sufficiently elastic to embrace wallabies and other noxious animals.
 Petition received.

4. PAPERS:—

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Report of the Government Labour Bureau for the year ended 30th June, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—Plan of Sydney and Suburban Sewerage System—Appendix to accompany Report of Royal Commission to Inquire into the Management of the Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, laid upon the Table on 19th October, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Comparative Statement by the Victorian Statist respecting the average number of hands employed in the Industries of Victoria and New South Wales.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide additional facilities for the acquirement of education, and for other purposes connected therewith.
 Question put and passed.

6. CUSTOMS (COMMISSIONERS') BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 53.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th Section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend the Customs Regulation Act, 1879.

Government House,

Sydney, 20th October, 1897.

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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

20th October, 1897.

7. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Cobar, Mr. Waddell, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The unsatisfactory state of the roads of the Colony.” And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Waddell moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Point of Order :—Mr. Reid submitted to Mr. Speaker that the subject of Mr. Waddell's Notice could be discussed in Committee on the Estimates or in Committee of Ways and Means, and should not be allowed to occupy the time of the House on a motion for adjournment.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker, citing several previous rulings on similar cases, and particularly that given on the 10th September, 1896, decided that this discussion was out of order.

8. LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled “*An Act to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years, and for the assessment of incomes of companies and persons owning or chartering ships and the payment of Income Tax on the same; to amend section 23 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895; to amend the provisions for appeals; to limit the deductions from the taxable amount in respect of interest; to provide for valuation rolls; to make better provision in respect of assessment-books and refunds of taxes; and for purposes incidental to the above objects*,”—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, including amendments in the Title, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 20th October, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 20th October, 1897.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, Title, lines 6 to 12. *Omit* “and for the assessment of incomes of companies, and persons owning or chartering ships, and the payment of income tax on the same; to amend section 23 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895; to amend the provisions for appeals; to limit the deductions from the taxable amount in respect of interest; to provide for valuation rolls.”

Page 1, Title, lines 13 and 14. *Omit* “and refunds of taxes”

Page 2, clause 1, line 6. *Before* “if” *insert* “but not more so than”

Page 2, clause 1, line 7. *Omit* “said” *insert* “last mentioned”

Page 2, clause 2. At end of clause *add* “Provided that nothing in this section shall so far as regards the costs of any appeal now pending, or the amount of any assessment of land or income, prejudice or affect any appeal now pending under the Principal Act, or any notice of appeal, notice of objection, or other proceeding, matter, or thing relating thereto respectively.”

Page 2, clause 3, line 30. *After* “days” *insert* “or other longer time as aforesaid”

Page 2, clause 3. At end of clause *add* “and that nothing in this section shall, so far as regards the costs of any appeal now pending, or the amount of any assessment of land or income, prejudice or affect any appeal now pending under the Principal Act, or any notice of appeal, notice of objection, or other proceeding, matter, or thing relating thereto respectively.”

Page 2, clause 4, lines 41 and 42. *Omit* “any year subsequent to the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven” *insert* “the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight.”

Page 2, clause 4, line 46. *Omit* “thought proper” *insert* “prescribed by regulations in that behalf”

Page 2, clause 4, line 55. *After* “be” *insert* “*prima facie*”

Page 3, clause 4, line 9. *After* “amount” *insert* “unless it be proved by the taxpayer that such notice was not in fact received by him until a later date, in which case the time both as to his liability to pay the fine and as to his rights of appeal under this or the Principal Act shall begin to run from the day on which the notice was actually received by him or on his behalf”

Page 3, clause 5. *Omit* “clause” 5 *insert* the following new clause :—

No assessment-book in respect of land tax or income tax shall be deemed incomplete, and no notice given in respect of land tax or income tax shall be deemed invalid, by reason of any error or omission in any such book or in any such notice: Provided that the Commissioners have certified under their hands that such book is complete, so far as the information at their disposal will permit.

Assessment-books not to be deemed incomplete by reason of any errors.

But

20th October, 1897.

But the Commissioners may, after certifying as aforesaid, add to the book the assessment and other prescribed particulars in respect of any land or income which may, after so certifying, be ascertained to be liable to land tax or income tax.

Page 3, clauses 6 to 8. *Omit* clauses 6 to 8.

Pages 3 and 4, clauses 10 to 13. *Omit* clauses 10 to 13.

Page 4, clause 15. *Omit* clause 15.

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Mr. Speaker stated that he felt bound to call the attention of the House to the action of the Legislative Council in thus amending one of a class of Bills which this House denies the right of the Council to amend. He also pointed out what had been the usual practice of this House in similar cases.

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Bill be laid aside.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

9. **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 at a later hour of the day.

10. **HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Free Conference*):**—The time having arrived for holding the Free Conference with the Legislative Council, the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker, called over the names of the Managers appointed on behalf of the Assembly.

And Mr. Fegan and Mr. Gillies not answering,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Gould and Mr. Nelson were appointed in the room of those who had not answered.

The Managers then proceeded to the Conference, attended by the Sergeant-at-Arms, the business of the House being suspended during their absence, in accordance with Standing Order No. 231.

The Managers having returned,—

Mr. Young, on their behalf, brought up the following Report, which was read by the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker, viz. :—

The Managers appointed by the Legislative Assembly by resolution of 6th October, 1897, whereby a Free Conference with the Legislative Council was requested on the subject of the disagreements to certain of the Legislative Council's amendments in the Hunter District Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill, report to this Honourable House that, having met the Managers appointed by the Legislative Council in its behalf, the following resolutions were agreed upon, viz. :—

1. That the following words be inserted, to follow the word "notice" in the forty-second line of page 9 of the Bill:—"between which and the first notice not less than fourteen days shall "have elapsed"

2. And the following words be inserted, to follow the word "failure" in line 44 of that page:—"within seven days thereafter:"

3. To insert the words "wearing apparel" after the word "bedding" in line 51 of that page.

4. And amend the first line of Schedule B, to read as "one shilling" instead of "two "shillings"

Back Library,

20th October, 1897.

J. H. YOUNG.

Ordered, that the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Report brought up by the Assembly's Managers from the Free Conference stand an Order of the Day for Wednesday next.

11. **WAYS AND MEANS:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 62.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 21 OCTOBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Deviation at Clear Farm Hill:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has the deviation at Clear Farm Hill, on the road from Howes Valley to Putty, yet been confirmed?

(2.) If so, when will the urgently-required work at this place be commenced?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) The papers in this case are now being forwarded to the Executive Council, in order that approval of resumption of the land may be obtained, so that notice of resumption may very likely be gazetted in about a fortnight.

(2.) This is a matter to be dealt with by the Department of Public Works.

- (2.) Goods Traffic at the Narrabri West Railway Station:—Mr. Waddell, for Mr. Willis, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he instruct the proper authorities in the Railway Department to furnish the Secretary of the Walgett Railway League (Mr. Thomas Clarke, Walgett) with the amount of tonnage of goods received at the Narrabri West Railway Station during the past twelve months for towns north-west of that station—the information required having been refused when applied for direct?

Mr. Reid answered,—If the Walgett Railway League will communicate with the Railway Commissioners, giving particulars of the information desired, the Commissioners will endeavour to meet their wishes in the matter. I am informed, however, that the compilation of the information will be attended with difficulty, as in many instances goods which are sent to inland towns are not so directly consigned by railway.

- (3.) Protection of Wool and other Produce:—Mr. Macdonald asked the Minister of Justice,—In respect to legislation for the protection of consignors' wool and other produce while in the hands of selling agent, will he say if the Draft Bill upon the subject, which, according to his letter of 12th July, he ordered to be prepared, is yet completed; and whether, if so, has it yet been considered by the Cabinet, and with what result?

Mr. Gould answered,—I am informed by the Parliamentary Draftsman that the draft of the Bill in question is not yet completed, but is being prepared. When the draft is finally settled the Bill will be referred to Cabinet for consideration.

- (4.) Road at Jerry's Plains Hill, near Morrisett:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that the road at Jerry's Plains Hill, near Morrisett, is in an almost impassable condition?

(2.) Will he approve of the urgently-required work at this place being commenced at once?

Mr. Young answered,—I have given instructions for the necessary repairs to be carried out.

- (5.) Imports and Exports by Rail between Victoria and New South Wales:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What was the amount of tonnage transhipped from New South Wales to Victoria per rail during the year 1897, and the cost per ton of such transhipment?

(2.) What was the amount of tonnage transhipped from Victoria to New South Wales per rail during the year 1897, and the cost per ton of such transhipment?

(3.)

21st October, 1897.

- (3.) What was the total number of live stock transhipped from New South Wales to Victoria for the year 1897, and the cost per head or truck of such transhipment?
- (4.) What was the total number of live-stock transhipped from Victoria to New South Wales for the year 1897, and the cost per truck or per head of such transhipment?
- (5.) Similar information for the year 1896?
- Mr. Reid answered,—It will be more convenient to give the information in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.
- (6.) Gun Practice at South Head:—*Mr. Henry Clarke*, for Mr. McFarlane, asked the Colonial Secretary,—What will be the probable cost of the shot, shell, and submarine-mining practice announced to take place at South Head on Saturday next?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—It would be difficult to furnish the exact cost, as it forms part of the annual allowance allotted by regulations for service practice, but I am assured by the Major-General that no extra expenditure will be incurred.
- (7.) Jurymen serving on Coroners' Inquests:—*Mr. McGowen*, for Dr. Graham, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) What remuneration is paid to jurymen serving on Coroners' inquests in Sydney?
 - (2.) What principle is followed in selecting these jurymen?
 - (3.) Is it true that a number of men daily apply to the officer at the Coroner's Court to be put on these juries, presumably for the remuneration?
 - (4.) Is it true that the Coroner's juries in the city are largely composed of the same men?
 - (5.) Is it his intention to introduce any legislation that would effect a change in the present system of Coroners' inquests?
- Mr. Gould answered,—
- (1.) Five shillings per day; if more than three days on the same panel, an additional sum (for the fourth and every subsequent day) of 5s.
 - (2.) The Coroner informs me that he issues his warrant, addressed to his constable, or to a constable of the place where the body lies, requiring him to summon a competent number of good and lawful men to serve on the jury.
 - (3.) That it is true men frequently apply to the constable at the Coroner's Court to be put on juries, presumably for the remuneration, but they have very seldom been put on, and the Coroner has instructed the constable not to put any such men on juries.
 - (4.) That it is not true that Coroner's juries in the city are largely composed of the same men. His instructions are that no man is to be put on a jury more than once a month, but it is scarcely possible to carry out this instruction with absolute strictness, as sometimes, in urgent cases, the constable has very little time to summon a jury.
 - (5.) Not at the present time.
- (8.) Additions to the General Post Office:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Hughes, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Why are the additions to the General Post Office being still delayed?
 - (2.) Is he aware that room for at least fifty more men could readily be found in connection with the above?
 - (3.) Will he see that the matter is expedited?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) I am not aware of any delay; upwards of forty men are now employed there.
 - (2.) All the men for whom room can be found are at work.
 - (3.) It is being pushed as much as possible.
- (9.) Administration of the Birds Protection Act:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has he yet received from the Inspector-General of Police any report (in answer to Dr. Ross's Question of the 14th October) *re* the persons who lately went duck-shooting at Euabalong, near Forbes, in contravention of the Birds Protection Act?
 - (2.) What steps (if any) do the Police intend to take in the matter?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—These reports have been called for, but have not yet been received.
- (10.) Classified or Unclassified Roads in the Wagga Wagga District:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Gormly, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the quantity of land brought under cultivation in the Wagga Wagga District is rapidly extending, and that a large number of farmers are now, and have been for some time past, establishing homes in that district, while no corresponding improvement is being made either to the classified or unclassified roads?
 - (2.) Will he see that this state of neglect practised by his Department is remedied in the near future?
- Mr. Young answered,—It is known that, generally, cultivation is extending in these districts. The necessities of the district in the way of road making are being considered, in common with those of other districts, and will be dealt with as far as the funds placed at my disposal admit.
- (11.) Establishment of Public Schools in the Wagga Wagga District:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Gormly, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is he aware that in many parts of the Wagga Wagga District, where a considerable number of children reside, who are within the prescribed age, no Public School is provided?
 - (2.) Will he make a more liberal provision than now exists for establishing Public Schools in sparsely-populated places?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—These Questions are of too general a character to enable me to reply to them. If, however, the Honorable Member will state the localities he refers to, the matter will receive attention.

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(12.) Reserve Road on portion of the Willoughby Reserve :—*Mr. Bavister*, for *Mr. Howarth*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has the land west of St. Leonards railway station, being a portion of the Willoughby Reserve, been subdivided for sale; and does such subdivision close a public thoroughfare known as Reserve Road?

(2.) Is he aware that such road is the only means of access to the said station for people residing at Gore Hill?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) The Crown land opposite St. Leonards railway station is being subdivided for sale; there is, however, no public thoroughfare known as Reserve Road.

(2.) There is a track across this land used for direct access to the station, but it is not the only means of access thereto. I may add that due provision will be made in the subdivision for access to the station.

(13.) Overtime worked in the Land and Income Tax Department:—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that the officers of the Land and Income Tax Department are compelled to work from 9 a.m. till 5 p.m. without extra pay, while the recognised hours in other Government Departments are 9 a.m. till 4:30 p.m.?

(2.) Will he see that this is discontinued; or, if not, will he see that the officers so employed will be paid for this extra half-hour worked daily?

(3.) Is he also aware that the officers of the Land and Income Tax Department have not as yet been graded by the Public Service Board, although several have been employed temporarily since the Act came into operation, while the Public Service Act provides for temporary employment for nine months only?

(4.) When is it intended to have them graded by the Public Service Board?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The ordinary office hours will be resumed as soon as the state of the work shall render it practicable.

(3 and 4.) As was stated in reply to a somewhat similar Question a few weeks ago, the Public Service Board have deferred the grading of these officers until the Department has assumed what may be looked upon as its settled condition. To this Answer nothing can be added at present.

(14.) Report by Colonel Home on Irrigation and Water Conservation:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—What was the total cost to the Colony of Colonel Home's Irrigation Report?

Mr. Young answered,—£2,419 9s. 5d., exclusive of cost of printing the report.

(15.) Statement in Parramatta Paper respecting *Mr. Edward Terry*:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to the following statement taken from an article in a Parramatta paper:—"On several occasions (the latest only lately) *Mr. Edward Terry* has been asked if "he would accept a seat in the Upper House; but he does not believe in being fossilized"?

(2.) Will he be good enough to state whether any justification exists for the publication of such a statement?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) I know nothing of the matter referred to.

(16.) French Goods Exposed for Sale in certain Chemists' Shops:—*Mr. F. Clarke* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that in the shop windows of certain chemists of this city there are displayed in a conspicuous and attractive manner certain French goods called "preventives"?

(2.) If so, has he considered the pernicious effect such expositions may have upon the minds and morals of young and thoughtless people of both sexes?

(3.) Now that his attention is directed to this matter, will he take steps to prevent such exhibitions, either by the application of existing laws, or, failing that, by the immediate introduction of legislative measures dealing with the social evil?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The Inspector-General of Police has furnished me with the following replies:—

(1.) I am informed this is the case.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) A person was prosecuted to conviction for an offence of this nature, but the circumstances were exceptional. The police have the matter under observation.

(17.) Administration of the Patents Law Amendment Act, 1895:—*Mr. Neild* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is he aware that under the Patents Law Amendment Act, 1895, when the decision of the Minister of Justice is adverse to the opponent in an opposed application for leave to amend a specification of a patent, there is an appeal to the Equity Court, and that a similar right of appeal is denied to the applicant in such a case when the decision is adverse to him?

(2.) Will he administer the law in such a way as to give all parties to such opposed applications for leave to amend equal rights and equal facilities to bring their case within the jurisdiction of the non-official and non-political Courts of Justice?

(3.) Will he take steps to amend the Patents Law Amendment Act, 1895, in such way as to confer equality at law or in equity to all persons interested for or against the amendment of the specification of a patent?

Mr.

21st October, 1897.

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) I am aware of the provisions of the Patents Law Amendment Act of 1895.

(2.) It is my intention to administer the law in accordance with the provisions and intentions of the Act.

(3.) A Bill is now being drafted to consolidate and amend the Patents Law of this Colony, and to bring it up to date.

2. PAPER :—Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Schedule of Allowances to Jurors.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Price brought up the Twentieth Report from the Printing Committee.

4. LITHGOW CO-OPERATIVE COAL COMPANY RAILWAY BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Hogue moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill 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.

5. WAYS AND MEANS :—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 22 OCTOBER, 1897, A.M.

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

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

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

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having taken into consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 6th October, 1897, and also the Report of the Managers on its behalf of the Free Conference with the Legislative Assembly, with reference to the Hunter District Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill,—

Still insists upon its amendment in clause 21, but proposes to further amend such amendment by the insertion after the word "notice" of the words "between which and the first notice not less than fourteen days shall have elapsed"; by the insertion after the word "failure" of the words "within seven days thereafter"; and by the insertion after the word "bedding" of the words "wearing apparel"

Still insists upon the insertion of new Schedule B, but proposes to amend such new Schedule by the omission of the words "two shillings" and the insertion in their place of the words "one shilling"

In which further amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly,—

Still insists upon its other amendments disagreed to by the Assembly in this Bill.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 21st October, 1897.JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(2.) Moree to Inverell Railway Bill (No. 2) :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Moree to Inverell*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 21st October, 1897.JOHN LACKEY,
President.

The House adjourned, at Twenty-nine minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 63.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 26 OCTOBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Bridge or Punt Service at Rydalmere, Parramatta River:—Mr. Frank Farnell asked the Secretary for Public Works,—What action does he intend to take in regard to the matter of providing either a bridge or punt service at Rydalmere, on the Parramatta River?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The large cost of a suitable bridge makes such a work at present unjustifiable, but my honorable colleague will, as already promised, further consider the proposal for a punt service at an early date.

- (2.) Vegetation Diseases Bill:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) In view of the fact that apples affected by codlin moth are alleged to have recently been landed in New South Wales from New Zealand, will he take steps to facilitate the passage of the promised Vegetation Diseases Bill?

(2.) Is it a fact that, in the absence of such a measure, the New South Wales authorities are powerless to prevent the introduction of diseased fruit from the other Colonies?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) A Bill dealing with this matter has already passed the Assembly, and is now set down for second reading in the Legislative Council.

(2.) Yes.

- (3.) Water Supply to Suburban Residents:—*Mr. Affleck*, for Mr. Howarth, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Have some residents in the suburbs given the Water and Sewerage Board guarantees of payment of certain fees, in order to obtain supplies of water?

(2.) Are the amounts of such guaranteed fees overdue in some cases?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board have furnished me with the following replies:—

(1.) Bonds have been entered into by residents guaranteeing the payment of the difference between the amount of rates to be collected, and the sum required to meet interest, charges and expenses.

(2.) Accounts are rendered yearly, and in some cases are outstanding.

- (4.) Revenue and Receipts, Special Appropriation:—*Mr. McFarlane*, for Mr. See, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he be good enough to inform the House how the amount of £50,748 16s. is made up under the heading of Revenue and Receipts returned in the Special Appropriation for the period 1st July to 30th September, 1897?

Mr. Reid answered,—The amount referred to is made up of items comprised under the following headings:—Income Tax collections, £21,952 0s. 2d.; Land Tax collections, £498 5s. 7d.; Land Revenue collections, £14,613 15s. 1d.; Railway collections, £7,703 13s. 7d.; Miscellaneous collections, £5,981 1s. 7d.; total, £50,748 16s.

- (5.) Amounts paid to Sir John Fowler:—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What are the various amounts paid to Sir John Fowler for the following Departments, giving the amount for each year separately in each case:—(a) For the Railway Department since 1887 to the present; (b) for the Roads and Bridges Department since 1886 to the present; (c) for the Harbours and Rivers Department since 1886 to the present?

(2.)

26th October, 1897.

(2.) Has Sir John Fowler received any remuneration in respect of the Government of New South Wales for any other purposes or services than the abovenamed Departments?

(3.) If so, for what services, and what was the amount of remuneration, giving the amounts and services separate in each case?

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.

(6.) Circulars sent to Chairman of Local Land Boards and District Surveyors:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Lands,—Referring to his reply to Mr. Rose's Question, No. 14, of 20th October, that "he (the Minister) could not lay copies of circulars sent to Land Boards upon the Table, because "they were of a private nature," is it not a fact that all proceedings of the Land Boards are of a public and not of a confidential character?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The circulars issued to the Chairmen and District Surveyors are purely of a confidential and departmental character, and have no reference to the action to be taken by the Local Land Boards.

(7.) Assessment of School-teachers' Residences:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Public Service Board have now been considering the assessment of school-teachers' residences for a period of twelve months?

(2.) Will each individual case be decided on its merits?

Mr. Reid answered,—I must refer the Honorable Member to the Answer which I gave to the Honorable Member for Deniliquin on the 14th instant, to which, at present, I have nothing further to add. The Public Service Board are doing their best to come to an equitable decision in the matter, which, as before explained, is one of very considerable difficulty. As to the time the matter has been under consideration, the Honorable Member must remember that the Board have had a multitude of pressing matters to consider.

2. LITHGOW CO-OPERATIVE COAL COMPANY RAILWAY BILL:—Mr. Hogue, pursuant to leave granted on 21st October, 1897, having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise the construction of a Railway from land in the parish of Marangaroo to communicate and connect with the Great Western Railway,*"—read a first time.

3. ART UNIONS AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

(1.) Mr. McGowen moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Art Unions Act of 1850.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. McGowen then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Art Unions Act of 1850,*"—which was read a first time.

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

4. TRANSHIPMENT OF TONNAGE AND LIVE STOCK, PER RAIL, ON THE BORDER BETWEEN NEW SOUTH WALES AND VICTORIA (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—

(1.) The amount of tonnage transhipped from New South Wales to Victoria per rail during the year 1897, and the cost per ton of such transhipment.

(2.) The amount of tonnage transhipped from Victoria to New South Wales per rail during the year 1897, and the cost per ton of such transhipment.

(3.) The total number of live stock transhipped from New South Wales to Victoria for the year 1897, and the cost per head or truck of such transhipment.

(4.) The total number of live stock transhipped from Victoria to New South Wales for the year 1897, and the cost per truck or per head of such transhipment.

(5.) Similar information for the year 1896.

Question put and passed.

5. COMPLAINT AGAINST WARDEN SMITH, OF TUENA (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Crick moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with the complaint against Warden Smith, of Tuena, and the Warden's reply thereto.

Question put and passed.

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

(1.) Prisoners' Gaol Regulation Bill; second reading;—until Thursday next.

(2.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.

(3.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.

(4.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Thursday next.

(5.) Medical Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Thursday next.

7. MOREE TO INVERELL RAILWAY BILL (No. 2):—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 54.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Moree to Inverell,*"—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, 25th October, 1897.

26th October, 1897.

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

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 55.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly that provision be made for defraying the expenses of the various Departments and Services of the Colony for the months of October and November, or following month, of the financial year ending 30th June, 1898, together with provision for the advance to the Colonial Treasurer, and for a Service to be hereafter provided for by Loan.

Government House,

Sydney, 26th October, 1897.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of Supply.

9. EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES BILL:—Mr. Schey, pursuant to leave granted on 20th October, 1897, presented a Bill, intituled "A Bill to provide additional facilities for the acquirement of education, and for other purposes connected therewith,"—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

10. AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION ENABLING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Levien moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Ewing moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clause 2" instead thereof.

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

Debate continued.

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

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

The House divided.

Ayes, 53.

Noes, 28.

Mr. Leo,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Afleck,	Mr. Luw,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. T. B. Smith,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Wright,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. McElhone,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Haasall,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Thomas.
Mr. James Thomson,	
Mr. O'Sullivan,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Levien.
Mr. Anderson,	
Mr. Price,	
Mr. Wheeler,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Storey,	

Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Rosc,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Bull,
Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Knox,
Mr. Greene,
Mr. Millard.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Dr. Graham,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Levien, *passed*.Mr. Levien then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Australasian Federation Enabling Act of 1895.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Australasian Federation Enabling Act of 1895,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 26th October, 1897.

11. INTERNATIONAL PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS ARRANGEMENTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Griffith moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.

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

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

12.

26th October, 1897.

12. CHURCH ACTS REPEALING BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Knox moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. Knox, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.
 On motion of Mr. Knox, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
13. JUDGES RELATIVES DISQUALIFICATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Griffith moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.
 Mr. Deputy-Speaker counted the House, and there being only nineteen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Deputy-Speaker, namely, Mr. Affeck, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Brunner, Mr. Cook, Mr. Copeland, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Garrard, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Greene, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Jessep, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Millard, Mr. Neild, Mr. A. B. Piddington, Mr. Price, Dr. Ross, Mr. Schey, and Mr. Wilks,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, 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. 64.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 27 OCTOBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Aborigines Travelling on the Railways:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that a few years back the aborigines of this Colony were allowed to travel free on the railways?
 (2.) Has this privilege been denied them?
 (3.) Will he immediately take steps to restore this small concession to the aborigines?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I believe such was the practice generally.
 (2.) The Board for the Protection of Aborigines consider it highly undesirable that the aborigines should be encouraged in their wandering habits, and the railway fares as it is amount to a considerable sum, which is charged to the vote for maintenance of aborigines, which is insufficient for more legitimate charges.
 (3.) It is thought that this would be undesirable, but in no cases are passes refused when aborigines are in search of work, or when it would be to their advantage.

- (2.) Rubber Plants:—Mr. Perry asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is he aware that recent discoveries prove the existence of several varieties of rubber-producing trees suitable for cultivation in New South Wales?
 (2.) Has he had any consultation with anyone, with a view to introducing suitable rubber plants; if so, will he give the result?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) There is some doubt on this point, and inquiries and experiments are in hand with the view to ascertain the facts.
 (2.) Yes; and the Agent-General has been asked to obtain from Kew Gardens seeds of suitable varieties for experimental purposes in the Colony.

- (3.) Railway Passes issued through the Labour Bureau:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 Have the Railway Commissioners taken credit for the £50,000 due from persons obtaining railway passes through the Labour Bureau?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed the Railway Commissioners have been paid for the service of carrying the men to whom passes have been issued by the Labour Bureau.

- (4.) Amounts due to Guardians of State Children:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the amount of money due to guardians of State children on 30th ultimo was not paid and debited against the proper month?
 (2.) Has the aforesaid amount been yet paid; if yes, upon what date?

Mr. Reid answered,—The phrase, "debited against the proper month," is new. All sums are paid at the Treasury, on application, by Advances to the State Children's Relief Board. The last advance of £10,200 was made on the 15th instant, to meet claims accruing to 30th ultimo. (Payments to the guardians are made by the Board.)

- (5.) Bandmaster Hutchinson, Permanent Artillery:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What are the rank and position of Bandmaster Hutchinson in the Permanent Artillery; and what rate of pay per day is paid to him for his services?
 (2.) Is it a fact that he receives a share of the moneys received by the Permanent Artillery Band for performing at private entertainments and socials?
 (3.) Is it a fact that he is a sworn constable and bandmaster in the Police Force; and, if so, what duties are performed by him, and what rate of pay does he receive?

Mr.

27th October, 1897.

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Warrant officer and Brigade bandmaster. 8s. 4d. per day regimental pay, and 2s. 6d. per day as Brigade bandmaster, and usual allowances.
- (2.) Yes; his proportion calculated on a sliding scale.
- (3.) No, but he acts as instructor and bandmaster to the Police Band, when it does not interfere with his military duties, for which he receives the pay of a police constable.

(6.) Kooba Pastoral Holding:—Mr. Ashton asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Was some land on Kooba Pastoral Holding, on which forest-thinning operations were carried out some months ago, recently made available for homestead selection?
- (2.) Was the evidence given by Crown valuers to the effect that, while the cost of the scrubbing improvements was 4s. 6d. per acre, the value to an incoming tenant was only 3s. per acre?
- (3.) In accordance with the latter valuation, were three applicants for homestead selections required by the Land Board to pay for scrubbing improvements sums ranging from £185 to £192 on areas ranging from 1,234 acres to 1,280 acres?
- (4.) Is it true that the applicants in question, rather than accept the land subject to such a heavy payment for improvements, abandoned their applications and forfeited their deposits?
- (5.) If so, will he consider the desirableness of refunding the deposits, and of throwing open the lands under conditions which provide for the value of the improvements being added to the capital value of the lands?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) On the 24th April last three portions, amounting to 3,791 acres, were withdrawn from forest reserve 2,740 on Kooba resumed area, and made available for homestead selection on the 24th June, 1897. No thinning operations were carried out on those portions.
- (2, 3, and 4.) The papers are with the Local Land Board, and, therefore, full information is not available to me, but the ringing was notified (in the *Gazette* notice making the land available) as of an estimated value of £185 2s., £192, and £191 11s., so that applicants were aware of the values prior to selecting.
- (5.) The probability is that the improvements belong to the lessee, and if so he is entitled to be paid for them.

(7.) Revenue derived from the Molong District:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) The amount of money in the shape of land revenue derived from the district of Molong during the last two years respectively?
- (2.) The amount derived from all other sources?

Mr. Reid answered,—An endeavour will be made to prepare the information in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.

(8.) Expenditure in connection with the Federal Convention of 1897:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Are the accounts at the Treasury so kept that it is not possible in a moment to ascertain the total expenditure in connection with the Federal Convention of 1897?
- (2.) Has he any objection to letting the public have the information?
- (3.) Is he aware that it is more economical to give the information in the form of an Answer to a Question rather than in the form of a return?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) The expenditure in connection with the Federal Convention of 1897 can at all times be given so far as the amounts paid are concerned, but as there are still accounts outstanding full totals cannot yet be furnished.
- (2.) No objection when complete.
- (3.) The economy of furnishing Answers to Questions or otherwise is entirely controlled by the circumstances of each case.

(9.) Expenditure on Roads and Bridges in the Molong District:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—The amount of money that has been expended on roads and bridges in the Molong District during the last two years respectively?

Mr. Young answered,—I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will move for this information in the shape of a return.

(10.) Issue of *Hansard*:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—For what reason has the bi-weekly issue of *Hansard* been discontinued?

Mr. Reid answered,—For some weeks past three shorthand-writers have been in attendance upon the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works. Two of them, who have now returned to Sydney, have thirty-one days' evidence to transcribe; and it is expected that it will be necessary to detach a fourth. Of the twelve Select Committees now current, several are taking voluminous evidence. Under these circumstances, it is possible only by the most strained effort on the part of every member of the staff to complete the report of the debates of the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council for publication once a week. It will be quite impracticable to revert to the bi-weekly publication of the debates for the remainder of the present Session.

(11.) Crown Lands in the Western Division:—Mr. Schey asked the Secretary for Lands,—Referring to his Answer to Mr. Rose's Question about the attachment of resumed areas,—

- (1.) Is he still under the impression that the Interpretation Act of 1897 operates retrospectively as well as prospectively?
- (2.) If so, will he consult the Crown Law Officers before acting Ministerially on the basis of such an impression?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Even if the Interpretation Act operates prospectively only, there appears to be no doubt that both the policy and the language of section 8 of the Crown Lands Act of 1895 give the Minister a discretionary power under that section.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th October, 1897.

(12.) Subsidies to Agricultural and Horticultural Societies:—Mr. Frank Farnell asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What has been the total amount, by way of special grants and subsidies, paid to agricultural and horticultural societies during the past twenty years?

Mr. Reid answered,—There will be no objection to prepare the information, and to lay the same upon the Table of this House in the form of a return, if moved for in the usual way.

(13.) Expenditure connected with the Department of Mines:—Mr. Frank Farnell asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) What has been the total expenditure connected with the Mines Department since its separation from the Lands Department, and up to 30th June last?

(2.) What has been the total amount disbursed during the same period under the head Prospecting Vote?

(3.) What has been the total expenditure up to 30th June last in connection with the Agricultural Department?

(4.) What has been the amount paid as prizes during the above period?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of this House in the shape of a return.

(14.) Mr. R. A. Moore, Angledool Station, Narren River:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it a fact that one Mr. R. A. Moore is the manager of the Angledool Station, on Narren River, and also acts as executor of the late H. Newcomen, owner of the station?

(2.) Is this the same Mr. Moore who is a member of the Local Land Board which sits at Collarendabri?

(3.) Is it usual that a gentleman (being an interested party and manager of a station) should act as a member of the Local Land Board?

(4.) Is it not a fact that the homestead selections on the Angledool Station are alleged to be all in the hands of dummies; and will he see that the matter is referred to the Land Board or other officer for the fullest investigation?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1 and 2.) My honorable colleague is not aware. There is a Mr. R. L. Moore, a member of the Local Land Board for the District of Walgett North.

(3.) No.

(4.) If the Honorable Member, or any one possessing information, will give sufficient facts to the Department to warrant the law being set in motion in this case, my honorable colleague will authorise an inquiry, but my honorable colleague cannot proceed in the absence of some specific statement.

(15.) Statistical Register for 1896:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did he not promise in the early part of this year that the Statistical Register for 1896 should be available before the delivery of the Financial Statement?

(2.) What is the reason that the Statistical Register for 1896 has not been issued before this date, just on ten months after the close of the year to which the figures relate?

(3.) When can members obtain these most necessary figures and computations before they are of such age as to be obsolete and useless?

(4.) Will he expedite future issues of this most necessary publication?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) No.

(2, 3, and 4.) The Statistical Register for 1896 has been published, with the exception of Part XIII, which is now in the hands of the Government Printer, and will be issued shortly.

(16.) Sentence imposed by Judge Gibson:—Mr. Schey asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has he yet called on Mr. Justice Gibson for any report as to his reason for recently sentencing a man to three years' imprisonment for stealing a tin of baking-powder, valued at 9d.?

(2.) If so, will he lay such report upon the Table?

(3.) If he has not already done so, will he call for such a report, and when same is obtained lay it upon the Table?

Mr. Gould answered,—The Honorable Member is referred to the Answer given by me to Question No. 1, asked by Mr. Cotton for Mr. Haynes, on Thursday, the 10th June last, relating to the case of John Collins, who was convicted before His Honor Judge Gibson at the Bingara Quarter Sessions.

(17.) The Blue Book:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What is the date of the last Blue Book issued?

(2.) When will a new Blue Book be available?

(3.) What is the reason of the non-publication of the annual Blue Book since 1894?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following Answers have been furnished by the Public Service Board:—

(1.) The last Blue Book issued was for the year 1894.

(2.) The Public Service List, which is to take the place of the Blue Book, is now being prepared by the Public Service Board, and will be ready for issue within a few weeks.

(3.) Since the publication of the last Blue Book the Service has been undergoing an entire reorganization, and it has not, therefore, been possible to continue the publication of the work.

(18.) Plants in the Botanical Gardens:—Mr. Affleck, for Mr. Wilks, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it the intention of the Government to have the vernacular as well as the botanical names of plants inserted on the labels in the Botanic Gardens, as suggested by Sir J. P. Abbott in a letter to the *Sydney Morning Herald* of a recent date?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The vernacular names, as well as the botanical names, will be given on the labels wherever possible; however, the vast majority of plants have no vernacular names.

(19.)

27th October, 1897.

(19.) Rent charged Public School Teachers in the County of Cumberland:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) What amount of rent is charged to each of the Public School teachers in the county of Cumberland for their residences?
- (2.) Have any valuations been made of these residences since rents have been charged; and, if so, how do they compare with the rents charged by the Public Service Board?
- (3.) Is the Public School teacher's residence at St. Mary's valued by the Public Service Board at about twice the value put upon it by the local business people?
- (4.) Is the Public School teacher at Penrith compelled by the Public Service Board to pay fully £40 a year over and above the actual rental value of his residence?
- (5.) Are the other Public School teachers in the county of Cumberland rated as high in comparison as the Penrith and St. Mary's teachers' residences?

Mr. Garrard answered,—I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will move for this information in the form of a return.

(20.) Fine imposed on Bank Manager at Narandera:—Mr. Wood asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that a bank manager was recently fined £25 at the Narandera Police Court for cruelly illtreating a child?
- (2.) Does the punishment of this offence usually take the form of fine?
- (3.) Was there a similar case at Narandera some years ago, in which a labouring man was committed for trial, and subsequently sentenced to a long term of imprisonment?

Mr. Gould answered,—Beyond what has appeared in a newspaper paragraph, I know nothing of the case to which the Honorable Member refers; but I will cause inquiries to be made, and will call for the depositions.

(21.) Erection of School-house at Girilambone:—Mr. Waddell asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) What is the cause of delay in proceeding with the work of erecting the new school-house at Girilambone?
- (2.) Will he see that the work is commenced at once?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) The question of the dedication of the new site.
- (2.) Yes.

(22.) Road from Nyngan to Bobadah:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Will he see that money is provided to clear the new road from Nyngan to Bobadah?
- (2.) Have strong representations been made to him as to the necessity of this work by the Members for Cobar, Condobolin, and The Lachlan?
- (3.) Is he aware that, for want of this road being opened up, serious public inconvenience is felt in getting supplies and machinery to the Overflow mining field?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1 and 2.) Representations have been made by the Members for Cobar and The Lachlan, but the road has not yet been opened.
- (3.) I am not aware.

(23.) Counsel for Defence of the seaman Conway:—Mr. Black asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Has counsel been allotted for the defence of the seaman Conway, charged with the murder of Constable Morrow?
- (2.) If so, whom?

Mr. Gould answered,—The following Answer has been supplied by my honorable colleague the Attorney-General:—This matter has not yet come before the Attorney-General; when it does it will be dealt with in the usual manner.

(24.) The Wentworth Gold-mining Company:—Mr. A. B. Piddington asked the Secretary for Mines,—

Will he lay upon the Table of this House a copy of the complete evidence given before Mr. Warden King, on Friday last, in the application of the Wentworth Gold-mining Company, for a suspension of labour conditions?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The Honorable Member will notice from the business paper that the Honorable Member for The Hume has given notice of a motion dealing with this question, and I presume the papers will be moved for in the usual way.

(25.) Contract of Mr. Louis Limburg for Police Clothing:—Mr. Hogue asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that Mr. Louis Limburg's tender was the lowest for the recent contract for the making of waterpoof capes for the police?
- (2.) Was Mr. Limburg disqualified as a contractor in consequence of what is considered "sweating"?
- (3.) If No. 2 is answered in the affirmative, will he state on what grounds Mr. Limburg was so regarded, and upon whose evidence?
- (4.) Was such disqualification notified to him previous to calling for tenders for the police capes?
- (5.) Has Mr. Limburg invited the Premier to cause his books to be examined, with a view to have this disqualification removed; if so, will the Minister have this done?
- (6.) Will he cause to be laid upon the Table of this House all reports, letters, correspondence, and papers relating to this matter?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th October, 1897.

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes; L. Limburg's tender.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) On good and sufficient grounds and reliable evidence.
- (4.) No; it is not customary to do so.
- (5.) No.
- (6.) I do not at present consider that course advisable.

(26.) Bill to regulate Wages and Hours of Labour in Mines:—Mr. Waddell asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Will he take into consideration the advisability of introducing legislation to provide for a minimum rate of wages, and for regulating the hours of labour in connection with the working of all kinds of mines in the Colony, so as to remove as far as possible the cause of strikes?

Mr. Garrard answered,—This matter will receive due consideration.

2. PAPERS:—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Fairfield, county of Drake, for the erection of a Post and Telegraph Office at Drake.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 19th October, 1897,—“Coal used by the Railway Department.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—Notice of intention to declare that, under section 44 of the Act 58 Vic. No. 18, Homestead Selection 97-1, by Frederick William Tilse, 1,280 acres, portion 68; and Homestead Selection 97-10, by William Simpson, 1,280, portion 67, parish of Moonan, Land District of Scone, shall cease to be voidable.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. CHURCH ACTS REPEALING BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Knox, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Knox then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to repeal the Acts 7 William IV No. 3, 8 William IV No. 5, and 21 Victoria No. 4, to bring lands held for Church purposes under the provisions of Ordinances of Synod; to validate the appointment of past trustees under the said repealed Acts; and to make provision for vesting lands held on trust in the present trustees and in new trustees without conveyance.*”

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled “*An Act to repeal the Acts 7 William IV No. 3, 8 William IV No. 5, and 21 Victoria No. 4, to bring lands held for Church purposes under the provisions of Ordinances of Synod; to validate the appointment of past trustees under the said repealed Acts; and to make provision for vesting lands held on trust in the present trustees and in new trustees without conveyance,*”—with the amendment indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendment the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 27th October, 1897.*

CHURCH ACTS REPEALING BILL.

Schedule of Amendment referred to in Message of 27th October, 1897.

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

Page 3, clause 9, line 25. Omit “1896” insert “1897.”

Examined,—

WILLIAM MCCOUBE,
Chairman of Committees.

4. OWNERSHIP OF TRUNDLE DAM (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Thomas Brown moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, minutes, correspondence, reports, &c., relating to the ownership of Trundle Dam, and the claim by the lessees of the Burrawang Pastoral Holding, Central Division, to be awarded compensation for resumption of same for public purposes.

Question put and passed.

5. LITHGOW CO-OPERATIVE COAL COMPANY RAILWAY BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Hogue moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That the Lithgow Co-operative Coal Company Railway Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Afleck, Mr. Edden, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Young, and the Mover.

Question put and passed.

27th October, 1897.

6. PAYMENTS MADE TO SIR JOHN FOWLER (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. McGowen*, moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—The various amounts paid to Sir John Fowler for the following Departments, giving the amount for each year separately in each case:—(a) For the Railway Department since 1887 to the present; (b) for the Roads and Bridges Department since 1886 to the present; (c) for the Harbours and Rivers Department since 1886 to the present, and any other amounts received by Sir John Fowler since the above-mentioned date.
Question put and passed.
7. APPLICATION FOR SUSPENSION OF LABOUR CONDITIONS BY WENTWORTH PROPRIETARY GOLD-MINING COMPANY, LUCKNOW (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. Lyne* moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all proceedings in the Warden's Court, Orange, on Friday, 22nd October, in the matter of the application for suspension of labour conditions by the Wentworth Proprietary Gold-mining Company, together with copies of all letters and applications to the Minister on this subject, and copies of all minutes, correspondence, and other documents bearing on the matter of the above application.
Question put and passed.
8. PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER AT WILBERFORCE (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. Morgan* moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Return to Order, "Public School Teacher at Wilberforce," laid upon the Table and referred to the Printing Committee on the 24th August, 1897, and reported upon on the 26th August, be again referred to such Committee for reconsideration.
Question put and passed.
9. LAND STATISTICS—GOSFORD POPULATION AREA (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. Wheeler* moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) The total area approximately of land in that portion of the Gosford population area situate between the Maitland and Mangrove Roads.
(2.) The total area approximately of land in the parishes of Narara, Eglington, and Koriee.
(3.) The total number of selections and total area selected in the parishes of Narara, Eglington, and Koriee.
(4.) The number and the area of the selections which have been selected, forfeited, or abandoned in the parishes of Narara, Eglington, and Koriee.
(5.) The number and the area of the selections still current in the parishes of Narara, Eglington, and Koriee.
Question put and passed.
10. ENTRY ON PRIVATE LAND BILL:—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide for the entry on any lands, for the purposes of making preliminary surveys for railways, tramways, waterworks, sewerage works, canals, stormwater channels, drains, embankments for the protection of low-lying lands from flood-waters, or other works,—being called by *Mr. Speaker* under Standing Order No. 132,—*Mr. Young* moved, That the Order of the Day be discharged.
Question put and passed.
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 1897–8, together with provision for the advance to the Colonial Treasurer, and for a Service 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.
12. WAYS AND MEANS:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of *Mr. Reid*, *Mr. Speaker* left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again at a later hour of the day.
13. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of *Mr. Reid*, *Mr. Speaker* left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 28 OCTOBER, 1897, A.M.

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

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

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

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

(3.) *Resolved*,—That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding £1,053,000, being £988,000 to defray the expenses of the various Departments and Services of the Colony during the months of October and November, or following month of the financial year ending 30th June, 1898, to be expended at the rates which are shown on Estimates for the financial year ending 30th June, 1898, as laid on the Table of the House, subject to the rate of any reduction that may hereafter be made in the expenditure of the year 1897–1898; £50,000 for Treasurer's Advance Account; and in anticipation of Loan Votes—£15,000, for Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage.

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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th October, 1897.

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

The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be now received.

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

(3.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Services of the financial year 1897-8 the sum of £1,053,000 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

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

15. **CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL (No. 2)**:—

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolution of Ways and Means (No. 3), to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1897-8; and for a Service 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 1897-8; and for a Service 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 1897-8; and for a Service 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 1897-8; and for a Service to be hereafter provided for by Loan,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 28th October, 1897, a.m.*

The House adjourned, at six minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 65.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 28 OCTOBER, 1897.

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

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

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-nine minutes before Five o'clock, until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 66.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 2 NOVEMBER, 1897.

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

PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Twenty-first Report from the Printing Committee.

2. PAPER:—Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 27th October, 1897—"Application for Suspension of Labour Conditions by Wentworth Proprietary Gold-mining Company, Lucknow."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Thursday next:—

(1.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill; to be further considered in Committee.

(2.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill; to be further considered in Committee.

(3.) Agricultural Holdings Bill; second reading.

(4.) Borough of Lithgow Validating Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.

4. VOTE OF CENSURE—LUCKNOW STRIKE:—Mr. Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That the action of the Government with reference to the Lucknow strike amounts to a mal-administration of justice.

(2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.

Debate ensued.

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

Question put and passed.

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

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

No. 67.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 3 NOVEMBER, 1897.

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

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

- (1.) Educational Facilities Bill; second reading.
 (2.) Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill; to be considered in Committee.

2. FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE ADELAIDE CONVENTION :—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Schey, "That leave be given to William McMillan, Esq., Member for Burwood, to lay upon the Table of this House copies of all papers laid before the Committee of Finance of the Adelaide Federal Convention, and of all evidence taken before such Committee on the question of federalising the railways, and on other financial proposals relating to the Commonwealth Constitution,"—being called by Mr. Speaker, under Standing Order No. 132,—

Mr. Schey moved, That the Order of the Day be discharged.

Question put and passed.

3. VOTE OF CENSURE—LUCKNOW STRIKE :—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Lyne,—

"(1.) That the action of the Government with reference to the Lucknow strike amounts to a mal-administration of justice.

"(2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor."

And the Question being again proposed,—

The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 4 NOVEMBER, 1897, A.M.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 33.

Mr. T. R. Smith,	
Mr. Raymond,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Rose.
Mr. Goodwin,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Levien,	
Mr. McElhone,	
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. Chanter,	
Mr. Miller,	
Mr. Schey,	
Dr. Ross,	
Mr. Henry Clarke,	
Mr. Travers Jones,	
Mr. See,	
Mr. Copeland,	
Mr. Lyne,	
Mr. Wright,	
Mr. Price,	
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. H. H. Brown,	
Mr. O'Sullivan,	
Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. Perry,	
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Gormly,	

Noes, 65.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Parkes,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Collins,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Black,
Mr. James Thomson,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Harvey,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Jessop,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Molesworth.
Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Dacey,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Edden,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Haynes.
Mr. Newman,	

And so it passed in the negative.

The House adjourned, at nineteen minutes before Four o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 68.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 4 NOVEMBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Watchmen employed in the Public Wharfs Department:—*Mr. McGowen*, for *Mr. McElhone*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that the watchmen employed in the Public Wharfs Department are kept on winter and summer eighty-four hours per week, or twelve hours per day for £2 per week and in neither case are they paid any overtime; whilst they have to clean and sweep wharfs, remove sweepings, water the blocks, run messages, clean water-closets, take lines to ships and steamers, get an account of wool, tallow, ore, &c., shipped; as also all sorts of cargo in and out and by lighters; collect money from picnic parties and act as special constables; also keep an account of water supplied to ships by meter?

(2.) As he is in favour of the eight hours a day principle where it can be carried out, will he at once give orders to have it carried out in the case of the watchmen referred to, or have the men paid for overtime?

(3.) Does not a deal of the work referred to belong to the wharfingers, who are highly paid and work from 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.; and will he give instructions that they keep records of cargo?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) I am informed that the watchmen are on duty eighty-four hours per week, and that payment for overtime is not allowed. The salary paid to them is £104 per annum, and they are required to perform some, but not all, of the duties mentioned by the Honorable Member.

(2.) This is a matter that is regulated by the Public Service Board.

(3.) The wharfingers keep all accounts of goods landed or shipped. The watchmen are not required to assist.

- (2.) Australasian Federal Convention held at Sydney, 1897:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has he observed that the Government of South Australia have decided to afford the House of Assembly of that Colony an opportunity to review the work of the Federal Convention at Sydney?

(2.) Will he afford a similar opportunity to this House in the present Session?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) I have not.

(2.) I fear, even if such a proposal were a good one, time would not permit.

- (3.) Fees and Travelling Allowances to Members of the Public Works Committee:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the total sum paid to date to the members of the present Public Works Committee for fees and travelling allowances?

Mr. Reid answered,—Amount paid to the Parliamentary Committee on Public Works during the present Parliament, including expenses allowed for travelling, from 25th July, 1895, to 28th October, 1897, was £14,838 3s.

- (4.) Police Protection for Surry Hills:—*Mr. Whiddon* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has his attention been called to a case in which *Samuel A. Kirby* was violently garrotted on Friday morning in Crown-street, Surry Hills, and robbed of all the money he then possessed?

(2.) Will he, in view of the fact that a great many disturbances and robberies have occurred in the same neighbourhood of late, take steps for affording additional police protection?

(3.)

4th November, 1897.

(3.) As it is generally understood that plain-clothes constables are the most effective for this kind of duty, will he take steps for providing this special service for this district, in order to safeguard the neighbourhood against further disturbances and robberies?

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

- (1.) The case was reported, and is receiving the attention of the Police.
- (2 and 3.) The number of offences and causes of disorder in the neighbourhood have not been exceptionally large. A considerable number of plain-clothes constables is constantly employed in this and other localities.

(5.) Aliens Restriction Bill:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Will he state what number of coloured people are at present employed in the sugar-growing districts on the northern rivers of this Colony?
- (2.) When does he intend to introduce the Aliens Restriction Bill?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I hope to be able to give this information when introducing the Aliens Bill.
- (2.) I propose to give notice for the introduction of this Bill to-night.

(6.) The Blue Book:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has the issue of the Blue Book been discontinued?
- (2.) If so, why?

Mr. Reid answered,—I would refer the Honorable Member to the Answer given by the Chief Secretary to Question No. 17, on 27th ultimo.

(7.) Subsidy to Agricultural Societies:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will agricultural societies in receipt of £50 per annum from subscriptions paid by 100 or more members be entitled to a subsidy?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Yes; when the Estimates now before Parliament are passed.

(8.) Compositors in the Government Printing Office:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Barnes, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that a number of compositors in the Government Printing Office are earning considerable sums of money overtime?
- (2.) If so, and as there are many compositors now out of employment, will he request the Government Printer to find room for some of these unemployed compositors?

Mr. Reid answered,—This overtime is only incurred when demands are made for work required the same night or early the following day, such as Estimates, Debates, Parliamentary Papers, &c., when no increased staff would obviate the position.

(9.) Age of certain Persons in the Public Service:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Public Service Board have refused to accept statutory declarations as to the age of certain persons in the Public Service?
- (2.) Is it a fact that the Public Service Board demand a certificate of birth, and, failing that, the production of the family Bible or extracts therefrom?
- (3.) Is he aware that a large number of public servants were born some thousands of miles distant from the Colony, and it is, therefore, difficult and expensive to obtain either a certificate or family Bible?
- (4.) Will he request the Public Service Board to be content with the statutory declarations, or furnish the funds necessary to obtain other documents?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the Public Service Board are taking steps to obtain from all officers who are contributors to the Superannuation Fund some satisfactory proof of their age. This is really in the interests of the officers themselves, as, when their ages have been so definitely proved and accepted, it ensures that there will be no delay when the question of their retirement has to be considered. I understand the Board have asked for birth certificates where possible, or in lieu thereof some satisfactory evidence bearing on the subject; and I am informed that so far they have found very little difficulty in obtaining the evidence they require. In the event of an officer having to send to England for a copy of his birth certificate, the expense is very small, at the outside 4s., but, if these are not procurable, the Board will accept the best evidence available.

(10.) Circulars sent to Chairmen of Local Land Boards:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it not a fact that the Land Boards, when sitting as such, exercise judicial functions?
- (2.) Will he state to the House whether any of the circulars sent to the Chairmen of such Boards (and which circulars, he said, were of a private nature) directed or instructed such Chairmen as to the particular way in which they were to adjudicate?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Yes, when the case is one in which the law requires a judicial decision.
- (2.) The Land Boards are left perfectly free to adjudicate according to their own opinion of facts or law. No circular issued to the Chairmen either directs or instructs them in their adjudication.

(11.) Counsel in case of *Greene v. Hargraves*:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is it a fact that the Crown are paying counsel for conducting the case of the respondent in *Greene v. Hargraves*, recently heard by the Land Appeal Court?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Yes, inasmuch as the issue to be decided is of material importance to the public interest.

(12.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th November, 1897.

(12.) Handbook on Agriculture and Agricultural Chemistry:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) In view of spreading a knowledge of agriculture and agricultural chemistry in country districts, will he see that some steps are taken by the Department to have some suitable illustrated text or handbook published—a cheap edition—in order that the various subjects pertaining to practical farming may be taught in our Public Schools, and for the better information of the public?
- (2.) Could the valuable services of Mr. Thompson, of the Hawkesbury College, or some of his officers, not be made available for this purpose?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) It is not intended, at present, to increase the number of subjects taught in the Public Schools.
- (2.) The Hawkesbury College and its officers are not under the control of this Department.

(13.) Handbook on Geology:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) In view of the importance of facilitating and obtaining a more accurate knowledge of geology, and the various mineral deposits pertaining to the Colony, will he see that some steps are taken to have a reliable illustrated handbook published—a cheap edition—for the better information of the general public?
- (2.) Could the valuable services of Rev. Father Curran, or other practical authority belonging to the Department of Mines, not be made available for this purpose, and thus dispense with the necessity of employing itinerant lecturers?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The question of the publication of handbooks on the geology and mineral resources of the Colony is now receiving the consideration of the Department.

(14.) Report of Public Works Committee on new Houses of Parliament:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has he received any assurance that the Public Works Committee is likely, before the close of this Parliament, to bring up a report on the proposal to erect new Houses of Parliament?
- (2.) Has he any intention to introduce a Bill this Session to compel the Public Works Committee to report within a definite period on any Public Works proposal which is referred to that body for inquiry and report?
- (3.) For what period has the proposal to erect new Houses of Parliament been under reference to the Public Works Committee?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) I am informed by the Chairman that it is the intention of the Committee to bring up their report on the proposed new Houses of Parliament as soon as possible, in all probability this month.
- (2.) No.
- (3.) The proposed work was referred to the Committee by the Legislative Assembly on 11th November, 1896, but the Committee's inquiry did not commence till 14th April, 1897. The inquiry has been interrupted since June by the visit of the Government Architect to England.

(15.) Acceptance of Briefs by Legislative Councillors—The Public Works Committee:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it his intention to introduce a measure during this Session to better secure the independence of Members of Parliament by disqualifying Legislative Councillors from accepting briefs from the Government, and by divesting the Public Works Committee of its absolute control of the public purse as far as an unlimited power to take fees and travelling expenses is concerned?

Mr. Reid answered,—With respect to the first part of this Question, the matter has been often considered, but, as almost the whole of the leading members of the Bar are members of the Legislative Council, I am of opinion that if they were disqualified from taking briefs from the Government the Government would disqualify themselves from having the best talent to fight their battles in the Courts of the Colony, which might suit the other side but not suit the Government. As to the second branch of the Question, I am not aware that the Public Works Committee has yet obtained absolute control of the public purse.

(16.) Administration of the Lands Department:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Does he approve of the action of the Secretary for Lands in absenting himself so frequently from his place on the Treasury bench, and thereby denying the Members of this House of their right to interrogate him on his administration of the land laws, especially, on the new industry of exchanging Crown lands behind the back of Parliament?

Mr. Reid answered,—If my honorable friend the Secretary for Lands is absent at the opening of the House, it is always owing to the pressure of public business when it is not otherwise.

(17.) Mail Contract from Mudgee to Hill End:—Mr. Perry asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) What is the amount of the tender for the conveyance of mails from Mudgee to Hill End which has been accepted by the Postal Department?
- (2.) Was that the lowest tender sent in for the service for the year?
- (3.) Is there any reason why the lowest tender should not have been accepted?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) £99 19s. per annum.
- (2.) No. The lowest tender was 4s. less.
- (3.) Yes. The tender accepted provides for a superior mode of conveyance, viz., by coach, drawn by two or more horses, instead of by vehicle drawn by one, two, or more horses.

(18.)

4th November, 1897.

(18.) Conveyance of Telegraph Stores through the Country :—Mr. Nelson asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that his Department has introduced a system of sending telegraph stores through the country enclosed in letter-bags?

(2.) Is it a fact that the Department do not pay the mail contractors for such stores being sent in the manner above described?

(3.) Is it a fact that, in some instances, quantities of blue-stone over 1 cwt. are tied up in the letter-bags, and sent to various stations in the country?

(4.) Will he see that some alteration is made in this system, as it is taking an unfair advantage of the mail contractors?

Mr. Cook answered,—Post Office stores, such as wax, stationery, forms, &c., have always been sent through the post as mail matter, and, moreover, mail contractors are bound to convey parcels sent through the post. In cases of emergency small quantities of blue-stone (not more than 14 lb. at the time) are sent.

(19.) Cotton Seed Distributed to Farmers :—Mr. Perry, for Mr. F. Clarke, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that a nameless variety of cotton seed, procured from a neighbouring Colony in 1896, developed a destructive worm-pest?

(2.) Is it not a fact that cotton seed of the same season and growth is now being issued to farmers by the Government as new seed?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) The seed obtained through the Queensland Government last year did not develop a destructive worm-pest. Some plants were attacked by the well known peach moth—a common Australian variety.

(2.) The cotton seed being distributed this year for experimental purposes is chiefly the "Kidney" variety from Fiji. Some Queensland seed has also been distributed. With both varieties the germinating test proved the seed to be in excellent condition.

(20.) Registration under the Pharmacy Act :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) The number of members that have been enrolled or registered since the Pharmacy Act came into operation?

(2.) The number now waiting to be enrolled or registered?

(3.) What has been the increase or diminution of registrations or applications since the Act came into force?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am informed that the number of pharmacists already granted registration is 291; number awaiting registration, 334; total, 625. Number registered under the Poisons Act 40 Vic. No. 9, 506.

(3.) No definite information on this point is available, as the Board are waiting for the Regulations to be gazetted before dealing with the applications on hand and others which are sure to come in.

(21.) Road from Nyngan to Bobadah :—Mr. Mackay, for Mr. Waddell, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has the road from Nyngan to Bobadah been gazetted yet?

(2.) If not, what is the cause of the long delay?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Notification of the withdrawal of lands from leases and occupation licenses for road from village of Carpina, towards the town of Nyngan, county of Flinders, will be published in the *Government Gazette* of Saturday next, the 6th instant.

(22.) Institution for Blind Women at Strathfield :—Mr. E. M. Clark, for Mr. Harvey, asked the Colonial Secretary.

(1.) Has there been an inquiry held *re* the working of the Strathfield Institution for Blind Women?

(2.) If so, has any report been received by the Government; and what is the nature of such report?

(3.) Would he have any objection to lay such report upon the Table of the House?

(4.) What are the names of the Committee who are entrusted with the affairs of the institution referred to?

Mr. Brunker answered,—An inquiry has been held in regard to the management of this institution. The report was received only this afternoon, and I am consequently unable to give a definite reply to the Honorable Member's Question until after the report has been considered.

(23.) Ways and Means Accounts for 1896-7 :—Mr. Price asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Of the sum of £198,725 18s. 3d., shown on page 6 of Ways and Means as "Balances of Appropriations not paid during the year," what proportion is represented by lapsed Votes, and what amount has been absorbed for Services 1896-7, and which were due and unpaid at the time of closing the accounts on the 30 June last?

Mr. Reid answered,—Of the sum of £198,725 18s. 3d. referred to, the sum of £168,575 12s. 11d. represents the balances of Votes for 1896-1897 unexpended at 30th June, 1897, which lapsed on the date mentioned; and the sum of £30,150 5s. 4d. represents the balances of advances to public officers repaid. All accounts applied for up to 30th June, 1897, were paid from the Votes of that year, but, under the operation of the Audit Act Amendment Act of 1895, any accounts paid after the date quoted became a charge of the following year, and as such cannot be separated from other payments. I may add to this Answer that even under the old system of accounts, when the Votes were kept open for two years instead of one year, much larger sums than the sum mentioned used to be written off as savings.

(24.)

4th November, 1897.

(24.) The Sydney Milk Supply:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—With the view of safeguarding public health and preventing food adulteration, will he see that steps are taken to have samples of the milk supply of Sydney placed in the hands of the Government Analyst for analysis as to the percentage or otherwise of boracic acid and other preservatives?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the attention of the Board of Health has already been occupied with this matter. The Government Analyst has reported that he has found preservatives, including boracic acid, in some of the milks sold in Sydney, and the best way of exercising the powers conferred by section 60 of the Public Health Act is under consideration.

(25.) Report of Broken Hill Hospital Board *re* charges preferred by Dr. Erson against Dr. Scabrook:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Will he lay a copy of the report of the Broken Hill Hospital Board or Committee on the Table of the House *re* the charges brought by Dr. Ledger Erson, one of the honorary physicians, against Dr. Scabrook, the resident surgeon. The charges were—(a) offensive and dictatorial conduct towards Dr. Erson at the bedside of patients visited; (b) persistent administration of treatment disapproved of by Dr. Erson to patients placed under Dr. Erson's charge; (c) refusing to permit Dr. Erson's prescriptions either to be dispensed or administered to his patients, and removal of card containing directions for same?

(2.) Is it a fact that the report condemns the conduct of the resident medical officer for interfering with the honorary staff whilst acting in the discharge of their respective duties?

(3.) Will he see that an official inquiry is made in the whole circumstances of the case?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I have asked the Committee to furnish me with a copy of the report, and will give the matter consideration upon its receipt.

(26.) Expenses of the Federal Convention:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What is the total sum of all moneys which have been paid up to date on account of the Federal Convention?

(2.) What is the estimated amount which has still to be paid on the same account?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Under Federal Convention Act 59 Vic. No. 24, £3,915 2s. 10d.; entertaining Federal Delegates, £2,218 16s. 10d.; total, £6,133 19s. 8d.

(2.) The amount of outstanding accounts cannot be correctly given until the claims are received. The accounts, however, cannot amount to any considerable sum.

(27.) Suicides in New South Wales:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House a return showing the number of suicides that have taken place in New South Wales since the present administration took office?

Mr. Reid answered,—I do not think this return could be prepared in a complete form until the honorable gentleman and his friends go through the ordeal of the approaching General Election.

(28.) Obligations of the Government for the year 1896-7:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What was the approximate amount of obligations for the year 1896-7, which was not paid out of the revenue accruing for the said year?

Mr. Reid answered,—The accounts for the year 1896-7 closed on 30th June, 1897, and all outstanding claims on Votes then became, under the provisions of the Audit Act Amendment Act, obligations of the current year. There is nothing on which to base an estimate.

(29.) Salaries of Officers of the Stock Department:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Will he state a time within which the amounts deducted from salaries of officers of the Stock Department, on account of the Superannuation Fund, will be refunded, and what is the total amount to be refunded, and the rate of interest?

(2.) How many refunds have been paid, and amount in each case?

(3.) Is he aware that these officers are being put to considerable inconvenience and expense in making other arrangements through the continued delay in paying over the amounts so deducted?

(4.) Are the salaries of these officers to be restored to what they were before the grading by the Public Service Board; and, if not, why not?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) This matter is under the consideration of the Treasury Department, and it is expected an early determination will be arrived at.

(2.) Seven, as follows:—James Mallon, £121 8s. 3d.; R. D. Jones, £179 7s. 4d.; W. Byrie, £21 3s.; G. Bruce, £171 11s. 7d.; widow, late P. L. Smith, £117 12s. 5d.; widow, late G. A. Cleave, £41 7s. 6d.; widow, late H. A. Gethings, £12 17s. 2d.

(3.) Several communications have been received from inspectors on the subject.

(4.) An amount has been placed on the Estimates now upon the Table of this House to restore the salaries for 1896-7 to what they were before the grading of the Public Service Board.

2. MORT'S DOCK AND ENGINEERING COMPANY (LIMITED) ENABLING BILL:—Mr. Wilks presented a Petition from Mort's Dock and Engineering Company (Limited), praying for leave to bring in a Bill to enable Mort's Dock and Engineering Company (Limited) to close portions of certain streets at Mort Bay, in the Borough of Balmain, being a portion of College-street and the north-east end of Mort-street, and to establish a new street in lieu thereof; and for other purposes connected therewith.

And *Mr. Wilks* having produced the *Government Gazette* and the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Balmain Observer*, and *Balmain Leader*, newspapers, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—

Petition received.

4th November, 1897.

3. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Reid (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That this House at its rising this day do adjourn until Wednesday next.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 44.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. H. H. Brown,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Collins,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Parkes,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Thomas Brown.
Mr. McMillan,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Neild.
Mr. Hogue,	

Noes, 20.

Mr. O'Sullivan,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Price,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Gornly,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Mackay.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Kelly.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

4. PAPERS :—

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) By-law of the Municipal District of Carrington.
 - (2.) By-law of the Municipal District of Katoomba.
 - (3.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Moree.
 - (4.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Parkes.
 - (5.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Euroka Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other Holdings.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Nalticomebee, county of Landsborough, for the establishment and construction of a Punt over the Darling River, near Louth.
 - (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Woram, county of Richmond, for deviation of Road, Casino to Coraki.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Regulations in connection with the Dredge Service.
 - (2.) Return to an Order, made on 24th August, 1897,—“Pilot Service, Newcastle and Sydney.”
 - (3.) Report of the Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for quarter ended September, 1897.
 - (4.) Return to an Order, made on 27th July, 1897,—“Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation, Limited.”
 - (5.) Schedule to the Estimates for 1897-8, showing the total remuneration estimated to be received by all public officers who hold more than one office, or who receive any fees, special allowance, quarters, fuel, or light, in addition to their fixed annual salaries during the year ending 30th June, 1898.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. ENTRY ON PRIVATE LAND BILL :—

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

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 56.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th Section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to provide for the entry on any lands for the purposes of making preliminary surveys for railways, tramways, water-works, sewerage works, canals, stormwater channels, drains, embankments for the protection of low-lying lands from flood-waters, or other works, and for determination of boundaries of alienated lands, and for trigonometrical survey of the Colony.

Government House,

Sydney, 26th October, 1897.

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

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th November, 1897.

LETTER OR POWER OF ATTORNEY (not being a proxy form only)	1 0 0
NOTARIAL ACT OF ANY KIND whatsoever (except a protest of or noting a bill of exchange or promissory note)	0 2 6
NOTING Bill of Exchange or Promissory Note	0 1 0
PASSENGER TICKET given or issued in the Colony by or on behalf of any steamship company, association, or owner of any steamship, in return for the payment of a sum of money amounting to £2 or upwards unless a stamped receipt is given in respect of such payment and at the time thereof	0 0 2
POLICY OF LIFE INSURANCE—	
Where the sum insured exceeds £50 but does not exceed £200	0 1 0
Exceeds £200 but does not exceed £500	0 5 0
“ £500 “ £1,000	0 10 0
“ £1,000. For every full sum of £1,000 and also for any fractional part of £1,000 of the amount insured	1 0 0
PROXY FORM or other instrument not under seal. For the sole purpose of appointing or authorising a proxy to vote at any one meeting at which votes may be given by proxy whether the number of persons named in such instrument be one or more... ..	0 0 3
SCRIP CERTIFICATE. Scrip or other document entitling any person to become the proprietor of any share in any company or proposed company	0 0 3
SETTLEMENT, DEED OF GIFT, OR VOLUNTARY CONVEYANCE OF ANY PROPERTY. Same duty as conveyance on sale, the duty to be calculated on the value of the property passing.	

(5.) *Resolved*.—That towards raising the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty there shall be paid, from and after the first day of December, 1897, upon the estates of persons dying on or after the said day the several Stamp and Probate Duties specified, namely:—

Where the total value of such estates after deducting all debts does not exceed £1,000	1 per cent.
Where the value exceeds £1,000 and does not exceed £5,000...	2 “
“ “ £5,000 “ “ £6,000...	3 “
“ “ £6,000 “ “ £7,000...	3½ “
“ “ £7,000 “ “ £8,000...	3¾ “
“ “ £8,000 “ “ £9,000...	3½ “
“ “ £9,000 “ “ £10,000...	3¾ “
“ “ £10,000 “ “ £12,000...	4 “
“ “ £12,000 “ “ £14,000...	4½ “
“ “ £14,000 “ “ £16,000...	4¾ “
“ “ £16,000 “ “ £18,000...	4¾ “
“ “ £18,000 “ “ £20,000...	4¾ “
“ “ £20,000 “ “ £22,000...	5 “
“ “ £22,000 “ “ £24,000...	5½ “
“ “ £24,000 “ “ £26,000...	5¾ “
“ “ £26,000 “ “ £28,000...	5¾ “
“ “ £28,000 “ “ £30,000...	5¾ “
“ “ £30,000 “ “ £32,000...	6 “
“ “ £32,000 “ “ £34,000...	6½ “
“ “ £34,000 “ “ £36,000...	6¾ “
“ “ £36,000 “ “ £38,000...	6¾ “
“ “ £38,000 “ “ £40,000...	6¾ “
“ “ £40,000 “ “ £44,000...	7 “
“ “ £44,000 “ “ £48,000...	7½ “
“ “ £48,000 “ “ £52,000...	7¾ “
“ “ £52,000 “ “ £56,000...	7¾ “
“ “ £56,000 “ “ £60,000...	7¾ “
“ “ £60,000 “ “ £64,000...	8 “
“ “ £64,000 “ “ £68,000...	8½ “
“ “ £68,000 “ “ £72,000...	8¾ “
“ “ £72,000 “ “ £76,000...	8¾ “
“ “ £76,000 “ “ £80,000...	8¾ “
“ “ £80,000 “ “ £84,000...	9 “
“ “ £84,000 “ “ £88,000...	9½ “
“ “ £88,000 “ “ £92,000...	9¾ “
“ “ £92,000 “ “ £96,000...	9¾ “
“ “ £96,000 “ “ £100,000...	9¾ “
And over the value of £100,000	10 “

Mr. Reid moved, That the resolutions be now read a second time.

Question put.

The

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th November, 1897.

The House divided.

Ayes, 30.

Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Cook,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Edden,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Morgan,	Mr. O'Reilly.
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Watkins,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Wilks.
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Bavister,	
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	

Noes, 8.

Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Rigg.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Kelly.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Resolutions read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolutions were then agreed to.

7. STAMP AND PROBATE DUTIES BILL:—

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolutions of Ways and Means (Nos. 4 and 5), to impose certain stamp duties and probate duties; and for purposes of and incidental to the above objects.

(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to impose certain stamp duties and probate duties; and for purposes of and incidental to the above objects,*"—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

8. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Report of the Managers of the Free Conference appointed by the Assembly,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee, having considered the Report brought up by the Assembly's Managers from the Free Conference, no longer insists upon its disagreements, and agrees to the further amendments in the Bill.

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

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having taken into consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 21st October, 1897, and also the report of the Managers on behalf of the Assembly at the Free Conference with the Legislative Council, in reference to the Council's amendments in the Hunter District Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill, disagreed to by the Assembly, and insisted on by the Council,—no longer insists upon its disagreements, and agrees to the Council's further amendments in the Bill.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 5th November, 1897, a.m.*

The House adjourned, at thirteen minutes before Four o'clock a.m., until *Wednesday next* at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 69.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Mail Contracts for 1897 and 1898 :—Mr. Affleck asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) What was the total amount for mail contracts, as accepted last month for 1898, per annum, for the Southern, Northern, and Western Districts?
 - (2.) How much of that total amount is paid to the Railway Commissioners for the said mails on the railway?
 - (3.) The same information with regard to the above Questions for the year 1897?
- Mr. Cook answered,—I will lay this information upon the Table presently.
- (2.) Working Hours of Railway and Tramway Employees :—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. T. R. Smith*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Railway Commissioners refuse to grant the engine-drivers, guards, and tramway employes the eight hours or forty-eight hours a week, as per resolution of this House?
 - (2.) Will he give instructions to have the wish of the majority of Members of this House carried into effect by adopting the eight-hour principle, or forty-eight hours per week, for all railway men who are compelled to work over eight hours per day?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) No.
 - (2.) The Honorable Member must be aware that the detail working of the railways is controlled by the Railway Commissioners, and I am informed by them that they are at all times desirous of carrying out any resolution adopted by the Legislative Assembly where they can 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 enginemen 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 of labour must be accompanied by a reduction of pay, and a withdrawal or 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.
- (3.) Appointment of Principal Assistant Architect :—*Mr. Wilks* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Respecting the appointment of Principal Assistant Architect, did the Public Service Board recommend on its own authority *Mr. McRae* for the position, or was the Board advised; and, if so, on whose report did the Public Service Board state there was no man in the Service fit to occupy the post?
 - (2.) Has the position been confirmed?
 - (3.) Has the Government Architect been consulted since his return; and does he consider that no officer of the Department is fit to occupy the position?
 - (4.) On whose or what authority does the Public Service Board state that a better outside man than *Mr. McRae* is not likely to be obtained?
 - (5.) Why, when so many appointments have been already filled by competition in the Architect's Department, was this position singled out for different treatment?
 - (6.) Was it not settled upon in the absence of *Mr. Vernon*?
 - (7.) Were not the drawings of the proposed Houses of Parliament prepared by gentlemen on the Government Architect's staff?

Mr.

10th November, 1897.

Mr. Reid answered,—The Public Service Board have furnished me with the following reply:—The Public Service Board accept the entire responsibility for the recommendation they have made in this case. The law imposes this upon them, and they accept it to the fullest extent. Before making their recommendation the Board satisfied themselves that it was the best they could advise in the interest of the Public Service. Although there are many good officers in the Government Architect's Department, the Board are of opinion that there is no one possessing the peculiar qualifications necessary for the position of Principal Assistant Architect, which, above all, requires administrative ability, and they would not, therefore, accept the responsibility of recommending the appointment of any of the existing staff.

(4.) Counsel in Case *Greene v. Hargraves*:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Minister, besides instructing counsel for the Crown in the Land Appeal case *Greene v. Hargraves*, also instructed a second counsel to appear on behalf of the respondent?
- (2.) In view of his reply to Mr. Rose's Question, asked on Thursday, 4th November, is it his intention to instruct counsel on behalf of all future respondents who may be put to the expense of attending at the Land Appeal Court?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—To the first Question I replied "Yes" on last sitting day. As to the second Question, each case will be considered on its merits.

(5.) Amount Received for Traction of Coal from the Northern Collieries:—Mr. Fegan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) The total amount received by the Government for the traction of coal from the northern collieries from 1st September, 1896, to the 30th September, 1897, inclusive?
- (2.) The total amount still due and payable by the said collieries for the traction of coal for the same period?
- (3.) The total amount received by the Government for royalty on coal in the Northern District from the 1st September, 1896, to the 30th September, 1897, inclusive?
- (4.) The names of collieries or companies who pay royalty on coal for the same period?

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.

(6.) Conduct of Warden Adjudicating on Lucknow Mining Dispute:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it his intention to accede to the request made by Mr. McGowen, the Honorable Member for Redfern, on Wednesday, the 3rd November, and provide for an inquiry as to the "conduct of the Warden" when adjudicating on the recent Lucknow mining dispute?

Mr. Reid answered,—In the absence of evidence of corruption or general incapacity, as laid down in my speech on the proposed vote of censure, it would be impossible for any Government to challenge the correctness of a decision in any particular case by any person sitting and acting as a Judge in open Court. The law generally provides persons interested in any particular case, and, dissatisfied with the decision, modes of appealing to a higher tribunal.

(7.) Alleged Case of Typhoid Fever at North Botany:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that a dairyman named T. S. Barron, of North Botany, had a child taken from his house (supposed to be suffering from typhoid fever) to the Coast Hospital?
- (2.) Is it a fact that the child had not contracted fever of any kind, but died in the hospital from heart disease?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the dairyman was ordered to close his dairy, and suffered considerable loss through the action of the Board of Health?
- (4.) Will he consider the equities of the case, and make some compensation to this dairyman, who lost his daughter and business?

Mr. Reid answered,—

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

(3.) As a matter of fact, no order to close the dairy was given by the Board of Health; but the Board consider it necessary to prevent the sale of milk from premises on which typhoid fever, diphtheria, and scarlet fever are present until all chance of spreading the infection among the public by milk has been avoided; and in the course of each year local authorities do suspend for a time the business of dairymen in different parts of the country with that object.

(4.) It is not known that Barron did lose his business except from his own statements. If he lost it, it may have been for other reasons. Other milkmen similarly dealt with have not lost their businesses, and there were no peculiar features about Barron's case.

(8.) Salaries paid out of Loan Votes:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What was the total amount of salaries paid to persons in the employ of Government out of the Loan Vote for the financial year 1896-7?

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 manner. I would suggest that the Honorable Member get a return for several years preceding the year 1896-7 also.

(9.) Issue of *Hansard* to Members of Parliament:—Mr. See asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Government Printer has Ministerial authority to supply Members of Parliament with only one proof copy of *Hansard*, one sessional volume, and one additional proof copy; all extra copies supplied to be charged at 3d. for each copy?
- (2.) Are the above instructions adhered to in all cases, including Ministers of the Crown?

Mr. Reid answered,—Under Treasury authority of 23th July last six copies of any issue of *Hansard* have been supplied, on application, to Members of Parliament.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th November, 1897.

2. **NYNGAN TOWN HALL (MORTGAGE) BILL**:—Mr. Waddell presented a Petition from the Municipal Council of the Municipal District of Nyngan, praying for leave to bring in a Bill 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.
And Mr. Waddell having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Nyngan Observer*, newspapers, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—Petition received.
3. **PAPERS**:—
Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Amended Gaol Regulation.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Abstract of Alterations and Cancellation of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
(2.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
(3.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from Sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
(4.) Copy of *Gazette* Notice, setting forth the mode in which it is proposed to deal with the Dedication of certain Lands, in accordance with the provisions of the 105th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18, and the 41st section of the Act 53 Victoria No. 21.
(5.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. Cook laid upon the Table,—Return respecting Mail Contracts for the years 1897 and 1898.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Schedule to Military Allowances proposed for the year 1897–8.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. **LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL (No. 2) (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments, in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years; to make better provision in respect of assessment books; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.
Question put and passed.
5. **COLOURED RACES RESTRICTION AND REGULATION BILL (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to apply and extend certain provisions of the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888 to other coloured races; to amend the said Act; and for other purposes incidental to or consequent upon the before-mentioned objects.
Question put and passed.
6. **IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION BILL (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to 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.
Question put and passed.
7. **MORT'S DOCK AND ENGINEERING COMPANY (LIMITED) ENABLING BILL (Formal Motion)**:—
(1.) Mr. Wilks moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable Mort's Dock and Engineering Company (Limited) to close portions of certain streets at Mort Bay in the Borough of Balmain, being a portion of College-street and the north-east end of Mort-street, and to establish a new street in lieu thereof; and for other purposes connected therewith.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Wilks having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled "*A Bill to enable Mort's Dock and Engineering Company (Limited) to close portions of certain streets at Mort Bay, in the Borough of Balmain, being a portion of College-street and the north-east end of Mort-street, and to establish a new street in lieu thereof; and for other purposes connected therewith.*"—read a first time.
8. **RYAN'S AND DALY'S CONDITIONAL PURCHASES, PARISH OF YETHOLME, COUNTY OF ROXBURGH (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and plans connected with Ryan's and Daly's conditional purchases, parish of Yetholme, county of Roxburgh.
Question put and passed.
9. **PROPOSAL TO TRANSFER EMMAVILLE, DEEPWATER, AND THE NINE-MILE FROM THE POLICE DISTRICT OF GLEN INNES TO THAT OF TENTERFIELD (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Wright moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all reports, letters, minutes, and correspondence on the proposal to transfer Emmaville, Deepwater, and the Nine-mile from the Police District of Glen Innes to that of Tenterfield.
Question put and passed.

10th November, 1897.

10. AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Frank Farnell moved pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the total amount by way of special grants and subsidies, paid to agricultural and horticultural societies during the past twenty years.
Question put and passed.
11. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
- (1.) Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill; to be considered in Committee;—until Tuesday, 7th December.
 - (2.) Small Debts Recovery Act Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Tuesday, 7th December.
 - (3.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.
 - (4.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.
 - (5.) Prisoners' Gaol Regulation Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday next.
 - (6.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until To-morrow.
 - (7.) Illegitimacy Disability Removal Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday next.
 - (8.) Municipalities Franchise Extension Bill; second reading;—until Thursday, 18th November.
 - (9.) Eight Hours Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 21st December.
 - (10.) Public Service Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 21st December.
 - (11.) Grand Jury Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 7th December.
12. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—
- (1.) Registration of Deeds Bill:—
MR. SPEAKER,—
The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Law relating to the Registration of Deeds,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.
Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 28th October, 1897.
Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
JOHN LACKEY,
President.
- (2.) Municipalities Bill:—
MR. SPEAKER,—
The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Laws relating to Municipalities,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.
Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 28th October, 1897.
Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
JOHN LACKEY,
President.
- (3.) Nuisances Prevention Bill:—
MR. SPEAKER,—
The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Laws relating to the prevention of certain Nuisances in Municipalities,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.
Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 28th October, 1897.
Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
JOHN LACKEY,
President.
- (4.) Quarantine Bill:—
MR. SPEAKER,—
The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Laws relating to Quarantine,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.
Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 28th October, 1897.
Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
JOHN LACKEY,
President.
- (5.) 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, 28th October, 1897.
Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
JOHN LACKEY,
President.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th November, 1897.

(6.) 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, 28th October, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

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

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

(7.) Public Entertainments Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts for regulating places of Public Exhibition and Entertainment,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 28th October, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

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

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

(8.) Distillation Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Laws relating to the distillation, rectifying, and compounding of spirits; the prevention of unlawful distillation; the protection of the revenue arising from the duties on spirits; and the authorisation and regulation of the warehousing under bond and the exportation free of duty of spirits distilled within the Colony of New South Wales,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 28th October, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

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

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

(9.) Employers' Liability Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts extending and regulating the liability of employers to make compensation for personal injuries suffered by workmen in their service,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 28th October, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

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

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

(10.) Contractors' Debts Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts for better securing the payment of Debts due to Workmen, Tradesmen, and others,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 28th October, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

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

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

(11.) Claims against the Government and Crown Suits Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

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

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 28th October, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

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

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

(12.) 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, 28th October, 1897.

JOHN LACKAY,

President.

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

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

(13.)

10th November, 1897.

(13.) Compensation to Relatives Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to compensation to relatives of persons killed by accidents,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 28th October, 1897.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

(14.) Consolidated Revenue Fund Bill (No. 2) :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1897-8, and for a Service to be hereafter provided for by Loan,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 28th October, 1897.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

13. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL (No. 2) :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

HAMPDEN,

*Message No. 57.**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 1897-8; and for a Service 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 forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 29th October, 1897.*

14. LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL (No. 2) :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

HAMPDEN,

*Message No. 58.**Governor.*

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends to the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments, in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years; to make better provision in respect of assessment books; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.

*Government House,
Sydney, 10th November, 1897.*

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

15. IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION BILL :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

HAMPDEN,

*Message No. 59.**Governor.*

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to 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.

*Government House,
Sydney, 10th November, 1897.*

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

16. COLOURED RACES RESTRICTION AND REGULATION BILL :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

HAMPDEN,

*Message No. 60.**Governor.*

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to apply and extend certain provisions of the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888 to other coloured races; to amend the said Act; and for other purposes incidental to or consequent upon the before-mentioned objects.

*Government House,
Sydney, 10th November, 1897.*

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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th November, 1897.

17. JOINT STOCK COMPANIES ARRANGEMENT (CONTINUATION) BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Gould moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to continue section 3 of the Joint Stock Companies Arrangement Act, 1891, to the 1st day of January, 1900. Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 36.

Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Bruncker,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Young,

Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. See,
Mr. Bull,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Raymond,
Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Nicholson,

Mr. Rose,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Ashton.

Tellers,

Mr. Anderson,
Mr. T. R. Smith.

Noes, 7.

Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Black,
Mr. Edden.

Tellers,

Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Watkins.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(2.) Mr. Gould then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to continue section 3 of the Joint Stock Companies Arrangement Act, 1891, to the 1st day of January, 1900,*"—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

18. TRUST PROPERTY (AMENDMENT) BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Gould moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make further provision for the vesting of trust property in new trustees.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Gould then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to make further provision for the vesting of trust property in new trustees,*"—which was read a first time.

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

19. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported 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:—The Chairman stated that, during the debate on the Vote "Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, £1,250," he ruled that an Honorable Member was not entitled to discuss the constitution of that Committee, or the fees or travelling expenses of the Members of it, as these items were fixed by Statute, and were not specifically included in the Vote submitted. And exception being taken to this ruling,—on the motion of Mr. Copeland, the matter was referred to the House for decision. Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker having referred to the fact that an opportunity had been given in the Financial Debate for a general discussion on this subject, said that, while upholding the ruling of the Chairman, he would go somewhat further, and say that, although the travelling expenses of the Public Works Committee were not involved in the estimate, yet the conduct of the business by that Committee and its officers could certainly be criticised in relation to the item of £200 for "Extra clerical assistance as required—including travelling allowance to shorthand-writers accompanying Sectional Committees," but not the actual amounts received either as fees or travelling expenses by the Members of the Public Works Committee.

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

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 11 NOVEMBER, 1897, A.M.

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

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

(1.) Australasian Federation (Representatives' Allowance) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the payment of allowances to the Representatives of New South Wales at the Federal Convention,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 11th November, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.
(2.)

10th November, 1897.

(2.) Church and School Lands Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to vest the Church and School Lands in Her Majesty, free from all trusts and provisions affecting the same; to validate certain dealings with those lands; and to provide for the appropriation of moneys at credit of the Public Instruction Endowment Account; to make better provision for dealing with the said lands, and with the money derived therefrom; and for purposes incidental to the above 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, 11th October, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President

CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 11th November, 1897.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 1, clause 1, line 15. *After "effect" insert "except in so far as such right, title, or interest may be affected by the exercise of any power conferred by the Mining Act of 1874 or any Acts amending the same"*
- Page 2, clause 4, line 21. *After "granted" insert "by the Crown or"*
- Page 2, clause 4, line 29. *After "same" insert "(subject, however, to the provisions of section nine of this Act in respect of rental)"*
- Page 2, clause 4, line 37. *After "purchase" insert "under the provisions of sections sixty-six and sixty-eight of the Crown Lands Act of 1884: Provided that nothing in section sixty-six of that Act shall be held to limit the sale of land under this Act to the proprietor or proprietors in fee simple of adjacent lands"*
- Page 2, clause 5, line 55. *Omit "rent and"*
- Page 3, clause 6, line 1. *After "other" insert "adjoining"*
- Page 3, clause 6, lines 1 and 2. *Omit "in fee simple or"*
- Page 3, clause 6, line 3. *Omit "maintain" insert "enable"*
- Page 3, clause 6, line 3. *Omit "and his family" insert "to establish and maintain a home thereon by the use of the land"*
- Page 3, clause 8, line 23. *Omit "or improvement lease"*
- Page 3, clause 8, line 23. *After "than" omit remainder of clause insert "taken with any other adjoining land held by the applicant under conditional purchase or conditional lease is sufficient to enable the applicant to establish and maintain a home thereon by the use of the land; and no application as aforesaid shall be confirmed for the conversion of any lease or leases into a holding of any class unless or until all rents due to the Crown at the rate reserved for the original term of the lease are paid to the Colonial Treasurer"*
- Page 3, clause 9, line 41. *Omit "maintain" insert "enable"*
- Page 3, clause 9, line 42. *Omit "and his family" insert "to establish and maintain a home thereon by the use of the land"*
- Page 3, clause 9, lines 49 to 52. *Omit "The annual rental of any holding converted under this Act shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of the Crown Lands Acts, and shall be subject to the provision for periodic reappraisements contained in section seventeen of fifty-eight Victoria number eighteen" insert "The annual rental of any holding converted under this Act into a holding under the Crown Lands Acts, in respect of which rent is payable, shall for the first period of ten years after acceptance of the decision of the Minister be appraised and determined (irrespective of improvements the property of the holder) in accordance with the provisions of section six of the Crown Lands Act of 1889, and shall in like manner be appraised and determined for every succeeding period of ten years, or lesser period, for which rent is payable in respect of the holding."*
- Page 4, clause 13, line 59. *After "individual" insert "Provided further that the land granted in exchange for private land may be granted on the same terms and conditions to all intents and purposes as are contained in the grants on which such private lands are held, anything in the Crown Lands Act of 1884 to the contrary notwithstanding."*
- Page 5, clause 14, lines 15 and 16. *Omit "one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven" insert "the commencement of this Act."*
- Page 6, clause 18, lines 11 and 12. *Omit "shall take effect on and after the first day of August, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, and"*

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration on Wednesday next.

(3.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th November, 1897.

(3.) Church Acts Repealing Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the amendment made by the Legislative Assembly in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to repeal the Acts 7 William IV No. 3, 8 William IV No. 5, and 21 Victoria No. 4; to bring lands held for Church purposes under the provisions of Ordinances of Synod; to validate the appointment of past trustees under the said repealed Acts; and to make provision for vesting lands held on trust in the present trustees and in new trustees without conveyance.*"

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 11th November, 1897.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

21. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Brunner moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 70.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 16 NOVEMBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Members of Parliament holding Mining Leases:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) What are the names of the Members of this House who are interested and hold mining leases, as shown in the books of the Department?
 - (2.) If any, how many leases does each of them hold?
 - (3.) How many Members of this House have applied for land for mining purposes for which no leases have yet been granted?
 - (4.) If any, when will the leases be granted, and what is the cause of the delay?
 - (5.) Are any of these Members holding claims or leases on which they are not fulfilling the labour conditions, or have they been granted suspension, and for what reason; and who are they?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I suggest that the Honorable Member move for a return in the usual way.

- (2.) Returns of Gold under the Mining Act:—Mr. Bavister asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has it been customary for returns to be made to the Department of gold won or obtained at each mine in New South Wales?
 - (2.) Is there any Regulation under the Mining Act or in conditions requiring such a return to be made at stated periods?
 - (3.) Will he consider whether great advantage would accrue to those interested in mining and the public generally in directing and encouraging developing of the mining industry by procuring and publishing such returns either weekly or monthly?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—There is no Regulation under the Mining Act making it compulsory to furnish such information; but a return of the output of each district is collected annually by the officers of the Department and published in the Annual Report. The question is being considered in connection with the new Mining Bill in course of preparation.

- (3.) Lease of Frontage of the Scott Grant, Stockton:—Mr. Perry asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Has the Government leased the 100-feet frontage of the Scott grant in the Mitchell Estate, Stockton, to the Stockton Colliery, or to any other person?
 - (2.) If not, has the right to that frontage been allowed to lapse?
 - (3.) Has any person the right to levy rental for the use of this strip of frontage?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) No.

(2 and 3.) Scott's grant is dated 11th January, 1835, and as sixty years from that date had expired when steps were taken to recover the 100 ft. reservation in Mitchell's grant adjoining, it was decided not to institute proceedings pending receipt of an authoritative decision on the point of sixty years adverse possession against the Crown daily expected from the Privy Council in the case of the Attorney-General v. Love.

- (4.) Tender for Mail Contract, North Creek, Ballina:—Mr. Perry asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Did a Mr. Thomas Ryan tender for mail contract, North Creek, Ballina?
 - (2.) Was his tender lower than the successful tenderer; if so, will he state the reason for not accepting the lowest tender?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Yes; for conveyance on horseback.

(2.) Yes, by £2 12s. per annum, but the higher tender provided for a superior mode of conveyance, viz., one-horse sulky.

(5.)

16th November, 1897.

(5.) Attendance of Children at Penrith Public School:—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) How many children have attended the Penrith Public School during the year 1896?
- (2.) Is it a fact that no sewing mistress is employed in the above school?
- (3.) If not, will the Minister take the necessary steps to have a sewing mistress appointed to this school?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) The average attendance for the year 1896 was 422.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) No. It is now the practice of the Department only to employ work-mistresses in schools of the first class. In other schools sewing is taught by the female teachers or teachers' wives.

(6.) Inquiries by Mr. Coghlan into the Agent-General's Office:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What section of the Public Service Act empowers the Government "to depute Mr. Coghlan to inquire into the Agent-General's Office with the view to the grading of the staff," *vide* reply given to Mr. Perry, 14th October?

Mr. Reid answered,—In the reply given by my honorable colleague, the Chief Secretary, to Mr. Perry, on the 14th October, it was not stated that "the Government" had deputed Mr. Coghlan to inquire into the Agent-General's Office. As a matter of fact, Mr. Coghlan was deputed by his colleagues of the Public Service Board to undertake this duty, which is one imposed upon them by section 8 of the Public Service Act, the Agent-General's Office being one of the Departments of the Public Service of this Colony.

(7.) Expenses of Mr. Fairweather in England supervising the construction of a Dredge:—*Mr. Fegan*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What will be the cost incurred to the Colony by the despatch to England of Mr. Fairweather, an officer of his Department, charged with the task of supervising the construction of a new dredge?
- (2.) What would be the supervising costs were the system so long in vogue continued as far as this particular work was concerned?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Estimated cost, £250.
- (2.) The only analagous case is that of the imported sand-pump dredge "Jupiter," the supervision of which, in England, cost £735, or 3¼ per cent. on the total cost.

(8.) District Allowances to Public Servants:—*Mr. Ashton* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Was a scheme of district allowances to public servants recently approved by the Executive, on the recommendation of the Public Service Board?
- (2.) When will such scheme come into operation?

Mr. Reid answered,—Yes. Will be brought into force from the beginning of next financial year.

(9.) Extension of the Railway into the City:—*Mr. Fegan*, for Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the fact that the Royal Commission upon the extension of the railway into the city, and the Public Works Committee having reported in favour of the proposal, is it the intention of the Government to submit a Bill to Parliament hereon this Session?

Mr. Reid answered,—This matter is still under the consideration of the Government.

(10.) Fire Insurance Policies:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that Fire Insurance offices make it one of the conditions of a policy that they only pay a proportionate portion of the sum insured for, according to the number of years the policy is in existence, although the full premium is charged all the time?
- (2.) Will he introduce a Bill to have this remedied, and make it compulsory to pay the full amount of the policy where it is proved at the inquest the destruction of the property was no fault of the person insuring, or when the value is decreased yearly the premium will be reduced accordingly?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed by the Fire Underwriters' Association that there is no such condition in the policy of any insurance company doing business in this Colony.

(11.) The Mercadool Land Cases:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) The amount or approximate amount that has been expended by the Crown in conducting the inquiry into the Mercadool dummy cases?
- (2.) The number of days the inquiry lasted?
- (3.) Number of witnesses examined?
- (4.) What was the result of the said inquiry; and has it been finally settled?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—As this case is now before the Supreme Court, it would be better for the Honorable Member to apply for a return giving such information as is available.

(12.) Watchmen employed in the Public Wharfs Department:—*Mr. McElhone* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) In reference to Mr. McElhone's Questions of 4th November, and his replies thereto, in which it is shown that the wharfingers on the public wharfs work eighty-four hours per week, or twelve hours per day, Sundays included, is he aware that they are precluded from attending Divine Service on Sundays in consequence of the hours at which they begin and leave off work?
- (2.) As nearly all mechanics and workmen in Government employ work only eight hours per day, will he give such instructions as will make the work of these watchmen be only eight hours per day?
- (3.) Or will he take steps to have extra watchmen appointed, so that their work will only be eight hours per day; or cause the present watchmen to be paid overtime for all time over eight hours per day?

Mr.

16th November, 1897.

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) The watchmen on the public wharfs are not precluded from attending Church service on Sunday, as they are allowed to put an approved man in their place.
- (2.) No; their work is entirely different.
- (3.) No; but I think something should be done to improve the present state of things.

(13.) Establishment of Technical Classes at Balmain:—Mr. Wilks asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Considering the importance of Balmain as an industrial centre, will he establish technical classes there?
- (2.) If so, will he consult the Minister of Justice *re* obtaining the use of the large room (now unoccupied) over the Police Court, as it is in a most central position, for that purpose?

Mr. Garrard answered,—In view of the short distance between Balmain and the College at Ultimo, there does not appear to be any necessity for the establishment of classes at Balmain. Under any circumstances, however, it would be necessary for applications to be made (in compliance with the Regulations) for the establishment of classes.

(14.) Appointment of Pilot at the Tweed River:—Mr. Watkins, for Mr. Hughes, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the pilot recently appointed to the Tweed River station is over the age specified in the Regulations adopted by the Public Service Board?
- (2.) Why was this departure from these Regulations made in this instance?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) The Regulations in question do not apply to pilots.
- (2.) The pilot lately appointed to the Tweed is in the prime of life for such duties.

(15.) Land for Settlement on the West Bogan:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Lands,—On what date does he propose to throw open for settlement the land on the West Bogan which has recently been improved by the Government?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—Twenty-one blocks, including an area of 69,369 acres, were offered for improvement lease by notification in the *Gazette* of the 13th instant. Tenders for these leases will close on the 15th December.

(16.) Payment to men Forest-thinning near Deniliquin:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the men sent from Sydney to the forest-thinning, near Deniliquin, have been paid their wages in full for the months of September and October, while those engaged from Deniliquin, Moama, and Mathowra have only been paid for the month of September?
- (2.) Is it also a fact that these payments are made on a Sunday, thus compelling the men to remain in camp, and depriving them of the opportunity of visiting their homes on Saturday afternoon and Sunday?
- (3.) Will he give instructions that the men are paid at once, so as to permit them to leave their camps each Saturday afternoon, when their work is finished, and return to work on Monday morning?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) Yes, owing to a misunderstanding as to the amount required to pay the whole of the men engaged in forest-thinning.
- (2.) This occurred on one occasion only, when the Forester was unable to pay all the men on the previous Saturday.
- (3.) Yes.

2. PAPERS:—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Schedules A to E, Estimates 1897–8, Public Works Department.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Return to an Order, made on 26th October, 1897,—“Complaint against Warden Smith, of Tuena.”
- (2.) Proclamation, under the Imported Stock Acts, prohibiting the importation of cattle, camels, &c., infected with the cattle-tick or other disease; and prohibiting the introduction of any cattle, camels, &c., from certain portions of Queensland.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during October, 1897.
- (2.) Memorandum by the President of the Board of Health on prevention of Tuberculosis in man and in cattle.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. NYNGAN TOWN HALL (MORTGAGE) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

- (1.) Mr. Waddell moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill 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.

Question put and passed.

- (2.) Mr. Waddell having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled “*A Bill to 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,*”—read a first time.

16th November, 1897.

4. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
 (1.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until To-morrow.
 (2.) Sugar Industry in the North Coast Districts; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. McParlane;—until Tuesday next.

5. **ASSENT TO BILLS**:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Hunter District Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 61.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892, the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894, and the Hunter District Water Supply (Partial Duplication) Act, 1895; and for other purposes*,"—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, 13th November, 1897.

- (2.) Australasian Federation (Representatives' Allowance) Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 62.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the payment of allowances to the Representatives of New South Wales at the Federal Convention*,"—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, 13th November, 1897.

6. **STRATHFIELD RAILWAY CROSSING BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 63.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to enable the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close a certain level-crossing near Strathfield Railway Station, and to provide a way in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of that way to be a public thoroughfare.

Government House,

Sydney, 16th November, 1897.

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

7. **ANNUAL LEASES OF OWEN McCOSKER, COPE'S CREEK**:—Mr. Moore moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Annual Leases of Owen McCosker, Cope's Creek," brought up on 30th October, 1896, a.m., be now adopted.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 43.

Mr. Black,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Jessop,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. H. H. Brown,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Piers,	Mr. Hogue,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Carroll.
Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Wheeler,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Thomas.
Mr. Cruickshank,	

Noes, 19.

Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Ashton.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Fegan.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

16th November, 1897.

8. GOVERNMENT COAL MINES:—Mr. Edden moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, the time has arrived when the Government should take steps to secure coal-mines sufficient to supply coal for their own requirements.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 19.

Mr. Cook,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Dick,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. E. M. Clark.
Mr. Law,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Wilks,	
Mr. Black,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Affleck.
Mr. Watkins,	
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. Thomas,	

Noes, 22.

Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Brunner,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Hogue.
Mr. Wood,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Millard,	Mr. Jessep.

And so it passed in the negative.

9. CASE OF THOMAS BUCKLEY—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the case of Thomas Buckley, dismissed from the Public Works Department.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Howarth, Mr. Cann, Mr. Willis, Mr. McGowen, Mr. O'Sullivan, and the Mover.

(3.) That the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence of the Select Committee of Session 1896 be referred to such Committee.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

10. ALIGNMENT OF CROW'S NEST ROAD, NORTH SYDNEY:—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the conflicting opinions existing between the Lands Department and the Land Titles' Office in respect of the boundaries of certain lands taken by the Government when aligning Crow's Nest Road, North Sydney, and the claims of certain persons in respect thereto.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Brunner, Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Howarth, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Moore, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Whiddon, Mr. McLean, Mr. Chanter, and the Mover.

Debate ensued.

Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only seventeen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, viz., Mr. Affleck, Mr. Brunner, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Cook, Mr. Edden, Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Mr. Garrard, Mr. Gould, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Hogue, Mr. McGowen, Mr. McLean, Mr. Sleath, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Wilks, and Mr. Wood,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at six minutes before Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 71.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Appeals by Officers of the Registrar-General's Department:—*Mr. Nicholson*, for *Mr. Dick*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Did a number of officers of the Registrar-General's Department, on or about the 19th August, appeal against certain decisions of the Public Service Board?
- (2.) Had such appeals not reached the office of the Public Service Board five or six weeks after their date?
- (3.) Was persuasion brought to bear upon the appellants in order to induce them to withdraw their appeals?

Mr. Gould answered,—The Registrar-General has furnished me with the following replies:—

- (1.) No, but letters were received between the 16th and 31st August last from several officers, complaining of certain action of the Public Service Board concerning readjustment of salaries.
- (2.) The officers were informed of the *decision* of the Public Service Board in respect of such letters of complaint on the 15th October.
- (3.) No. The complainants were called together by the Registrar-General early in September, when a suggestion was made to them that the letters of complaint should be withdrawn, as the questions involved had already been dealt with by the Public Service Board, on the understanding that the views of the complainants would be reconsidered upon the first favourable opportunity.

- (2.) Increases to Officers of the Justice and Registrar-General's Departments:—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) By what authority has an extra rate of remuneration been paid to certain officers of the Department of Justice since the 1st July, 1897, considering the fact that the Estimates have not yet been passed?
- (2.) Is it a fact that certain officers in the Registrar-General's Department, who, at the time of the grading by the Public Service Board, received increases at the rates of £140, £120, and £25, respectively, have, since the 1st July, 1897, been the recipients of further increases in salary to the extent of £100, £100, and £50, respectively, without the sanction by Parliament of the Estimates?
- (3.) In view of the early consideration of the Estimates, will he cause to be laid upon the Table of this House all correspondence, official papers, &c., between the Public Service Board, Registrar-General's Office, and the Department of Justice, relative to appeals made by eighteen officers of the Registrar-General's Office against certain grading which took place in July last?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) By the Government, on the recommendation of the Public Service Board.
- (2.) The Registrar-General has furnished me with the following reply:—Increases have been given consequent, in one case, upon promotion to a new position of great responsibility, for which the officer in question was specially qualified, and, in the other two cases, in consequence of results obtained in administration. These increases will not, however, cause any further charge on the Estimates for the current year, as a saving of about £700 per annum in salaries has been effected by retirements and otherwise.
- (3.) As the Estimates of this Department have already been dealt with, this now appears unnecessary.

(3.)

17th November, 1897.

- (3.) Examination of the brain of the murderer Butler :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to a letter written by Dr. Cesare Lombroso, Professor of Legal Medicine at Turin University, and relating to the refusal of the New South Wales authorities to permit of a *post-mortem* examination of the brain of the murderer Butler?
 - (2.) Is he aware that in several continental countries, including Italy, such examinations are permitted, in the interests of the science of criminology, and that in those countries the Governments place the bodies of executed persons at the service of schools of legal medicine?
 - (3.) Will he take into his early consideration this subject, with a view towards having such examinations in future made in cases where the circumstances warrant it?
- Mr. Gould answered,—
- (1.) No; but I understand that a letter purporting to emanate from Professor Lombroso appeared in the *Evening News*, of the 20th October last, relating to the subject of criminal anthropology.
 - (2.) I am aware that, in some countries, examinations of the brains and bodies of executed criminals have been permitted, with a view, if possible, to ascertain whether they presented any peculiarities which were not to be found in the brains and bodies of ordinary honest people.
 - (3.) I am not prepared to consider any such proposal unless upon the recommendation of competent Government Medical Advisers.
- (4.) Maintenance Men :—Mr. Perry asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) It is a fact that the Department of Roads have contracted a habit of continually exchanging the maintenance men from one portion of a district to another, thereby necessitating the absence from home of numbers of men without a valid reason?
 - (2.) Is he aware that this system adds considerably to the cost of living to these men?
- Mr. Young answered,—Is it not a fact that the Department is continually changing maintenance men from one portion of a district to another without a valid reason. In a few cases changes have been made, but only when it has been to the interest of the roads to do so.
- (5.) Technological Museum :—Mr. Bavister asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) What tradesmen are employed by the Department on staff of Technological Museum, and what is the rate of pay to each trade?
 - (2.) When did Mr. Maiden retire from this Department?
 - (3.) Has he since then in any way taken part in or interfered with the administration of the Museum section of the Department?
 - (4.) Since January, 1891, how many on the Museum staff have been reduced in pay, and to what extent, and how many reductions?
 - (5.) How many on same staff have had increases since 1891, to what extent are such increases, and what positions do those employees occupy?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will be good enough to move for this information in the form of a return.
- (6.) Leave of Absence to Members of the Police Force :—Mr. Bavister asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) What (if any) recognised system of granting annual leave to members of the Police Force is there in New South Wales?
 - (2.) Are members of the New South Wales Police Force prohibited or prevented having leave on Saturday, Sunday, or public holidays?
 - (3.) Are different arrangements made for leave to members of the Force in the various districts of metropolitan area; and, if so, what are the differences?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police :—
- (1.) No system is established for granting annual leave, but no reasonable application is refused when practicable to grant leave.
 - (2.) Yes, but they are paid for seven days in the week.
 - (3.) No, a day's leave in each month is granted, unless the exigencies of the Service render it necessary to defer it.
- (7.) Promotion in the Police Force :—Mr. Bavister asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is promotion in the Police Force in England granted only after ability to fill position is proved by passing competitive examination?
 - (2.) Is there in the Police Force in England an advanced rate of pay for long service, for the encouragement of police constables for whom, though many years in the Force, there are no vacancies for suitable promotion?
 - (3.) On what system (if any) is promotion given in the New South Wales Police Force?
 - (4.) Would he consider whether it would not tend to greater encouragement of the men in the Service if increased pay for length of service, with good conduct, were given to men who, from prejudice of their superior officers or other reasons, fail to receive promotion?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police :—
- (1.) I am not aware of any such practice.
 - (2.) Yes; the pay is divided into classes.
 - (3.) Upon recommendations of the Superintendents of Police in charge of districts, based upon "efficiency and adaptation for the particular vacancy," coupled with length of service and good conduct, as laid down in the Regulations.
 - (4.) There are nine grades or ranks in the Police, but a limited number only can rise above the rank of constable, of which there are three grades—probationary, ordinary, and first-class. Any well-conducted efficient man can attain the latter rank, but length of service alone is not thought in all cases to be a qualification for a higher rate of pay.

(8.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

17th November, 1897.

(8.) Probationers at the Prince Alfred Hospital:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Secretary,—
In the interests of humanity, will he be good enough to submit the following Questions to the
Matron of Prince Alfred Hospital:—

- (1.) At what hour do the probationers commence their morning duties?
- (2.) What are their duties up to 10 a.m.?
- (3.) Have they to scrub floors, tables, black-lead grates, &c.?
- (4.) For how long a period of their probation have they to perform these menial duties before they attend to nursing only?
- (5.) Whether, in her opinion, they are in a fit state physically or mentally to attend to the patients after having done the laborious work?
- (6.) Whether, when a probationer is run down through heavy work, she is not more susceptible to infection from her patients?
- (7.) Whether, when on night duty from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., is it possible that she can study for her examination and obtain the necessary hours for sleep?
- (8.) Whether she would not be in a better condition to attend to the patients if she was relieved from the morning drudgery?
- (9.) How many probationers have left during the past two years?
- (10.) Do the nurses get their holidays punctually as arranged for?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Medical Superintendent of the Prince Alfred Hospital:—

- (1.) 6 a.m.
- (2.) Making six beds each, washing six patients each, sweeping ward, washing tiled floors of day-room and lavatory (not of ward, which is done by scrubbing women); scouring white wood tables of ward and day-room, small ice chest, bread cupboard and safe; preparing patients' breakfast, washing patients' crockery and utensils. There are two probationers to each large ward, and sometimes three.
- (3.) They wash tiled floors of day-room and lavatory, respective areas 15½ feet x 13 feet, 11 feet x 10½ feet. They also keep clean the white wood tables. They do not black-lead ward grates, but do sometimes black-lead a small unused grate in the nurses' dayroom (black-leading of ward grates is done by scrubbing women).
- (4.) They attend to nursing from the time of their admission, and the period of probationary duty is one year.
- (5.) Yes.
- (6.) Yes; anyone run down from any cause is more liable to infection.
- (7.) Yes. It is exceptional for probationers to be on duty from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Such only happens in cases of emergency, and the duty is not prolonged beyond three months.
- (8.) Not if the hours remain the same, since the actual nursing is the hardest part of a nurse's duties.
- (9.) Twenty-two. Of these, eight were asked to resign because their work was unsatisfactory; seven were asked to resign because of their physical condition, which was considered unsuitable; three left because they did not like the work; three left for family reasons; and one because she could not do the work.
- (10.) Holidays are not arranged to be given at any particular time. It was originally arranged that nurses should have fourteen days' holiday on full pay each year. A further seven days each year was given, making sixty-three days in a three years' course. They always get this amount.

(9.) Alleged Cases of Dummying on New Angledool Station, near Walgett:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Respecting Dr. Ross's Questions of the 19th October, 1897, *re* eight cases of alleged dummy homestead leases on Angledool Station, Narren, will he furnish the names of the persons who have taken up these leases, the date thereof, and the area of each respectively?
- (2.) Is it a fact that these leases have been all taken up by the employees of the Angledool Station, and under the control of the manager of the station?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the manager (Mr. Moore) holds one of these leases in the interest of the owner or trustees of the station?
- (4.) Will he have the respective leases on the Angledool Station granted to George Farlow, Mason, Pat Ryan, W. Newcomen, Waterson, and Moore, the manager, &c., referred to the Land Board for the fullest investigation as to the *bona-fides* of these respective homestead lease owners?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) The information sought by the Honorable Member will be furnished in the form of a return if moved for in the usual manner.
 - (2, 3, and 4.) I must reiterate the statement made in my reply to the Honorable Member's Question of the 19th ultimo, *viz.*, that, until reliable evidence is forthcoming, the Government are powerless to deal with the alleged wholesale system of dummying. I have no desire to withhold proceedings when sufficient warrant for them may be shown.
- (10.) Thomas Jaques, Railway Fetter:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) How long is it since one Thomas Jaques, now stationed at Bumbury, on Parkes-Forbes line, became a fetter on the railway?
 - (2.) Is it true that, during the eight years he has been in the Service, he has received only 7s. per day in place of the standard rate of wages, *viz.*, 7s. 6d.?
 - (3.) Has he ever made any complaints to the Department of this treatment; and why has his application not been dealt with?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that other fettlers, his juniors in the Service, are in the receipt of the standard rate of wages, while he is only receiving 7s. after eight years' service, part of which was spent on the railway beyond Dubbo?
 - (5.) Who is answerable for the delay, or the shrinking of wages, that is carried on in the Railway Service?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that Jaques is being paid in accordance with the existing Railway Regulations. (11.)

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- (11.) Oyster Leases on the Northern Rivers :—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that a number of applications for oyster leases on the northern rivers have not been dealt with owing to the inability of an Inspector to find time to visit the locality?
 (2.) Is he aware that some of these leases have been applied for during the year 1896?
 (3.) If the present staff cannot overtake the work of the Department, will he suggest to the Public Service Board the advisableness of appointing an additional Inspector?
 Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Secretary and Chief Inspector of Fisheries :—
 (1 and 2.) Yes.
 (3.) The Fisheries Commissioners have asked for provision to be made on the next Estimates for the appointment of an extra Inspector.
- (12.) Mail Contract, Oberon to Jenolan Caves :—Mr. Hurley asked the Postmaster-General,—
 (1.) Did a Mr. J. J. Keen tender for mail contract, Oberon to Jenolan Caves?
 (2.) Was his tender lower than the successful tenderer; if so, will he state the reason for not accepting the lowest tender?
 Mr. Cook answered,—
 (1.) Yes.
 (2.) Yes, by £2 per annum; but Keen tendered to convey the mails by four-wheeled vehicle, *or on horseback*, whereas the tender accepted was that of the present contractor, who tendered to convey by “licensed covered passenger coach.”
- (13.) Report on the Police Superannuation Fund :—Mr. Haynes, for Mr. Millard, asked the Colonial Secretary,—If he has any objection to lay upon the Table of this House the recent report of the Inspector-General of Police on the Police Superannuation Fund and other matters relating thereto?
 Mr. Bruncker answered,—This matter is now engaging attention, and as soon as a decision has been arrived at it will be communicated to the House.
- (14.) Tobacco Expert :—Mr. Haynes asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Is the gentleman from America, who was appointed tobacco expert, still in the service of the Government?
 (2.) If he is not in the Service, has he retired, or has he been removed?
 (3.) For what period was he appointed, and what were the services he rendered during the period?
 (4.) What was the sum paid him for his services and for his expenses?
 Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
 (1.) Yes; he has been temporarily appointed for six months from 5th November.
 (2 and 3.) He was originally appointed for three years, but resigned.
 (4.) He has been paid at the rate of £400 per annum from the date of his appointment (9th May) up to the date of his resignation (14th September). Nothing has yet been paid for his expenses.
- (15.) Refund of Gratuity by Officers reappointed to the Service :—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that officers reappointed to the Service, while called upon to refund the amount of their gratuity, are not allowed to count their past services?
 (2.) If there are any such cases, will he see whether the arrangement is corrected?
 Mr. Reid answered,—As persons appointed or reappointed to the Public Service since the passing of the Public Service Act do not participate in any superannuation scheme, and are not entitled to gratuity of any kind on retirement, there is no importance in the question of counting past services, except, perhaps, for purposes of promotion when vacancies occur.
- (16.) Deaf and Dumb Institution, Newtown Road :—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) What is the number of blind children at the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind Institute, Newtown Road?
 (2.) What is the number of sighted persons employed at that institute; and the amount of salary per annum paid to each sighted person?
 (3.) What is the total cost to date of the lands and all buildings erected thereon?
 Mr. Bruncker answered,—It is impossible in so short a time to furnish the information asked for in this and the two following Questions. I shall be only too glad, if the information is moved for in the form of a return, to furnish it.
- (17.) Costs in Appeal Cases against the Commissioners of Taxation :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the total amount of costs up to date given against the Taxation Commissioners in appeal cases?
 Mr. Reid answered,—This information cannot be given until the costs are taxed.
- (18.) City Railway Extension :—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it his intention to proceed with the city railway this Session?
 Mr. Young answered,—This matter is still under consideration.
- (19.) Case of William Mallett, of Botany :—Mr. James Thomson, for Mr. Dacey, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House all papers, correspondence, and reports of the Crown Solicitor, opinions of the Attorney-General, together with the reports of Detective Hines, in the case of William Mallett, of Botany?
 (2.) As it is alleged that perjury has been committed in the case of William Mallett v. Orr and others, heard in Equity in August last, will the Government instruct the Crown Solicitor to investigate the same?
 Mr. Reid answered,—
 (1.) No.
 (2.) No. I may add, I have already looked into this matter, and got a report from the Crown Solicitor and the Police, which satisfies me that the case is not one to take up.

17th November, 1897.

(20.) Lock-up at Dubbo :—Mr. Simeon Phillips asked the Colonial Secretary,—What is the cause of the delay in the erection of the new lock-up at Dubbo ?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The purchase of the land for the erection of this building has not yet been completed, owing to the usual delay which takes place in reference to the settlement of titles.

(21.) Fruit Vendors in the the Domain :—Mr. McElhone asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that one or two Italian fruit vendors, who are most likely not naturalised subjects are allowed the monopoly of selling fruit in the Domain ?

(2.) Is he aware that on the 15th of this month a young Italian boy had a stand, selling fruit, drinks, &c., inside the Domain gates, St. Mary's entrance ?

(3.) Who is the person who gives these foreigners the right to sell fruit, &c., in the Domain, whilst Australian-born people and British subjects are not allowed to sell fruit, &c., in the Domain ?

(4.) Can he state why foreigners are allowed the sole right to sell fruit in the Domain ?

(5.) Can he state why a number of respectable, aged people, who were allowed to sell fruit, &c., in the Domain, have not now this privilege, which is now given to aliens and foreigners ?

(6.) Who is the official who is responsible for this change, which allows aliens the right to sell fruit, &c., in the Domain, to the exclusion of British subjects ?

(7.) Will he consider whether it is right or just to grant this privilege to aliens or foreigners, mostly young persons, whilst respectable, aged British people are prevented from obtaining a living by selling fruit, &c., in the Domain ?

(8.) As he is the responsible head of the Department which controls the Domain, and there are Public Servants who are paid to look after it, will he at once give instructions to allow respectable, aged persons, widows, &c., the right to sell fruit, &c., in the Domain, and put a stop to the monopoly which paid Public Servants have given to aliens ?

(9.) What are the names of the persons who are now allowed to sell fruit, &c., in the Domain, excluding the person who rents the Kiosk, or tea-room, in the Domain ?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the officer in charge of the Botanic Gardens:—There are two stands, in addition to the Kiosk, in the Government Domains—one belonging to Frank Schabaha, inside the gates, St. Mary's entrance, and the other belonging to Nicola Biango, near Cavill's baths, Lady Macquarie's Chair. Schabaha has been in possession of his stand for five years and Biango four years. Schabaha's stand was formerly held by an Englishman, who sold out to him. Under the circumstances it was decided not to interfere with him. He is not, however, permitted to hawk fruit, &c., about the Domains, and has been informed that if he does his permit will be withdrawn. This also applies to Biango. There is also an old woman, Margaret Kennedy, who has for the past sixteen years been allowed to sell fruit in baskets outside the main gates of the Botanic Gardens. These stands were in existence prior to the erection of the Kiosk, the permits having been granted under Rule 7 of the Domain Regulations by the late Director. It has been considered desirable that no further permits should be issued.

(22.) New South Wales Oranges in London :—Mr. Lyne asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to an article in the *Daily Telegraph* of the 9th November, from the London correspondent of that paper, headed "New South Wales Oranges in London" ?

(2.) Do the remarks in that article refer to oranges sent from here under Government auspices ?

(3.) If so, what explanation is given by the responsible persons for the condition in which this fruit arrived in London ?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1 and 2.) Yes.

(3.) A trial made last year of sending oranges in the cool chambers of the ship proved a great success, and it was decided to try an experimental shipment this year on a commercial scale to see if it were not possible to save 60 per cent. of the freight-charges by sending the fruit as ordinary cargo. The consignment consisted of 1,154 cases, and it was not possible to make separate parcels of them—one for the cool chamber and the other in the ordinary cargo hold—for the reason that to obtain a cool chamber a minimum consignment of about 2,000 cases would have had to be forwarded in addition to those sent as ordinary cargo. It was intended to experiment simultaneously with both systems, but on inquiry it was found impossible to obtain sufficient oranges at a reasonable price to carry out such a combined test. When the accounts are adjusted, and credit given for the fruit which arrived in good condition, the loss will be inconsiderable as compared with the experience gained by fruit-growers and exporters of the Colony.

(23.) Mineral Leases :—Mr. Cann asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) What number of mineral leases are there in the Colony; and what number of men would be employed to comply with labour conditions on the same ?

(2.) What number of those leases are under suspension of labour conditions; and what number of men would be employed to fulfil labour conditions on those leases ?

(3.) What number of leases are idle without suspension of labour conditions; and what number of men would be employed on such leases if they were worked ?

(4.) What number of leases employ more labour than required by the conditions of leases; and what number of men in excess of the requirements of such leases ?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—If the Honorable Member will move for a return in the usual way, I will endeavour to obtain the information he desires.

(24.) The McSharry Arbitration Case :—Mr. *Hogue*, for Mr. McMillan, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Now that the evidence is closed in the McSharry Arbitration, will he state the number of days which have been occupied by the giving of that evidence by the respective parties ?

Mr. Young answered,—I have received the following reply from the Attorney-General's Office:—"Plaintiff's evidence occupied 143 days, and defendant's evidence occupied 92 days."

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(25.) Early Closing Bill:—Mr. Waddell asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—When does he intend to introduce his Bill for the early closing of shops?

Mr. Garrard answered,—I hope to be able to introduce this Bill before the close of the Session.

(26.) Coast Hospital, Little Bay:—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. McGowen, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Whether he has any objection to state on what authority he informed the House, on Wednesday, 10th instant, that “though the nurses at the Coast Hospital were nominally on duty ten hours a day they only worked five”?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I refer the Honorable Member to the Answer which I gave to the Honorable Member for Waratah on the 10th November. I then said that two of the nurses waited upon me two days after the resolution had been discussed in the House. They said that they had made no complaint, and that they required no such consideration as had been urged on their behalf.

(27.) Appointments of Medical Officers of Health:—Mr. McLean asked the Colonial Treasurer,—(1.) Have any appointments of Medical Officers of Health, under the provisions of the Public Health Act, been made?

(2.) When will the whole of the appointments for the suburban districts be made?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) As soon as the money becomes available.

(28.) Salaries of Assistants of the Taxation Department:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of his Department to adjust the salaries of the assistants in the head office of the Taxation Department; if so, when?

Mr. Reid answered,—Nothing can at present be added to the reply given to a similar Question on the 21st ultimo, viz., “That the Public Service Board have deferred the grading of these officers until the Department has assumed what may be looked upon as its settled condition.”

(29.) Contract for Advertisements on the Agricultural Society's Show Ground:—Mr. Hogue asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he have any objection to lay upon the Table of this House the correspondence between his Department and the Royal Agricultural Society of New South Wales and Messrs. E. C. Shaw & Co. in connection with the contract for advertisements on the Society's Show Ground?

Mr. Gould answered,—There would be no objection to copies of the correspondence being laid upon the Table of this House if moved for in the usual manner.

(30.) The Royal Agricultural Society:—Mr. Hogue asked the Secretary for Mines,—(1.) What portion of the Vote for Pastoral and Agricultural Societies was paid to the Royal Agricultural Society of New South Wales?

(2.) Are the premises of the Society used for the purpose for which they were dedicated?

(3.) On what authority are they used for advertising purposes?

(4.) Is the money received for advertisements considered as contributions, and does the Government pay the bonus for those advertisements, and for what amount?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) £756 7s. 3d. paid to Royal Agricultural Society from 1st July, 1896, to 30th June, 1897. This Society will receive no more until after their show, to be held about March, 1898.

(2 and 3.) These are Questions for my honorable colleague the Secretary for Lands.

(4.) No.

2. CASE OF THOMAS BUCKLEY—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:—Mr. E. M. Clark presented a Petition from Thomas Buckley, of Sydney, representing that the House had appointed a Select Committee to inquire into his dismissal from the Public Works Department; and praying that he may be represented by counsel, or attorney, or in person, before the said Committee, with the right to call witnesses, and to examine and cross-examine all witnesses that may give evidence.

Petition received.

Mr. Clark then moved, That the Petition be referred to the Select Committee.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 62.

Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Young,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Anderson,
Dr. Graham,
Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,
Mr. Reymond,

Mr. Lyne,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Harvey,
Mr. McElhone,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Davister,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Waddell,

Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Chauter,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Newman,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. H. H. Brown,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. McGowen.

Tellers,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Hassall.

Noes, 4.

Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. James Thomson.

Tellers,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Sleath.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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3. GOVERNMENT LABOUR BUREAU :—Mr. Cotton presented a Petition from certain electors and citizens of the Colony, representing that, in the opinion of Petitioners, the further maintenance of the Government Labour Bureau is prejudicial to the best interests of the *bonâ fide* workers of the Colony; that the institution has failed to ameliorate the condition of the workers; and praying the House to refuse to pass the Estimate granting the necessary supply to further maintain that Department.
Petition received.
4. PAPERS :—
Mr. Cook laid upon the Table,—Rates for Telegraphic Messages between South Murwillumbah and Murwillumbah and all Stations in Queensland.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Report by the Government Architect (W. L. Vernon, Esq., F.R.I.B.A.) in connection with his recent visit to the United Kingdom and Continent of Europe. ;
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. NYNGAN TOWN HALL (MORTGAGE)² BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Waddell moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That the Nyngan Town Hall (Mortgage) Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Cann, Mr. Robert Jones, Mr. Edden, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Pyers, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Chanter, and the Mover.
Question put and passed.
6. COAL SHIPPED AT THE NEWCASTLE DYKE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Fegan moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) The number of tons of coal shipped at the Newcastle Dyke for the year ended 1896; also for the first five months of the present year.
(2.) The names of the various collieries whose coal has been shipped at the Newcastle Dyke and Government wharfs.
(3.) The quantity of large coal shipped by each colliery.
(4.) The quantity of small coal shipped by each colliery.
Question put and passed.
7. COAL FROM THE NORTHERN COLLIERIES (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Fegan moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) The total amount received by the Government for the traction of coal from the northern collieries from 1st September, 1896, to the 30th September, 1897, inclusive.
(2.) The total amount still due and payable by the said collieries for the traction of coal for the same period.
(3.) The total amount received by the Government for royalty on coal in the Northern District from the 1st September, 1896, to the 30th September, 1897, inclusive.
(4.) The names of collieries or companies who pay royalty on coal for the same period.
Question put and passed.
8. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
(1.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Wednesday next.
(2.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Wednesday next.
(3.) Educational Facilities Bill; second reading;—until Thursday, 25th November.
(4.) Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill; second reading;—until Thursday, 25th November.
9. PYRMONT BRIDGE BILL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to sanction the removal of the present Pyrmont Bridge, and the construction in lieu thereof of a Timber Bridge, with Steel Swing Span, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in their report, presented on 6th December, 1894,*"—with the amendment indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 17th November, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

PYRMONT BRIDGE BILL.

Schedule of the Amendment referred to in Message of 17th November, 1897.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 2. At end of clause add "and shall not under any circumstances exceed the
"estimated cost by more than ten per centum"

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendment made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

17th November, 1897.

10. BOILERS INSPECTION BILL:—

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

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 64.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th Section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to provide for the inspection and regulation of steam boilers; the examination of persons in charge of the same, and the granting of certificates; to define the duties and liabilities of the owners of such boilers; to make provision for the holding of inquiries into accidents caused by the explosion of such boilers; and for other purposes incidental to the objects aforesaid.

Government House,

Sydney, 17th November, 1897.

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

- (2.) Mr. Garrard moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide for the inspection and regulation of steam boilers; the examination of persons in charge of the same, and the granting of certificates; to define the duties and liabilities of the owners of such boilers; to make provision for the holding of inquiries into accidents caused by the explosion of such boilers; and for other purposes incidental to the objects aforesaid.

Question put and passed.

11. DUPLICATE MAIN FROM PROSPECT TO POTTS' HILL:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the duplication of the main from Prospect to Potts' Hill, in connection with the Sydney Water Supply, as referred by the Legislative Assembly to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out with such modifications as recommended by the said Committee in their report, presented 8th July, 1897.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

12. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 18 NOVEMBER, 1897, A.M.

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

13. LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL (No. 2):—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments, in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years; to make better provision in respect of assessment books; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.

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

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

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

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments, in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years; to make better provision in respect of assessment books; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.

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

- (2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "
- A Bill to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments, in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years; to make better provision in respect of assessment-books; and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*
- "—which was read a first time.

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

14. COLOURED RACES RESTRICTION AND REGULATION BILL:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to apply and extend certain provisions of the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888 to other coloured races; to amend the said Act; and for other purposes incidental to or consequent upon the before-mentioned objects.

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

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

The

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

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to apply and extend certain provisions of the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888 to other coloured races; to amend the said Act; and for other purposes incidental to or consequent upon the before-mentioned objects.

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

- (2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to apply and extend certain provisions of the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888 to other coloured races; to amend the said Act; and for other purposes incidental to or consequent upon the before-mentioned objects*,"—which was read a first time.

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

15. IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION 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 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. 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 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.

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 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*,"—which was read a first time.

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

16. ENTRY ON PRIVATE LAND BILL :—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide for the entry on any lands, for the purposes of making preliminary surveys for railways, tramways, waterworks, sewerage-works, canals, stormwater channels, drains, embankments for the protection of low-lying lands from flood-waters, or other works, and for determination of boundaries of alienated lands, and for trigonometrical survey of the Colony. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

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

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

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to provide for the entry on any lands, for the purposes of making preliminary surveys for railways, tramways, waterworks, sewerage-works, canals, stormwater channels, drains, embankments, for the protection of low-lying lands from flood-waters, or other works, and for determination of boundaries of alienated lands; and for trigonometrical survey of the Colony.

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

- (2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for the entry on any lands, for the purposes of making preliminary surveys for railways, tramways, water-works, sewerage-works, canals, stormwater channels, drains, embankments, for the protection of low-lying lands from flood-waters, or other works, and for determination of boundaries of alienated lands, and for trigonometrical survey of the Colony*,"—which was read a first time.

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

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 72.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 18 NOVEMBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Qualifications of Clerks of Works or Inspectors under Public Works Department:—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Bavister*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) In appointing clerks of works or inspectors under his Department, is regard paid as to the knowledge of the person of the work or trade he has to supervise?
 (2.) Are some bridges at Woolli Creek and Cook's River Flats now being painted under contract?
 (3.) What is the name of the contractor?
 (4.) Are the conditions and specifications under which tenders for this work were invited being complied with?
 (5.) Will he state—(a) if there is any inspector or clerk of works on the contract; (b) on what dates has he inspected this work; (c) is he a painter; (d) what is his name?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) Yes.
 (3.) J. Roomie.
 (4.) Yes.
 (5.) (a) and (b). A sub-inspector is constantly on the works, and a first-class inspector visits periodically—once or twice each week as the work requires his attention. (c) Inspector is a painter. (d) G. Wagg, inspector, E. C. Board is the sub-inspector.

- (2.) Powers of Local Land Boards:—*Mr. Simeon Phillips* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Land Appeal Court hold that Local Land Boards have no power to grant homestead selectors and settlement lessees the right to enclose roads and watercourses intersecting their holdings, as is the case with conditional purchase and conditional lease holders?
 (2.) If so, is he aware that great hardship will be inflicted as the result of such decision, and will he take steps to confer these necessary powers on the Local Land Boards?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) This would involve an amendment of the law, and it will be dealt with so soon as the state of public business will allow.

- (3.) Gundaroo Recreation Reserve:—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) What are the names of the trustees for the Gundaroo Recreation Reserve?
 (2.) How many of these trustees are now alive, or in the Queanbeyan district?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) William Affleck, Joseph Thomas Andrew Styles, and Thomas Booth.
 (2.) My honorable colleague is not aware, but inquiry will be made.

- (4.) Special Bonuses in connection with the Federal Convention:—*Mr. Ashton*, for *Mr. Whiddon*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) When was the special bonus paid to the attendants at Parliament House in connection with the Federal Convention for extra services?
 (2.) Has the special bonus been paid to the Printing Office officials; if not, when is it intended that they shall receive the promised bonus in connection with the Federal Convention?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) On 15th October, 1897.
 (2.) Officials in the Government Printing Office have not yet been paid a bonus in connection with the Federal Convention; the papers having reference to the payment are being dealt with by the Public Service Board.

(5.)

18th November, 1897.

- (5.) Mr. McFarlane, D.S.M.:—Mr. Perry asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) When did Mr. McFarlane, D.S.M., first enter the Public Service?
 - (2.) What were his grading and salary when he was promoted to the office of Chamber Magistrate and Clerk of Petty Sessions at the Water Police Office?
 - (3.) What is his salary now?
 - (4.) Has he passed the necessary examination for the office of Police Magistrate, as was done in the case of Mr. Love, of the Central Police Court; if not, why not?
 - (5.) Is it intended to keep him in touch with Bench duties in Sydney, so as to ensure his further promotion irrespective of the claims of country Police Magistrates of longer service and of proved efficiency; if so, why?
- Mr. Gould answered,—
- (1.) 1st March, 1881.
 - (2.) £450 per annum, grade A 2, as Chief Emergency Officer, Inspector of Petty Sessions Offices, and Police Magistrate and Coroner for the Colony. This position has since been graded by the Public Service Board as A 1.
 - (3.) £500.
 - (4.) No; Mr. McFarlane held a Commission as Police Magistrate for the Colony generally for several years prior to and also at the time of the passing of the Public Service Act.
 - (5.) No; as vacancies occur, each case will be dealt with on its merits.
- (6.) Drills of the Partially-paid Forces:—Mr. Watkins, for Mr. Dick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it intended to curtail the usual drills of the partially-paid Forces during the current year?
 - (2.) Will they be allowed to put in the customary number of drills in addition to the training in camp?
- Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces that there will be no curtailment of the total number of drills for the money voted for the year, but sixteen half-days will be carried out in camp.
- (7.) Age of certain Officers in the Public Service:—Mr. Carroll asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- Will he lay upon the Table of this House a statement showing the names of all officers whose ages range between 60 and 65 years; also the names of those officers whose ages are above 65 years?
- Mr. Reid answered,—A return showing the names of persons over the age of 65 years, whose services have been retained, was laid upon the Table of this House on 6th October, 1897. There will be no objection to giving the further information required, if moved for in the usual way.
- (8.) Appointment of Mr. McKell, Relieving Police Magistrate:—Mr. Carroll asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) What salary is attached to the office of Relieving Police Magistrate, to which Mr. McKell, of Cobar, has been appointed?
 - (2.) Was the position offered to any other officer; and, if so, to whom?
 - (3.) Is it true, as reported at Cobar, that this appointment was promised during the Minister's recent visit to that town; if not, upon whose suggestion was Mr. McKell selected by the Board?
- Mr. Gould answered,—
- (1.) £425 per annum.
 - (2.) No. Mr. McKell was selected as being the officer entitled by "fitness and seniority" to the position. He receives no increase of salary by such appointment.
 - (3.) No. Mr. McKell's name was submitted for the consideration of the Public Service Board in the usual way.
- (9.) Diamond Drill Plant:—Mr. Perry asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) What is the value of diamond drill plant, the property of the Government?
 - (2.) What amount per annum is paid for storage, caretaking, &c., for said plant?
 - (3.) What portion of this plant is in use; and what revenue does the Government receive for its use?
 - (4.) How many men are employed to look after this plant; what are the qualifications of these men, and how much are they being paid per annum?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) Estimated value £10,167.
 - (2.) £254.
 - (3.) The value of the plant at present in use is £4,500. The revenue this year so far is £366 10s. But for the corresponding period last year it was £1,450 18s. 9d.
 - (4.) Nine men are at present employed at from 8s. to 11s. 8d. per day. Their qualifications are general knowledge of machinery, and especially diamond drill workings. They are not employed continuously, but only when the drills are at work.
- (10.) Cattle inoculated for Pleuro-pneumonia:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—Can he furnish any estimate, or approximate estimate, of the number of cattle that have been inoculated in the Colony for pleuro-pneumonia?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—About three millions.
- (11.) Mr. L. S. Donaldson, Police Magistrate at Dubbo:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that Mr. L. S. Donaldson, Police Magistrate at Dubbo, formerly held the position of Crown Lands Agent at Moama?
 - (2.) Was he removed for misconduct; and, if so, what was the nature of the charge preferred against him?
 - (3.) Were the circumstances connected with his office at Moama made known to the Public Service Board; and, if so, how is it that he was promoted by the Board over the heads of irreproachable men of longer service?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

18th November, 1897.

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The position of Land Agent was taken from him nearly sixteen years ago, in consequence of the then Minister for Lands, the Hon. Sir John Robertson, being dissatisfied with the manner in which he had discharged the duties of that office. Mr. Donaldson was, however, allowed to retain the positions of Police Magistrate and Clerk of Petty Session at Moama.

(3.) I am not aware. He has not been promoted over the heads of men with stronger claims.

(12.) Jackson's Lease (now Quodly's), Bourke District:—Mr. Sleath asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it a fact that certain firms have made false declarations and affidavits, for the purpose of deceiving the Lands Department, and have since sworn that they were false, and made only for business purposes?

(2.) What steps does he intend to take in the matter?

(3.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with Jackson's lease (now Quodly's), Bourke District; also all papers in connection with Parker's, Jackson's, and Dawson's leases, in the Wilcannia District?

(4.) What instructions did he give the Land Board in these cases?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1 and 2.) My honorable colleague is not aware.

(3.) There would be no objection to copies of these papers being laid upon the Table in the form of a return if moved for in the usual manner.

(4.) Such copies would show the action taken by the Department.

(13.) Evidence of Mr. W. C. Hill in the Supreme and Equity Courts:—Mr. Sleath asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Mr. W. C. Hill made a statement on oath in the Supreme Court that certain homestead lessees owed him money, and got judgment and sold the said lessees off, and afterwards swore in the Equity Court that they never owed him any money?

(2.) Will he make inquiries in reference to this matter?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) My honorable colleague is not aware.

(2.) The alleged perjury having been made in a case before the Supreme Court, it is not a matter for this Department to deal with.

(14.) Homestead Selections under the Land Act of 1885:—Mr. Griffith asked the Secretary for Lands,—How many families (approximately) have been settled, to date, on the land under the homestead selection conditions of the Land Act, 1885?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—About 1,866.

(15.) Duties of Police Magistrates in connection with the Electoral Act:—Mr. Affleck, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that the country is put to considerable expense in consequence of the fact that it is compulsory for a Police Magistrate to deal with all matters of revision, enrolment, &c., in connection with the Electoral Act?

(2.) Will he consider the advisability of placing the control of such matters in the hands of Honorary Magistrates, should there be no Police Magistrate in the locality affected?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—It is imperative under the provisions of the Act that a Stipendiary or Police Magistrate be named to revise the General List for each district during the month of October of each year, at such place or places as the Governor may appoint, and that a Provisional List for each district be revised at some place therein during each month. A considerable curtailment in expenditure in connection with the General Revision Courts held during this year has been effected, owing to the abolition of divisions—more than one hundred Courts less than last year having been held, and as Regulation 6 under the Amending Act of 1896 provides that the Revising Magistrates shall name a convenient day of the month during which such Court is to be held, and that such day shall, when practicable, be the same upon which a Court of Petty Sessions is to be held, the expense of holding Courts solely for the purposes of the Electoral Act is not considered excessive.

(16.) Decision of His Honor Mr. Justice Cohen in case In Chun:—Mr. Affleck, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has his attention been called to the case of *ex parte* In Chun, wherein His Honor Mr. Justice Cohen has virtually decided that all cases and offences under the Licensing Acts must be adjudicated upon by the Licensing Court, or by a Court of Petty Sessions, consisting of a Police Magistrate?

(2.) Is he aware that, if this decision is accepted as a correct interpretation of the law, great hardships will prevail, as in many country towns at which Courts of Petty Sessions are held by the Honorary Justices a Police Magistrate does not attend oftener than once in two months, and that all minor offences under the Acts, must await his attendance before being dealt with, notwithstanding that all informations and complaints under the Licensing Acts must be laid within one month next after their commission?

(3.) Is he aware that the decision above quoted is dissented from by many leading members of the legal profession; and does he intend to take any steps towards having the matter referred to the Full Court to be finally decided?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) I have seen the decision referred to.

(2.) If it be found that hardship or serious inconvenience arise in any district, arrangements would be made by which the Police Magistrate could attend to any cases which might require to be dealt with under the provisions of the Licensing Act.

(3.) I am not aware. It is not intended to take any steps to refer the matter to the Full Court.

18th November, 1897.

(17.) Leave of Absence to Employees in the Government Printing Office :—Mr. Copeland asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Public Service Board, while allowing two weeks leave of absence annually to all clerks in the employ of the Government, will only grant one week's leave annually to Government Printing Office employees?

(2.) Is he aware that the Regulations issued by the Board permit of those employed in the Clerical Division of the Service receiving as much as two months sick leave on full pay, yet the Board, in the case of Government Printing Office employees, will not allow more than four days sick leave on full pay?

(3.) Considering that the Printing Office employees work a much longer time daily, and under less healthy conditions, than the Clerical Division of the Public Service, and that the anomalous distinctions herein mentioned were not contemplated by him in introducing the Public Service Act (*vide* his written communication to Government Printing Office employees, dated 24th October, 1895), will he bring this matter forcibly under the notice of the Public Service Board, with a view to the removal of the injustice complained of?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Employees in the Government Printing Office, who are not entitled to charge overtime when at work beyond the ordinary hours, are, by the Regulations, allowed a fortnight's leave of absence per annum. If they are entitled to charge overtime for all time worked beyond the ordinary hours, they are allowed one week. It should be remembered that the members of the clerical staff, who are allowed two weeks per annum, are required, whenever the exigencies of their ordinary work demand, to attend beyond the usual hours without being entitled to payment therefor, and this they constantly have to do.

(2.) The Regulations for the Government Printing Office provide that any employee who has served for more than three years may be allowed sick pay for any period not exceeding one month in each year.

(3.) No; the circumstances differ entirely. If no overtime is charged for work after hours, the two weeks—given to officers who get no pay for such work—will gladly be given to the others, I should think.

(18.) Grading of the Agent-General's Staff by Mr. Coghlan :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is Mr. Coghlan acting in the capacity of a member of the Public Service Board in grading the Agent-General's staff in England?

(2.) If not, in what capacity is he acting?

Mr. Reid answered,—Mr. Coghlan is merely inquiring at the request of the Government as well as the Board into the Agent-General's Office, with a view of obtaining such information as will enable the Board, on his return, to undertake the grading of the staff. Advantage was taken by the Board of Mr. Coghlan's presence in England to depute him to undertake this duty.

2. SUGAR INDUSTRY :—Mr. McFarlane presented a petition from Thomas Hadfield, President, and T. T. Bawden, Secretary, of the Clarence River Farmers, Producers, and Commercial Union, praying the House to give its most favourable consideration to the motion asking for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the condition of the sugar industry, and the best methods to be employed to carry on that industry in the Colony.
Petition received.

3. PAPERS :—

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land for improving the Grades on the Great Western Railway, near Orange.

(2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land for improving the Grades on the Great Western Railway, near Blayney.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

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

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. STAMP AND PRORATE DUTIES BILL :—Mr. Affleck presented a Petition from the Board of Directors of the Australian Mutual Provident Society, representing that the Society was established for the purpose of transacting the business of Life Assurance on the mutual principle; that it had been so successful in its operations that it is now the largest Mutual Life Office established in the British Empire; that the facilities which the Society had afforded to persons of small means to make provision for the support of their families had probably prevented many thousands of persons from becoming dependent on the charity of the State; that the Society is already assessed to, and has paid income tax on, the interest derived from mortgages, and land tax on properties held by it; that Petitioners view with alarm the proposal contained in the Stamp and Probate Duties Bill, now before the House, to impose further burdens on the Society by a stamp duty on policies, on valuation reports, and on proxies, which will seriously interfere with the Society's business; and praying the House to exempt the Society from such further burden.
Petition received.

5. BIRDS PROTECTION ACT :—Mr. Rose presented a Petition from landholders in the Taralga District, representing that the protection of the magpie has been conducive to serious loss to agriculturists; and praying the House to so amend the Birds Protection Act that the magpie may not any longer be protected thereunder.
Petition received.

6. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Twenty-second Report from the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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7. ABATTOIR ROAD ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to revoke the dedication of part of certain lands set forth and described in the Schedule to the Abattoir Road Act of 1860, and to repeal the said Act in part.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to revoke the dedication of part of certain lands set forth and described in the Schedule to the Abattoir Road Act of 1860, and to repeal the said Act in part,*"—which was read a first time.

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

8. LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL (No. 2):—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 66.

Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Parkee,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Dick,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Neild,
Dr. Hollis,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Molesworth.
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Hawthorne.
Mr. Watkins,	

Noes, 23.

Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. See,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. H. H. Brown,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. McElhone,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. T. R. Smith.

Tellers,

Mr. Rose,
Mr. Cruickshank.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.
Bill read a second time.

(2.) *Suspension of Standing Orders*:—Mr. Reid moved, without Notice, That it is a matter of urgent and pressing necessity that the Land and Income Tax (Amendment) Bill (No. 2) should be passed through its remaining stages this day.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 65.

Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Dick,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Dr. Hollis,	Mr. Haynes,

Noes, 22.

Mr. Wright,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. McElhone,
Mr. See,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Hurley.

Tellers,

Mr. Mackay,
Mr. T. R. Smith.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr.

18th November, 1879.

Mr. Reid moved, without Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of the Land and Income Tax (Amendment) Bill (No. 2) through its remaining stages this day.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

- (3.) Mr. Reid then moved, That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair, and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 63.

Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Bull,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Atleck,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Dr. Graham,	Mr. J. C. I. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Ball,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Davis,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Harris,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Parkes,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Sleath,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Cetton,	
Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. James Thomson,	Mr. M. Clark,
Mr. Dick,	Mr. Law,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.
Dr. Hollis,	Mr. McLean,	

Noes, 10.

Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Gormly

Tellers,

Mr. Perry,
Mr. Hurley.

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 the Bill with amendments.

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 provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years; to make better provision in respect of assessment-books; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years; to make better provision in respect of assessment-books; and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 18th November, 1897.*

9. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 19 NOVEMBER, 1897, A.M.

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

The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to certain resolutions.

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

The Chairman then reported the resolutions, which were read a first time, as follows:—

STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS FROM THE VOTE "ADVANCE TO TREASURER 1896-7" ON ACCOUNT OF SERVICES OF THE YEAR 1896-7 SUBMITTED FOR PARLIAMENTARY APPROPRIATION IN ADJUSTMENT OF THE ADVANCE VOTE.

- (4.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £55,027 12s. 1d. in adjustment of the Vote "Advance to Treasurer, 1896-7."

ESTIMATES

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

18th November, 1897.

ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE—1897-8.

No. I.—SCHEDULES A, B, AND C TO SCHEDULE 1 OF ACTS 18 AND 19 VICTORIA, CAPUT, 54.

(5.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,478, to defray pensions not provided for by Schedule B to Schedule No. 1 of the Act of the Imperial Parliament 18 and 19 Vic., cap. 54, for the year 1897-8.

No. II.—EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE.

(6.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £973, for Executive Council, for the year 1897-8.

(7.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,832, for Legislative Council, for the year 1897-8.

(8.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £10,505, for Legislative Assembly, for the year 1897-8.

(9.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,402, for Legislative Council and Assembly, for the year 1897-8.

(10.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,013, for Parliamentary Library, for the year 1897-8.

(11.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £6,172, for Parliamentary Reporting Staff, for the year 1897-8.

(12.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,250, for Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, for the year 1897-8.

No. III.—CHIEF SECRETARY.

(13.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,446, for Chief Secretary, for the year 1897-8.

(14.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £15,315, for Auditor-General, for the year 1897-8.

(15.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £250, for Vice-President of the Executive Council and Representative of the Government in the Legislative Council, for the year 1897-8.

(16.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £9,475, for Aborigines Protection Board, for the year 1897-8.

(17.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £333,209, for Police, for the year 1897-8.

(18.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £97,061, for Lunacy, for the year 1897-8.

(19.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,217, for Master in Lunacy, for the year 1897-8.

(20.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £206, for Medical Board, for the year 1897-8.

(21.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £34,871, for The Medical Adviser to the Government, for the year 1897-8.

(22.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,256, for Government Statistician, for the year 1897-8.

(23.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,157, for Registrar of Friendly Societies and Trades Unions, for the year 1897-8.

(24.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,664, for Agent-General for the Colony, for the year 1897-8.

(25.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £104,553, for Charitable Institutions, for the year 1897-8.

(26.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,756, for Fisheries Commission, for the year 1897-8.

(27.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,116, for Fire Brigades, for the year 1897-8.

(28.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,000, for Re-organisation of the Public Service, for the year 1897-8.

(29.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £6,519, for Botanic Gardens, for the year 1897-8.

(30.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £985, for Nursery Garden, Campbelltown, for the year 1897-8.

(31.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,615, for Government Domains, for the year 1897-8.

(32.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,105, for Garden Palace Grounds, for the year 1897-8.

(33.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,166, for Centennial Park, for the year 1897-8.

(34.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,347, for Electoral Office, for the year 1897-8.

(35.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,080, for Military Secretary, for the year 1897-8.

(36.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £177,716, for Permanent and Volunteer Military Forces, for the year 1897-8.

(37.)

18th November, 1897.

- (37.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,734, for Naval Forces—Naval Brigade, for the year 1897-8.
- (38.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,466, for Naval Forces—Volunteer Naval Artillery, for the year 1897-8.
- (39.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,745, for Naval Forces—Torpedo Defence, for the year 1897-8.
- (40.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £450 for Naval Forces—Warlike Stores and Ammunition for Naval Forces, for the year 1897-8.
- (41.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £57,550, for Charitable Allowances, for the year 1897-8.
- (42.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £69,588, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1897-8.

NO. IV.—TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

- (43.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £19,462, for Treasury, for the year 1897-8.
- (44.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,471, for Stamp Duties, for the year 1897-8.
- (45.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £40,800, for Land and Income Tax, for the year 1897-8.
- (46.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £53,084, for Customs, for the year 1897-8.
- (47.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £80, for Gold Receivers, for the year 1897-8.
- (48.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £300, for Gold and Escort, for the year 1897-8.
- (49.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £72,378, for Government Printer's Department, for the year 1897-8.
- (50.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £82,153, for Stores and Stationery, for the year 1897-8.
- (51.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £8,250, for Mercantile Explosives Department, for the year 1897-8.
- (52.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £26,408, for Board of Health, for the year 1897-8.
- (53.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,202, for Shipping Masters, for the year 1897-8.
- (54.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £57,564, for Marine Board of New South Wales, for the year 1897-8.
- (55.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £800, for Lifeboats, for the year 1897-8.
- (56.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,709, for Public Wharfs, for the year 1897-8.
- (57.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £216,090, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1897-8.
- (58.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £100,000, for Advance to Treasurer, for the year 1897-8.

NO. IV.—RAILWAYS.

- (59.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,840,258, for Railways and Tramways—Existing Lines, Working Expenses, for the year 1897-8.

NO. V.—THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

- (60.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £47,623, for The Attorney-General, for the year 1897-8.

NO. VI.—SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

- (61.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £160,767, for Department of Lands for the year 1897-8.
- (62.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,550, for Department of Lands—Contingencies, for the year 1897-8.
- (63.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £37,233, for Land Agents, Appraisers, and others, for the year 1897-8.
- (64.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,400, for Land Appeal Court, for the year 1897-8.
- (65.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £990, for Church and School Lands, for the year 1897-8.
- (66.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £24,552, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1897-8.
- (67.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £66,180, for Survey of Lands, for the year 1897-8.
- (68.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,860, for Trigonometrical Survey of the Colony, for the year 1897-8.
- (69.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £500, for Special Services—Labour Settlements, for the year 1897-8.

No.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

18th November, 1897.

No. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

- (70.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £89,074, for Establishment, for the year 1897-8.
- (71.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £680,708, for Public Works and Services, for the year 1897-8.
- (72.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £70,050, for Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, for the year 1897-8.
- (73.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £10,276, for Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board, for the year 1897-8.

No. VIII.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

- (74.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £9,562, for Department of Justice, for the year 1897-8.
- (75.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,322, for Master in Equity, for the year 1897-8.
- (76.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,015, for Prothonotary and Divorce Court, for the year 1897-8.
- (77.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £27,146, for Sheriff, for the year 1897-8.
- (78.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,375, for Bankruptcy Court, for the year 1897-8.
- (79.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,620, for Probate and Intestate Estates Office, for the year 1897-8.
- (80.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,726, for District Courts, for the year 1897-8.
- (81.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,820, for Coroners, for the year 1897-8.
- (82.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £76,307, for Petty Sessions, for the year 1897-8.
- (83.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £96,314, for Prisons, for the year 1897-8.
- (84.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £26,070, for Registrar-General and Examiner of Patents, for the year 1897-8.
- (85.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,735, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1897-8.

No. IX.—PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, LABOUR AND INDUSTRY.

- (86.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £656,694, for Public Instruction, under the Act 43 Vic. No. 23, for the year 1897-8.
- (87.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £18,859, for Industrial Schools, for the year 1897-8.
- (88.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,069, for Observatory, for the year 1897-8.
- (89.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,991, for Museum, for the year 1897-8.
- (90.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,685, for Public Library of New South Wales, for the year 1897-8.
- (91.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,294, for National Art Gallery, for the year 1897-8.
- (92.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £13,981, for Labour and Industry Branch, for the year 1897-8.
- (93.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,000, for Centennial Park, for the year 1897-8.
- (94.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £17,050, for Grants in aid of Public Institutions, for the year 1897-8.
- (95.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £800, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1897-8.

No. X.—SECRETARY FOR MINES AND AGRICULTURE.

- (96.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £71,871, for Department of Mines, for the year 1897-8.
- (97.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £26,072, for Prevention of Scab in Sheep, for the year 1897-8.
- (98.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,687, for Imported and Introduced Stock, for the year 1897-8.
- (99.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £770, for Registration of Brands, for the year 1897-8.
- (100.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £500, for Management of Pounds and Commons, for the year 1897-8.
- (101.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £12,550, for Public Watering-places and Artesian Boring, for the year 1897-8.
- (102.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £25,725, for Agriculture, for the year 1897-8.

(103.)

18th November, 1897.

- (103.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,500, for School of Mines and Assay Works, for the year 1897-8.
- (104.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,250, for Board of Exports, for the year 1897-8.
- (105.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £18,503, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1897-8.

NO. XI.—THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

(106.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £709,197, for Postal and Electric Telegraph Department, for the year 1897-8.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolutions were read a second time, and agreed to.

10. WAYS AND MEANS:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

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

The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to certain resolutions.

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

The Chairman then reported the resolutions, which were read a first time, as follows:—

(6.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Supplementary Service of the financial year 1896-7, the sum of £55,027 12s. 1d. be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

(7.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Service of the financial year 1897-8, the sum of £6,580,075 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolutions were read a second time, and (after Debate) agreed to.

11. APPROPRIATION BILL:—

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that a Bill be brought in, founded on resolutions of Ways and Means Nos. 6 and 7, 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.

(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to appropriate and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales certain sums to make good the supplies granted for the service of the year, from the 1st day of July, 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,*"—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 73.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 23 NOVEMBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Refunds to Stock Inspectors paying to the Superannuation Fund:—*Mr. Schey*, for *Mr. Mackay*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has any decision been arrived at with regard to the refund of contributions made by Inspectors of Stock to the Superannuation Fund; if so, will he say when the amounts will be payable?

(2.) As it is nearly eight months ago since the Attorney-General gave his opinion in regard to this matter, are there any special reasons why the refunds cannot be made at once?

(3.) As Inspectors of Stock were informed in June last that they cannot contribute any longer to the Superannuation Fund, is he not aware that the delay in this matter is likely to cause them further expense in effecting life assurance?

Mr. Reid answered,—In reply to this question, I should like to say that, as the stock inspectors have been so long contributing to the Superannuation Fund, it is now under the consideration of the Government whether a short Bill will not have to be introduced in order to meet the difficulty raised by the opinion of the Attorney-General.(2.) Office-hours of the Registrar-General's Department:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Was not the Registrar-General some years ago instructed by the then Colonial Secretary to keep his office open in accordance with the requirements of the Act 7 Vict. No. 16?

(2.) Will he call upon the Registrar-General to explain by whose or what authority his office was closed to the public on the afternoon of Saturday last?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) I am informed that some time before 1874 a question arose as to the Registrar-General's Office being closed on public holidays, but in January, 1874, Sir Henry Parkes (then Colonial Secretary) approved of the office being closed on such days, and it has been the custom to so close the office ever since. Except for a few weeks, immediately after the question just referred to arose, the office has never been kept open during the afternoon on Saturday. No complaint has ever been made as to this.

(2.) It has always been customary to close the office on Saturday afternoon, and I see no reason to make the inquiry suggested.

(3.) Interpretation Bill:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Minister of Justice,—In view of the fact that the provision in clause 3 of the Interpretation Bill of 1895 alters the provision in section 33 of the Imperial Act 5 and 6 Vict., cap. 76; why was not the Interpretation Bill reserved for the Queen's assent, as required by section 4 of the Imperial Act, to which the Constitution of the Colony is scheduled?*Mr. Brunker* answered,—It was not deemed necessary.(4.) Fruit-vendors in the Domain:—*Mr. Willis*, for *Mr. McElhone*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—In reference to *Mr. McElhone's* previous Questions and his Answers thereto, in reference to certain aliens being allowed the monopoly of selling fruit, &c., in the Domain, as he is the head of the Department which controls the Domain officials, will he make such regulations as will enable a certain number of aged persons, British subjects, to sell fruit, &c., in the Domain, to enable them to make a living, and keep them out of the poor-houses of the Colony?*Mr. Brunker* answered,—There appears to be some difficulty in making a regulation to deal with a matter of this kind to suit all persons. The present lessee of the Kiosk pays a high rent for the privilege of selling refreshments in the Domain, and it would be manifestly unfair to allow others to sell fruit, &c., in competition without paying for a license to do so.

23rd November, 1897.

- (5.) The Marine Board :—*Mr Willis*, for *Mr. McElhone*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it his intention to bring in a Bill, during the present Session of Parliament, to abolish the present Marine Board, and to establish a Court on modern principles?
 - (2.) What is the age of *Captain Hixson*, the President of the Marine Board?
 - (3.) Were not *Captain Hixson* and *Commander Lindeman* connected with the Marine Board and Naval Brigade at the time an official or clerk in the Department embezzled a large sum of money belonging to the Department or Naval Brigade men?
 - (4.) Was this embezzled money made good by the above officers, or did the Government make good the money, or did the Naval Brigade men sustain the loss?
 - (5.) Was it not through the neglect of duty of the above officers, by leaving signed cheques lying about, that the clerk or official was enabled to perpetrate the robbery referred to?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) The time at our disposal will not permit of the introduction of a Bill during the present Session dealing with the subjects referred to by the Honorable Member.
 - (2.) Sixty-four.
 - (3.) Yes.
 - (4.) Amount embezzled was made good from the Treasury Guarantee Fund.
 - (5.) The papers having reference to the matter have been laid upon the Table of the House.
- (6.) Leasehold area of *Brymadura Run*, *Molong District* :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Was the leasehold area of *Brymadura Run*, *Molong District*, county of *Ashburnham*, held by *Dalgety & Co.*, thrown open for selection in 1890?
 - (2.) Was a block, 320 acres, No. 164, parish of *Manildra* (good agricultural land), on that run, reserved from selection on 28th June, 1890, in the interest of the station; if not, for what purpose was the land so reserved, or was it done to bar selection?
 - (3.) Did *Dalgety & Co.* ever make application to obtain this block of land (320 acres) by way of exchange or otherwise; and was it granted or refused, and for what reason?
 - (4.) Were the 320 acres so reserved in June, 1890, again cancelled and thrown open for selection after sixty days by notice in the *Government Gazette*; if so, when?
 - (5.) Was the land again withdrawn from sale one day before the sixty days expired, and the day before the land was open for selection, and for what reason?
 - (6.) Is it intended to offer the land for sale by public auction in order to bar selection, and to enable *Dalgety & Co.* to purchase the land?
 - (7.) In the interest of settlement, will he see that the land (320 acres) is made a special area, so that *bonâ-fide* settlers may have an opportunity of taking up the land, and making a home on it for themselves and families?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) The lease of *Brymedura* leasehold area expired on the 10th July, 1890.
- (2 and 3.) An area of 320 acres, afterwards measured as portion 164, parish of *Manildra*, was, on the 28th June, 1890, reserved from sale pending the consideration of an application by *Dalgety & Co. (Limited)*, to acquire this land in exchange for other land. This application was refused on the 1st December, 1896, as it was considered that the acceptance of the land offered for surrender would not promote settlement.
- (4.) The reserve from sale for exchange was revoked on the 28th August, 1897, with a view to offering the land for sale by auction.
- (5.) The portion was reserved from sale other than auction sale only on the 27th October, 1897.
- (6.) It is intended to offer the land for sale by auction.
- (7.) The land is reported to be almost surrounded by land held in one interest; it has no water supply; only a part of it is suitable for agriculture; and it is therefore unsuitable for an independent holding.

- (7.) *Coast Hospital, Little Bay* :—*Mr. Rose* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) With reference to his statement that "two of the *Coast Hospital* nurses waited on him, and stated that they did not require the reforms asked on their behalf," will he state the names of the ladies to whom his statement refers?
- (2.) If he is unable to give the names, will he state how he knows that the ladies in question are *Coast Hospital* nurses?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Any person possessing even a limited knowledge of the conduct and working of these large public institutions will readily understand how undesirable it is to give the information asked for in the Honorable Member's Question.

- (8.) *Subletting of Contracts* :—*Mr. Hughes* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he furnish the House with a list of all the contracts at present under way in which he has given permission to the contractors to sublet; and the reasons which have actuated him in granting permission in these cases?

Mr. Young answered.—I may inform the Honorable Member that although such permission has been very seldom given since I have been in office, yet the furnishing of such a list would necessitate the examination of some 12,000 sets of papers, and this I hardly think would be worth doing. In the future I have given directions that all such permissions shall be noted specially.

- (9.) *Coroners in Country Districts* :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Minister of Justice,—Are persons in country districts holding the office of Coroner permitted to retain their office after they have transferred or assigned their estates?

Mr. Brunker answered.—There is no Departmental rule on the subject, but if it were considered that the retention of office by a Coroner who had assigned his estate was undesirable in the public interest, steps would be taken for his removal.

(10.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

23rd November, 1897.

- (10.) Returning Officers in Country Districts:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it in accordance with the provisions of the Electoral Act that persons in country districts holding the office of Returning Officer should be permitted to hold their office after they have transferred or assigned their estates?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—There is nothing in the Electoral Act to prevent a Returning Officer holding office after he has transferred or assigned his estate.
2. SUGAR INDUSTRY:—Mr. Pyers presented a Petition from John Storey, Chairman of a Public Meeting held at Coraki, on the 30th October, 1897, representing—(1) that, in the opinion of the meeting, the removal of the Sugar Duties is opposed to the interests of the farmers of the North Coast Districts, and will prove disastrous to the Colony in general; and (2) that the various statements which have recently found their way into print, namely, that a hundred have failed to make it pay where one has succeeded, and that the abolition of the duty was a blessing in disguise, are misrepresentations of the real facts, and of the opinions of the people of this district; and praying the House to take into favourable consideration the foregoing resolutions, with a view to affording relief.
Petition received.
3. CLAIM OF CAPTAIN ROSSI:—Mr. Neild presented a Petition from Francis Robert Lewis Captain Comte de Rossi, of Rossiville, Goulburn, stating that, in July, 1896, a Select Committee of this House was appointed to report upon the Petitioner's claim against the Government of this Colony; that the Committee sat and fully investigated such claim, finding in favour of Petitioner, and recommending his case to the favourable consideration of the Government; that, notwithstanding the most strenuous exertions on the part of Petitioner to obtain the sanction of the House to the adoption of such finding, no progress has so far been achieved, the claim thus laying in abeyance; and praying that the House, in consideration of the premises, will grant that he may be heard by counsel at the Bar of the House in relation to such claim.
Petition received.
4. PAPER:—Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—By-laws under the Public Vehicles Regulation Act of 1873.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. SUNNY CORNER MINING LEASES (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Hurley moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, reports of inquiries by Mr. Connell, lessees' excuse, and Warden's report, respecting the granting of exemption of the labour conditions on the Sunny Corner mining leases.
Question put and passed.
6. PUBLIC OFFICERS OVER SIXTY YEARS OF AGE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Carroll moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the names of all officers whose ages range between 60 and 65 years; also the names of those officers whose ages are above 65 years.
Question put and passed.
7. WATER FRONTAGES, LAKE MACQUARIE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Watkins moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing all water frontages, and all land abutting thereon, on Lake Macquarie and its estuaries.
Question put and passed.
8. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Emu Gravel and Road-metal Company's Tramway Bill postponed until To-morrow.
9. NYNGAN TOWN HALL (MORTGAGE) BILL:—Mr. Waddell, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 17th November, 1897; together with Appendix and a copy of the Bill as agreed to by the Committee.
Ordered to be printed.
Mr. Waddell then moved, That the Bill be read a second time To-morrow.
Question put and passed.
10. INTERNATIONAL PATENTS AND TRADE-MARKS ARRANGEMENTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Griffith moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 48.

Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Knox,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Jessep,

Mr. Neild,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Moore,

Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Black,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Edden,
Tellers,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Molesworth.

Noes, 11.

Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Carroll.

Tellers,

Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Gormly.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill

23rd November, 1897.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Griffith, *passed*.

Mr. Griffith then moved, That the Title of the Bill be, "*An Act to bring New South Wales within the provisions of the International Patents Convention of 1883.*"

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 bring New South Wales within the provisions of the International Patents Convention of 1883,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 23rd November, 1897.*

11. CO-OPERATIVE COLLIERY TRAMWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Frank Farnell moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. Lee* reported the Bill with amendments, and an amended Title.

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

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

12. LOAN ESTIMATES FOR 1897-8:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 65.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th Section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the accompanying Estimates of the Expenditure of the Government of New South Wales, on account of Public Works and other Services, for the year 1897-8, proposed to be provided for by Loan.

*Government House,
Sydney, 23rd November, 1897.*

Ordered to be printed, together with the accompanying Estimates, and referred to the Committee of Supply.

13. NATIVE FLORA PROTECTION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Frank Farnell moved, That this "Bill" be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Sleath moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "Bill," and inserting the words "be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report."

- (2.) That such Committee consist of "Dr. Ross, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Afleck, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Jessep, Mr. Frank Farnell, and the Mover,"—instead thereof.

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

Debate continued.

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

The House divided.

Ayes, 38.

Noes, 19.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Sec,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Reid,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Lee.
Mr. Raymond,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Perry.
Mr. Bull,	
Mr. Russell Jones,	

Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. McGowan,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Watkins.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Griffith.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

23rd November, 1897.

Original Question put,—That this Bill be now read a second time.

The House divided.

Ayes, 39.		Noes, 18.
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Russell Jones,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Hassall,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Sec,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Reid,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Molcsworth,	Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Harris,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Black,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Millen,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Waddell.	Mr. Watson.
Mr. Reymond,	<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. Hurley,		<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. O'Sullivan.	Mr. Moore.
Mr. Bull,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. Lee* reported that there was not a Quorum present in the Committee.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being a Quorum present the Committee resumed.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. Lee* reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

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

Debate ensued.

Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only seventeen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, namely, Mr. Affleck, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Cann, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Edden, Mr. Gormly, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Moore, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Schey, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Watson, Mr. Wheeler, and Mr. Willis,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at ten 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. 74.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 24 NOVEMBER, 1897.

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

PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD—RETIRING ALLOWANCES AND GRATUITIES.—Mr. Neild, as Chairman of the Select Committee on this subject, submitted to the House the following written statement:—That Mr. Dowell O'Reilly, the Honorable Member for Parramatta, a Member of the Select Committee, having informed the said Committee that, in ignorance of Standing Order No. 367, he had supplied copies of the printed evidence to the Public Service Board, the Committee so informed the Members of, and Secretary to, the said Board, and records the opinion that it is unnecessary to further question them relative thereto, and that the Chairman acquaint the House with the matter in terms of Standing Order No. 368.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) **Endowments to Municipalities.**—Mr. Simeon Phillips asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it his intention to provide on the Supplementary Estimates a sum of money for the payment of a subsidy of 5s in the £ on the amount of rates collected by the Municipalities of the Colony?

Mr. Reid answered,—I have already explained that the subsidy depends upon the state of the finances.

(2.) **State Bank Bill.**—Mr. Pyers asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it his intention to introduce the State Bank Bill this Session, or during the present Parliament?

Mr. Reid answered,—This important measure will be proceeded with next Session.

(3.) **Workmen Employed by Government Contractors.**—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Ewing, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Whether, under the general conditions recognised by the Department, workmen engaged by a contractor are protected to the amount of money owing to him by the Government should there be default on the part of the contractor?

(2.) Does the cook, whose occupation is as material to the work as any workman, participate in this protection?

(3.) Does the Department also endeavour to protect those who have supplied material to defaulting contractors, but not those who have supplied provisions?

(4.) If he considers that such procedures are inequitable, will he place on an equality all men whose labour is essential to the carrying on of the work, and all suppliers, whether of material or goods, provided it be proved the work was done, and the goods utilised in connection with the contract?

Mr. Young answered,—The Departmental General Conditions authorise the payment by the Minister (from moneys due to the contractor) of the claims of tradesmen supplying materials actually used in the work, and those workmen and labourers actually employed on the work, if it is proved to his satisfaction that the contractor is in default. To this extent we endeavour to protect tradesmen and labourers, but it must be distinctly understood that such persons have no legal claim against the Government. A cook does not participate in such protection, because none of our contracts contemplate the employment of this class of labour. If they did, why not pay the men's wives who cook for them? As a matter of fact various claims have been sent in from time to time under this head, and which, if recognised, would have had the effect of reducing the payment to *bonâ-fide* claimants in cases where *pro rata* distributions have been made, and thus inflict a great injustice on deserving men. The same argument applies generally to claims for provisions supplied to a contractor, or to men on his order, claims having been received for clothes, liquor, medicine, &c. Under these circumstances I do not see my way to make any change in the way suggested by the Honorable Member.

(4.)

24th November, 1897.

- (4.) Suspension of Drill in Public Schools :—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—To avoid, as far as possible, danger arising from sunstroke, and in the interest of health of the school children, will he see the propriety of suspending school drill in our Public Schools during the hot months of summer ?

Mr. Garrard answered,—The teachers in Public Schools are required to exercise their discretion in the use of the playgrounds, and, in the circumstances, there does not appear to be any need to take the course suggested. There is only one drill lesson a week, and it is given with due regard to the pupils' comfort and health.

- (5.) Standard Scale of Milk :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will he ascertain from the Board of Health what constitutes the standard scale of milk that is sold and consumed by the public ?

(2.) The percentage of boracic acid and other preservatives contained in such samples of milk consumed by the public, and if such ingredients are in any way injurious to infantile life, &c. ?

(3.) Is it not a fact that it is impossible to find a sample of pure milk or milk free from bacteria or micro-organisms ?

(4.) Will the Board of Health state the amount of bacteria contained in so-called standard milk, or the percentage or cubic centimeter that standard milk is alleged to contain of bacteria ?

(5.) How are the ordinary public informed when milk offered for sale is above or below a healthy or proper normal standard, and fit for consumption ?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1 and 2.) The Board of Health have fixed a standard for milk with which all vendors will have to comply as soon as it has been approved and gazetted ; and the best way of exercising the powers conferred upon it by section 60 of the Public Health Act, respecting the use of preservatives in articles of food, is under its consideration.

(3 and 4.) Milk can be so taken as to be free from micro-organisms, but milk as sold contains large numbers ; in this respect it does not differ from other articles of food.

(5.) I confess I cannot answer this Question.

- (6.) Bill to amend the Fire Brigades Act :—Dr. Hollis asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it his intention to introduce during the present Session a Bill to amend the Fire Brigades Act ?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am only awaiting a favourable opportunity to introduce this Bill to Parliament.

- (7.) Site for Technical College at Goulburn :—Dr. Hollis asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Since the refusal of the Minister for Lands to transfer to the Department of Public Instruction a portion of the Court-house Reserve at Goulburn, has the Minister of Public Instruction taken any steps to secure another site for a Technical College at Goulburn ?

Mr. Garrard answered,—Several private sites have been offered, but at present there are no funds available for the purchase of a site at Goulburn.

- (8.) Manufacture of Steel Rails :—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it his intention to give Parliament this Session an opportunity for discussing the proposal of the Government to locally manufacture steel rails ?

Mr. Reid answered,—The matter has not yet assumed a sufficiently definite form for submission to Parliament.

3. THE REVEREND JAMES CLARKE :—Mr. Carruthers presented a Petition from James Clarke, Clerk in Holy Orders, of the parish of St. George, Kogarah, detailing certain grievances, complaining that the law has been broken, that substantial justice has been denied him though cruel injuries had been done ; and praying the House to take his case into consideration, and grant a fair measure of just relief, either by hearing him at the Bar of the House, or by the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the true merits of his Petition, or as the House shall otherwise deem meet.

Petition received.

4. PAPERS :—

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—General Abstract of Bank Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 30th September, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Arakoon, county of Macquarie, for the Construction of a New Entrance to the Macleay River.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(2.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from Sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Cook laid upon the Table,—Notification of Rates for Telephone Messages between the Post Office and Railway Station, Gunnedah.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

24th November, 1897.

5. **TECHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM (Formal Motion)** :—Mr. Bavister moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) The tradesmen employed by the Department on staff of Technological Museum, and the rate of pay to each trade.
 - (2.) The date on which Mr. Maiden retired from this Department.
 - (3.) Whether he has since then in any way taken part in or interfered with the administration of the Museum section of the Department.
 - (4.) Since January, 1891, the number of persons on the Museum staff who have been reduced in pay; the extent and number of such reductions.
 - (5.) The number on same staff who have had increases since 1891, the extent of such increases, and the positions those employees occupy.
- Question put and passed.

6. **EXPENDITURE CONNECTED WITH THE MINES DEPARTMENT (Formal Motion)** :—Mr. Frank Farnell moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) The total expenditure connected with the Mines Department since its separation from the Lands Department, and up to 30th June last.
 - (2.) The total amount disbursed during the same period under the head Prospecting Vote.
 - (3.) The total expenditure up to 30th June last in connection with the Agricultural Department.
 - (4.) The amount paid as prizes during the above period.
- Question put and passed.

7. **CHURCH ACTS REPEALING BILL** :—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 66.*

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to repeal the Acts 7 William IV No. 3, 8 William IV No. 5, and 21 Victoria No. 4, to bring lands held for Church purposes under the provisions of Ordinances of Synod; to validate the appointment of past trustees under the said repealed Acts; and to make provision for vesting lands held on trust in the present trustees and in new trustees without conveyance,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,**Sydney, 24th November, 1897.*

8. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (Glebe Island Bridge)** :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the construction of a new bridge at Glebe Island, to replace the existing structure, as referred by the Legislative Assembly to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out, with such modifications as recommended by the said Committee in their report, presented 14th October, 1897.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 59.

Noes, 13.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Neild,	Mr. Sec,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. A. B. Piddington,	Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. McMillan,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Storey,	Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Black,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Morgan.
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Mahony,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Millen,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Frank Farnell.
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Lyne,	
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Jessop,	

Mr. Carroll,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Atleek,
Mr. Dick.

*Tellers,*Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Willis.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

9. **CAMPBELLTOWN RESERVOIR ACTS REPEAL BILL** :—

(1.) Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to repeal the Acts eighteenth Victoria number twenty-three and thirty-ninth Victoria number eleven, and to vest certain lands and chattels in Her Majesty.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Carruthers then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to repeal the Acts eighteenth Victoria number twenty-three and thirty-ninth Victoria number eleven, and to vest certain lands and chattels in Her Majesty,*"—which was read a first time.

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

24th November, 1897.

10. STOCKTON GRAVING-DOCK (LEASING) BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill 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.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Millen moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the words "in that parish," line 4.

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

Debate continued.

Proposed amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Original Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Carruthers then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill 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,*"—which was read a first time.

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

11. SYDNEY WATER SUPPLY CONDUIT ADDITIONAL WORKS BILL:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a duplicate main in connection with the Sydney Water Supply, the enlargement and strengthening of the existing channel, and to vest the said works in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage.

Question put and passed.

12. COLOURED RACES RESTRICTION AND REGULATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.

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

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

13. IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 25 NOVEMBER, 1897, A.M.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

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

14. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Orders of the Day of Government Business, Nos. 3 to 39, postponed until To-morrow.

15. CO-OPERATIVE COLLIERY TRAMWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Frank Farnell moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.

Mr. Watkins moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 4, 5, 6 and 11, and the Title," instead thereof.

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

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out, be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 4, 5, 6, and 11, and the Title,—put and passed.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported the Bill 2° with further amendments, and a further amendment in the Title.

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

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 75.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 25 NOVEMBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Land Exchanges, Burrawang Pastoral Holding, Forbes:—Mr. Thomas Brown asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) The local Press gives publicity to the following:—"It was stated before the Land Board, "Forbes, on Tuesday, it took five years for the Department to carry through all its stages one of "the land exchanges in connection with the Burrawang pastoral holding";—is this a fact?

(2.) What was the cause or causes that led to this delay in dealing with this case?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) The longest case occupied from November, 1892, to September, 1894, or one year and ten months; other cases were dealt with within twelve months.

- (2.) Municipal Loans Further Amendment Bill:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. FitzGerald, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware of the pressing necessity which exists throughout the Colony for the passage of the proposed Municipal Loans Further Amendment Act?

(2.) Will he endeavour to have the same passed into law during the present Session?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I have no knowledge of the Bill to which the Honorable Member's Question refers. I imagine the Question is intended to apply to the Municipal Loans Validation Bill.

- (3.) D'Arcy Wentworth Mine:—Mr. James Thomson, for Mr. Sleath, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) When was the lease application lodged for the property known as the D'Arcy Wentworth Mine?

(2.) Has the lease been issued?

(3.) If not, what has been the cause of delay?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) 8th August, 1894.

(2.) No.

(3.) The issue of the lease was held over until the passing of the Mining Laws Amendment Act, which provides the labour conditions to be imposed. The applicants asked to be allowed to take out seven leases instead of one to cover the whole area. This was refused, and they then asked to be allowed to give up a large portion of the area applied for. This request has been acceded to, and the matter is only awaiting the signature of one of the owners to the amendment of the application for the reduced area. It is expected this will be obtained in a few days, when everything will be complete, so that the amended survey may be made and lease issue.

- (4.) Cultivation of Wheat at the Wagga Wagga Experimental Farm:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Secretary for Mines,—With reference to a "remarkable wheat crop," reported in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 22nd instant, will he be good enough to say,—

(1.) What quantity of land was cultivated for wheat at the Wagga Wagga Experimental Farm?

(2.) Was the land manured and irrigated?

(3.) What was the nature of the manure, how much was used per acre, and what was its cost?

(4.) And, generally, what was the cost of bringing the land into such a high state of cultivation?

Mr.

25th November, 1897.

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) The total area is about 400 acres.
- (2.) The land was manured but not irrigated.
- (3.) Medium grade superphosphate, costing 10s. per acre.
- (4.) The land is somewhat clayey, and the cost for ploughing, sowing, harrowing, labour, seed, &c., amounted to £1 per acre.

- (5.) Wheat Crop at the Wagga Wagga Farm :—Mr. Reymond asked the Secretary for Mines,—
What is the name of the early wheat which, according to the report of the acting-manager of the Wagga Wagga farm, promises to give such a good yield, although sown so late as the month of August?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Improved Allora Spring.

- (6.) Destruction of Flying Foxes :—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Referring to Mr. Wheeler's Question, asked on the 28th April, 1897, in regard to the reported discovery of an effective means for the destruction of flying foxes, and to the Minister's reply "that Her Majesty's Consul at Apia had been asked to make inquiry as to the facts of the "experiments in Samoa,"—will the Minister say what answer (if any) has been received?

(2.) If no answer has been received to his communication, will he make a further effort to obtain the information desired?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—A reply has been received from the British Consul at Apia to the effect that it is doubtful how far the disappearance of the flying foxes could be attributed to the bacillus. It is also a matter for consideration whether a bacillus which is innocuous to human beings in a cold climate may not under tropical or sub-tropical conditions assume malignant properties. The whole subject is to be further inquired into by the professional officers of the Department; but I shall hesitate to sanction the introduction of this bacillus unless it can be clearly shown that there will be no danger to human, animal, or other bird life than flying foxes.

- (7.) Opinion of Attorney-General respecting Casual Employees :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of this House a copy of the opinion of the Attorney-General on the question of alleged casual employees dismissed by the Public Service Board?

Mr. Reid answered,—I have not yet had time to look up the practice in reference to laying copies of Attorney-General's opinions upon the Table, but if my honorable friend will give fresh notice of his Question for Tuesday next I shall be able to answer it.

- (8.) Advertisements on wall surrounding Benevolent Asylum :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) At whose instigation is the wall attached to and surrounding the Benevolent Asylum at Redfern being placarded with advertisements?

(2.) Does the Government or any other person receive any pay for the advertisements; if so, the amount received, and by whom?

(3.) Will he consider whether it is not unsightly and unbecoming to have our public institution buildings in the centre of the city turned into an amphitheatre for advertising in the face of the facilities and available space offered by our metropolitan Press?

Mr. Brunner answered,—In order to supplement the funds of the Benevolent Society the Directors authorised the letting of the wall for the purpose referred to. The Honorable Member is, of course, aware that the management of the Benevolent Asylum is controlled by a Board.

- (9.) Public Works dealt with by the Public Works Committee :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) The number of public works that have been referred to and dealt with by the Public Works Committee, and that are now awaiting construction?

(2.) The number that have been favourably reported on by the Committee?

(3.) The number that have been rejected by the Committee?

(4.) The amount of public money that will be required in order to carry out the public works that have been favourably considered and recommended to be constructed by the Public Works Committee?

(5.) The time it will take before such works are finally completed in accordance with the recommendations submitted by the Committee?

(6.) In the face of the numerous and costly works now pending construction, will he consider whether it is not desirable that such works should be first carried out before new ones are being further dealt with?

Mr. Young answered,—This information can be prepared in the form of a return if moved for in the usual manner.

- (10.) Shipping Accommodation at Botany :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) To relieve the congested traffic on our main streets in the city, especially the traffic in wool, will he take into consideration the desirability of having a branch line of railway constructed from Granville, or other suitable centre on the Southern and Western railway, where wool could be transported and shipped from suitable docks or wharfs erected at Botany?

(2.) If it is necessary in the interest of the public that the Government should undertake the construction of suitable wharfs for coal-shipping at Port Kembla, will he consider the necessity of similar provisions being made in the way of erecting suitable wharfs or docks at Botany, to relieve the congested traffic (especially in wool) in the main streets in the city?

(3.) Will he refer the matter to the Public Works Committee, or some competent officer in his Department, for examination and report?

Mr. Young answered,—I do not propose taking any action in this matter at present.

25th November, 1897.

- (11.) Tender of McKenzie and Sons for the Gundagai Bridge:—Mr. Nelson asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that McKenzie and Sons' tender for the Gundagai bridge was the lowest by the sum of £78?
 - (2.) Is it also a fact the same firm's tender was the lowest for the Kempsey bridge by the sum of £325?
 - (3.) Was there any special reason why this firm's tender was not accepted?
 - (4.) Is it a fact the Department sent the plans and specifications to McKenzie and Sons, and received payment for them?
 - (5.) If so, will the Department return the amount of money so received?
 - (6.) Will the Government accept any future tender this firm may send in, or are they disqualified; if so, why?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) Yes, by £72 17s. 3d.
 - (2.) Yes; but when the tenders came to be analysed, and certain portions which would be omitted were struck out of both tenders, it was found the difference between the two was only £66.
 - (3.) As the difference in each case was so slight—considering the large sums involved—and as the local tenderers were known to be highly satisfactory contractors, whereas McKenzie & Sons were unknown to the Department, I decided to accept the local tenders.
 - (4.) Yes, on their application in the case of Gundagai bridge.
 - (5.) It is not the practice of the Department to do so.
 - (6.) So far as I am concerned, I will reserve the right which every Minister exercises, viz., that the lowest or any tender is not necessarily accepted. The firm referred to have not been disqualified.
- (12.) Issue of Cotton-seed to Farmers:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. F. Clarke, asked the Secretary for Mines,—When will the Department issue the long-promised cotton-seed to farmers, so that they can plant it this season?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Cotton-seed has been supplied to all farmers who have applied for it for this season's planting. Any further application made will be attended to at once.

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Regulations under the Pharmacy Act, 1897.
 - (2.) Return to an Order, made on 27th October, 1897,—“Payments made to Sir John Fowler.”
 - (3.) General Abstracts of Banking, Land, Building, and Investment Companies—Liabilities and Assets—for quarter ended 30th September, 1897.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) *Précis* of facts relating to the Campbelltown Reservoir Acts Repeal Bill.
 - (2.) *Précis* of facts relating to the Stockton Graving-dock (Leasing) Bill.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—Report on the Military Forces of the Colony, by Major-General G. A. French, R.A., C.M.G., Commanding Military Forces.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Twenty-third Report from the Printing Committee.

4. COLOURED RACES RESTRICTION AND REGULATION BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Reid, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to apply and extend certain provisions of the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888 to other Coloured Races, to amend the said Act, and for other purposes incidental to or consequent upon the before-mentioned objects.*”

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled “*An Act to apply and extend certain provisions of the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888 to other Coloured Races, to amend the said Act, and for other purposes incidental to or consequent upon the before-mentioned objects,*”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 25th November, 1897.*

5. IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Reid, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to 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.*”

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 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,*”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 25th November, 1897.*

25th November, 1897.

6. CO-OPERATIVE COLLIERY TRAMWAY BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Frank Farnell, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Farnell then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the maintenance and use of a tramway which has been constructed from the Co-operative Mine, situate on the Wentworth Estate, in the parish of Hexham, county of Northumberland, in the Colony of New South Wales, to the screens above the Co-operative Railway-line, and which said tramway crosses various streets and ways in the Borough of Plattsburg; and to enable William George Laidley, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, to divert the course of Kenrick-street, between Wentworth-street and Fletcher-street, and giving him compulsory powers to acquire lands forming the site of the said tramway.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to authorise the maintenance and use of a tramway which has been constructed from the Co-operative Mine, situate on the Wentworth Estate, in the parish of Hexham, county of Northumberland, in the Colony of New South Wales, to the screens above the Co-operative Railway-line, and which said tramway crosses various streets and ways in the Borough of Plattsburg; and to enable William George Laidley, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, to divert the course of Kenrick-street, between Wentworth-street and Fletcher-street, and giving him compulsory powers to acquire lands forming the site of the said tramway.*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, including the amendments in the Title, in which amendments the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 25th November, 1897.

CO-OPERATIVE COLLIERY TRAMWAY BILL.

Schedule of Amendments referred to in Message of 25th November, 1897.

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

- Page 1, Title. Before "William" insert "the executors of"
 Page 1, Title. After "Laidley" omit "his heirs, executors, administrators, and" insert "or their"
 Page 1, Title. Omit "him" insert "them"
 Page 1, Preamble, line 2. Omit "is" insert "was"
 Page 1, Preamble, line 7. Omit "is" insert "was"
 Page 2, clause 2, line 27. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 2, clause 2, lines 27 and 28. Omit "his heirs, executors, administrators, and" insert "or their"
 Page 2, clause 3, line 41. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 2, clause 3, line 42. Omit "his heirs, executors, administrators, and" insert "or their"
 Page 2, clause 3, line 42. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 2, clause 3, line 43. Omit "his heirs, executors, administrators, and" insert "or their"
 Page 2, clause 4, line 47. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 2, clause 4, line 51. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 2, clause 4, line 53. Omit "his" insert "their"
 Page 2, clause 4, line 57. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 3, clause 5, line 1. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 3, clause 5, lines 1 and 2. Omit "his heirs, executors, administrators, and" insert "or their"
 Page 3, clause 5, line 2. Omit "his or"
 Page 3, clause 6, line 6. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 3, clause 6, lines 6 and 7. Omit "his heirs, executors, administrators, and" insert "or their"
 Page 3, clause 6, line 7. Omit "his or"
 Page 3, clause 6, line 11. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 3, clause 6, lines 11 and 12. Omit "his heirs, executors, administrators, and" insert "or their"
 Page 3, clause 6, line 16. At end of clause add "and the executors of William George Laidley, or their assigns or their managers or agents, shall be liable to a penalty of not less than two pounds per day for every day during which any wilful breach or neglect in carrying into effect any of the provisions of this Act shall continue, and the Municipal Council of the Borough of Plattsburg, their officers or agents, may recover the aforesaid penalty in any Court of competent jurisdiction."
 Page 3, clause 7, line 17. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 3, clause 7, line 18. Omit "his heirs, executors, administrators, and" insert "or their"
 Page 3, clause 11, line 42. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 3, clause 11, lines 42 and 43. Omit "his executors, administrators"
 Page 3, clause 11, line 43. Before "assigns" insert "their"
 Page 3, clause 11, line 45. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 3, clause 11, line 46. Omit "his executors, administrators"
 Page 3, clause 11, line 46. After "or" insert "their"
 Page 3, clause 11, line 49. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 3, clause 11, line 50. Omit "his heirs, executors, administrators"
 Page 3, clause 11, line 50. After "or" insert "their"
 Page 3, clause 11, line 52. Omit "said" insert "executors of"
 Page 3, clause 11, lines 52 and 53. Omit "his heirs, executors, administrators"
 Page 3, clause 11, line 53. Before "assigns" insert "their"
 Page 3, clause 11, line 53. Omit "is or"
 Page 3, clause 11, line 58. Omit "said" insert "executors of"

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- Page 3, clause 11, lines 58 and 59. *Omit* "his heirs, executors, administrators"
 Page 3, clause 11, line 59. *After* "or" *insert* "their"
 Page 4, clause 12, line 6. *Omit* "said" *insert* "executors of"
 Page 4, clause 12, line 7. *Omit* "his heirs, executors, administrators"
 Page 4, clause 12, line 7. *After* "or" *insert* "their"
 Page 4, clause 13, line 15. *Omit* "said" *insert* "executors of"
 Page 4, clause 13, lines 15 and 16. *Omit* "his heirs, executors, administrators"
 Page 4, clause 13, line 16. *After* "or" *insert* "their"
 Page 4, clause 14, line 24. *Omit* "said" *insert* "executors of"
 Page 4, clause 14, line 25. *Omit* "his heirs, executors, administrators"
 Page 4, clause 14, line 25. *After* "or" *insert* "their"
 Page 6, clause 24, line 2. *Omit* "said" *insert* "executors of"
 Page 6, clause 24, lines 2 and 3. *Omit* "his heirs, executors, administrators, and" *insert* "or
 "their"
 Page 6, clause 24, line 9. *Omit* "said" *insert* "executors of"
 Page 6, clause 24, line 9. *Omit* "his heirs, executors, administrators, and" *insert* "or their"
 Page 6, clause 25, line 12. *Omit* "said" *insert* "executors of"
 Page 6, clause 25, line 13. *Omit* "his heirs, executors, administrators"
 Page 6, clause 25, line 13. *After* "or" *insert* "their"
 Page 6, clause 25, line 15. *Omit* "said" *insert* "executors of"
 Page 6, clause 25, lines 15 and 16. *Omit* "his heirs, executors, administrators"
 Page 6, clause 25, line 16. *After* "or" *insert* "their"
 Page 6, clause 26, line 27. *Omit* "said" *insert* "executors of"
 Page 6, clause 26, line 27. *Omit* "his heirs, executors, administrators"
 Page 6, clause 26, line 28. *Before* "assigns" *insert* "their"

Examined,—

WILLIAM McCOURT,
 Chairman of Committees.

7. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
 (1.) Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill; second reading;—until Thursday next.
 (2.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Thursday next.
 (3.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Thursday next.
 (4.) Nyngan Town Hall (Mortgage) Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Wednesday next.
 (5.) Barristers and Solicitors Fees Bill; second reading;—until Thursday, 9th December.
 (6.) Sugar Industry in the North Coast Districts; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. McFarlane;—until Wednesday next.

8. **GLEBE ISLAND BRIDGE BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 67.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to sanction the construction of a stone causeway, having a steel swing-span in the centre, in substitution for the present bridge at Glebe Island.

Government House,

Sydney, 19th November, 1897.

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

9. **SYDNEY WATER SUPPLY CONDUIT ADDITIONAL WORKS BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 68.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill 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.

Government House,

Sydney, 19th November, 1897.

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

10. **FRIENDLY SOCIETIES BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Bruncker, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 69.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Friendly Societies, and for other purposes.

Government House,

Sydney, 25th November, 1897.

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

25th November, 1897.

11. LICENSING ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable Licensing Courts and Licensing Magistrates to grant or refuse any application for a brewer's or spirit merchant's license; to provide that the business of the holder of any such license shall be carried on only on premises described in the license or in an endorsement made thereon by such Court or Magistrate; to enable a married woman who has obtained a protection order or judicial separation, or a woman whose marriage has been dissolved, or whose husband is an insane patient, to obtain a publican's or colonial wine license; and for those purposes and purposes incidental thereto to amend the Licensing Acts, 1882-1883.*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment."

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 25th November, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

12. ORDER OF BUSINESS ON TUESDAYS (*Sessional Order*):—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That during the remainder of the present Session, unless otherwise ordered, General Business shall take precedence of Government Business on Tuesdays until 8 o'clock p.m., after which hour Government Business only shall be proceeded with.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
13. NORTH SYDNEY LOAN ENABLING BILL:—
(1.) Mr. Brunner moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to validate certain loans raised by the formerly existing Boroughs of East St. Leonards and Victoria, and renewed by the Borough of North Sydney.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Brunner then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to validate certain loans raised by the formerly existing Boroughs of East St. Leonards and Victoria, and renewed by the Borough of North Sydney.*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
14. STRATHFIELD RAILWAY CROSSING 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 enable the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close a certain level-crossing near Strathfield railway station, and to provide a way in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of that way to be a public thoroughfare.
Question put and passed.
15. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after midnight,—

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

16. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Tuesday next:—
(1.) Stamp and Probate Duties Bill; second reading.
(2.) Ways and Means; resumption of the Committee.
17. SYDNEY WATER SUPPLY CONDUIT ADDITIONAL WORKS BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a duplicate main in connection with the Sydney Water Supply, the enlargement and strengthening of the existing channel, and to vest the said works in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a Resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the Resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to sanction the construction of a duplicate main in connection with the Sydney Water Supply, the enlargement and strengthening of the existing channel, and to vest the said works in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage.
On motion of Mr. Young, the Resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a 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.*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed and read a second time on Tuesday next.
18. CAMPBELLTOWN RESERVOIR ACTS REPEAL BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Carruthers the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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19. CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.

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

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

MR. PRESIDENT,

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to vest the Church and School Lands in Her Majesty, free from all trusts and provisions affecting the same; to validate certain dealings with those lands; and to provide for the appropriation of moneys at credit of the Public Instruction Endowment Account; to make better provision for dealing with the said lands, and with the money derived therefrom; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 26th November, 1897, a.m.

20. ENTRY ON PRIVATE LAND BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.

Ordered, that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday next.

21. ABATTOIR ROAD ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

22. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Appropriation Bill postponed until Tuesday next.

23. BOILERS INSPECTION BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide for the inspection and regulation of steam boilers; the examination of persons in charge of the same, and the granting of certificates; to define the duties and liabilities of the owners of such boilers; to make provision for the holding of inquiries into accidents caused by the explosion of such boilers; and for other purposes incidental to the objects aforesaid.

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

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

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

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to provide for the inspection and regulation of steam boilers, the examination of persons in charge of the same, and the granting of certificates; to define the duties and liabilities of the owners of such boilers; to make provision for the holding of inquiries into accidents caused by the explosion of such boilers; and for other purposes incidental to the objects aforesaid.

On motion of Mr. Garrard, the Resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Mr. Garrard then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for the inspection and regulation of steam boilers; the examination of persons in charge of the same, and the granting of certificates; to define the duties and liabilities of the owners of such boilers; to make provision for the holding of inquiries into accidents caused by the explosion of such boilers; and for other purposes incidental to the objects aforesaid*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed and read a second time on Wednesday, 15th December.

24. PYRMONT BRIDGE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendment made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendment.

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

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

MR. PRESIDENT,

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendment made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the removal of the present Pyrmont Bridge, and the construction in lieu thereof of a Timber Bridge with Steel Swing Span, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in their report presented on 6th December, 1894.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 26th November, 1897, a.m.

25th November, 1897.

25. **POSTPONEMENT:**—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Joint Stock Companies Arrangement (Continuation) Bill postponed until Tuesday next.
26. **TRUST PROPERTY (AMENDMENT) BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
27. **POSTPONEMENTS:**—The following Orders of the Day postponed (after Debate) until Tuesday next:—
(1.) Country Towns Water and Sewerage Bill (No. 2); second reading.
(2.) Port Kembla Harbour Bill; second reading.
(3.) Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Bill; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, "That this Bill be now read a second time."
(4.) Liquor Traffic Local Option Bill; reception of resolution from Committee of the Whole.
(5.) Fisheries Bill; second reading.
(6.) Tonnage Rates Bill; second reading.
(7.) Truck Bill; second reading.
28. **MUNICIPAL LOANS FURTHER VALIDATION BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.
On motion of Mr. Brunker, 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 enable the Governor to validate certain Loans to Municipalities, and the securities, if any, therefor.*"
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 26th November, 1897, a.m.
29. **POSTPONEMENTS:**—The following Orders of the Day postponed (after debate) until Tuesday next:—
(1.) Forests and Quarries Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate State Forests and Timber Reserves; to provide for the granting of licenses in respect of timber, trees, bark, gums, stone, and other materials and things on State Forests and Timber Reserves; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
(2.) Nullum Tempus Act Declaratory Bill; second reading.
(3.) Noxious Weeds Bill; second reading.
(4.) Rabbit Bill; second reading.
(5.) Sheep Directors Election Bill; second reading.
30. **REGISTRATION OF DEEDS BILL:**—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.
(2.) 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 the Registration of Deeds.*"
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 the Registration of Deeds,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 26th November, 1897, a.m.
31. **MUNICIPALITIES BILL:**—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time. (2.)

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(2.) 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 Municipalities.*"

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

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 26th November, 1897, a.m.*

32. NUISANCES PREVENTION BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

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

(2.) 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 prevention of certain Nuisances in Municipalities.*"

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 prevention of certain Nuisances in Municipalities,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 26th November, 1897, a.m.*

33. QUARANTINE BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

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

(2.) 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 Quarantine.*"

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

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 26th November, 1897, a.m.*

34. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Tuesday next:—

(1.) Stamp Duties Bill; second reading.

(2.) Cattle Driving Bill; second reading.

35. PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

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

(2.) 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 regulating places of Public Exhibition and Entertainment.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered,

25th November, 1897.

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 regulating places of Public Exhibition and Entertainment*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 26th November, 1897, a.m.

36. DISTILLATION BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

On motion of Mr. Gould the report was adopted.

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

(2.) 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 distillation, rectifying, and compounding of spirits; the prevention of unlawful distillation; the protection of the Revenue arising from the duties on spirits; and the authorisation and regulation of the warehousing under bond and the exportation free of duty of spirits distilled within the Colony of New South Wales*."

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 distillation, rectifying, and compounding of spirits; the prevention of unlawful distillation; the protection of the Revenue arising from the duties on spirits; and the authorisation and regulation of the warehousing under bond and the exportation free of duty of spirits distilled within the Colony of New South Wales*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 26th November, 1897, a.m.

37. EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

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

(2.) 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 extending and regulating the liability of employers to make compensation for personal injuries suffered by workmen in their service*."

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 extending and regulating the liability of employers to make compensation for personal injuries suffered by workmen in their service*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 26th November, 1897, a.m.

38. CONTRACTORS' DEBTS BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

On motion of Mr. Gould the report was adopted.

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

(2.) 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 better securing the payment of Debts due to Workmen, Tradesmen, and Others*."

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 better securing the payment of Debts due to Workmen, Tradesmen, and Others*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 26th November, 1897, a.m.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

25th November, 1897.

39. CLAIMS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT AND CROWN SUITS BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

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

(2.) 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 claims against the Government and Crown Suits.*"

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 claims against the Government and Crown Suits,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 26th November, 1897, a.m.*

40. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Wills, Probate, and Administration Bill, postponed until Tuesday next.

41. COMPENSATION TO RELATIVES BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

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

(2.) 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 compensation to relatives of persons killed by accidents.*"

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 compensation to relatives of persons killed by accidents,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 26th November, 1897, a.m.*

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at Twenty-five minutes before Seven o'clock, a.m., until Tuesday next, at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 76.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 30 NOVEMBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Water Conservation Department:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will he lay upon the Table of this House the return ordered by this House, on the 24th August last, respecting the cost of the Water Conservation Department?

Mr. Young answered,—Owing to the Water Conservation Branch having been under two Departments, considerable difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the information promised. Every effort is being made to complete the return; but I cannot definitely name a date when it will be ready.

- (2.) Synopsis of Offences Punishable on Summary Convictions by Macfarlane and Addison:—Mr. Affleck asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has each Court of Petty Sessions been supplied with a copy of "A Synopsis of Offences Punishable on Summary Convictions by Justices of the Peace," by Macfarlane and Addison?

(2.) If not, how many have been supplied, and how many are without it?

(3.) Will he take steps to have a copy supplied to every Court without delay?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) 142 Courts have been supplied with a copy, 148 Courts are without one.

(3.) This cannot be done at present, there being no funds available for the purchase of additional copies of the work.

- (3.) Officers of the Defence Forces,—The Superannuation Fund:—Mr. Griffith asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Do the permanent officers in the Defence Forces subscribe to any Superannuation or Pension Fund?

(2.) If not, on what ground does the Government treat military officers retired from the Public Service differently from other public servants by providing them with large pensions from the general taxation?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

(1.) No.

(2.) Apparently because gratuities, &c., for other public servants are met by the Public Service Act, which does not apply to the Military permanently employed.

- (4.) Consolidation of the Land Laws:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) How many meetings have been held by the Committee appointed by this House, at the instance of the Minister, on the 12th May last, to consider the consolidation of the Land Laws?

(2.) What has been the result of the meetings?

(3.) Will he lay a copy of the Bill—the work of the Committee—upon the Table before the Session closes?

(4.) If not, why not?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Seven.

(2, 3, and 4.) The report of the Committee will be laid on the Table of the House very shortly.

(5.)

30th November, 1897.

- (5.) The Truck Bill :—Mr. Affleck asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Is it his intention to go on with, and endeavour to pass, the Truck Bill during the present Session ?
Mr. Garrard answered,—I hope to advance this measure a further stage this Session.
- (6.) Report of Royal Commission on Accidents at Broken Hill :—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Nelson, asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he be good enough to lay upon the Table of this House Judge Murray's report of the Royal Commission on the accidents at Broken Hill ?
Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The report will be laid on the Table probably this afternoon.
- (7.) Conditional Purchase of Mrs. Ellen Josephine Ormsby :—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Lands,—When will the papers moved for in the case of a forfeited non-residential conditional purchase, taken up by Mrs. Ellen Josephine Ormsby, be laid upon the Table of this House ?
Mr. Brunker answered,—My honorable colleague will presently lay copies of these papers on the Table.
- (8.) Lands for Closer Settlement Bill :—Mr. Pyers asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is it his intention to introduce the Closer Settlement Bill this Session or during the present Parliament ?
Mr. Brunker answered,—No.
2. EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE TO WOMEN :—Mr. Chanter presented a Petition from certain residents of New South Wales, stating that it is expedient that the electoral franchise should be extended to women on the same conditions as apply to men ; and praying the House will take measures to further the object of Petitioners.
Petition received.
3. PAPERS :—
Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 24th November, 1897,—
"Technological Museum."
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Management of the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board ; together with Minutes of Proceedings, Evidence, and Appendices.
(2.) Report of the Royal Commission appointed on the 7th July, 1897, to inquire into the working of Mines and Quarries in the Albert Mining District ; together with Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence, and Appendices.
(3.) Return to an Order, made on 29th July, 1897,—“ Non-residential Conditional Purchase, Cowra, “ taken up by Ellen Josephine Ormsby.”
(4.) Return to an Order, made on 13th July, 1897,—“ Deductions from Salaries of Temporary Officers during Jubilee holidays.
(5.) By-law of the Borough of Wollongong.
(6.) By-laws of the Borough of Young.
(7.) By-laws of the Borough of Albury.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Regulations under the Public Service Act of 1895, respecting Leave of Absence to employees in the General Division.
(2.) Regulation under the Public Service Act of 1895, respecting Sick Leave in exceptional cases.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. CONSOLIDATION OF THE LAND LAWS :—Mr. Carruthers, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 12th May, 1897 ; together with Appendix.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. MINING CASE, WOODS *v.* COLLINS (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. T. R. Smith moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, letters, correspondence, reports, &c., of an inquiry held by the Warden in the Blayney District in the mining case Woods *v.* Collins.
Question put and passed.
6. POSTPONEMENT :—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to legalise and regulate Sunday trading, postponed until Wednesday, 8th December.
7. ADDITIONAL LOAN ESTIMATE FOR 1897-8 :—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker :—
FREDK. M. DARLEY, Message No. 70.
Lieutenant-Governor.
- In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the accompanying Additional Estimate of the Expenditure of the Government of New South Wales, on account of Public Works and other Services, for the year 1897-8,—proposed to be provided for by Loan.
Government House.
Sydney, 30th November, 1897.
- Ordered to be printed, together with the accompanying Estimate, and referred to the Committee of Supply.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th November, 1897.

8. PROBATE DUTIES BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 71.

Lieutenant-Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to impose certain Stamp and Probate Duties, and for other purposes.

*Government House,**Sydney, 30th November, 1897.*

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

9. STAMP DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 72.

Lieutenant-Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend the Stamp Duties Acts, and to impose certain Stamp Duties.

*Government House,**Sydney, 30th November, 1897.*

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

10. CASE OF RACHEL DAWSON, CONVICTED AT DUBBO OF SHOOTING:—

(1.) Mr. Haynes moved, without Notice, That it is a case of urgent and pressing necessity that the Notice of Motion for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the case of one Rachel Dawson, convicted at Dubbo of shooting, should be proceeded with this day.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 38.

Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Nicholson,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Edden,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Black,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Law,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Ashton.
Mr. Watson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Robert Jones,	
Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Atleck,	Mr. Frank Farnell.

Noes, 33.

Mr. Lync,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Gornly,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Gould,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Reid,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Young.
Mr. T. R. Smith,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. M. T. Phillips,	
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Pyers,	Dr. Ross.
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. F. Clarke,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

- (2.) Mr. Haynes then moved, That so much of the Standing and Sessional Orders be suspended as would prevent Notice of Motion No. 27 on the Business Paper for this Day, in the name of Mr. Haynes, in reference to the case of Rachel Dawson, being proceeded with at this sitting of the House prior to the other Notices standing before it on the Business Paper.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Haynes moved, pursuant to Standing Order No. 142, That the Honorable Member for Darlington, Mr. Schey, be not further heard.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 36.

Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Atleck,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.
Mr. Watson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Carruthers,	
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Mahony.

Noes, 32.

Mr. T. R. Smith,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Lync,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Gornly,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Raymond,	Mr. Anderson.
Dr. Ross,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. M. T. Phillips,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Ferguson.
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. Rose,	
Mr. Henry Clarke,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Debate continued.

And

30th November, 1897.

And it being Eight o'clock, Government Business only taken, under Sessional Order adopted on the 25th November, 1897.

11. GLEBE ISLAND BRIDGE BILL:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a stone causeway, having a steel swing-span in the centre, in substitution for the present bridge at Glebe Island.
Question put and passed.
12. CAMPBELLTOWN RESERVOIR ACTS REPEAL BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, *passed*.
Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to repeal the Acts eighteenth Victoria number twenty-three and thirty-ninth Victoria number eleven, and to vest certain lands and chattels in Her Majesty.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to repeal the Acts eighteenth Victoria number twenty-three and thirty-ninth Victoria number eleven, and to vest certain lands and chattels in Her Majesty,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 30th November, 1897.*
13. ABATTOIR ROAD ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, *passed*.
Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to revoke the dedication of part of certain lands set forth and described in the Schedule to the Abattoir Road Act of 1860; and to repeal the said Act in part.*"
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 revoke the dedication of part of certain lands set forth and described in the Schedule to the Abattoir Road Act of 1860; and to repeal the said Act in part,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 30th November, 1897.*
14. TRUST PROPERTY (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.
Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to make further provision for the vesting of trust property in new trustees.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to make further provision for the vesting of trust property in new trustees,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 30th November, 1897.*
15. ENTRY ON PRIVATE LAND BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Young moved, That the report be now adopted.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.
(2.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, *passed*.
Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide for the entry on any lands for the purposes of making preliminary surveys for railways, tramways, waterworks, sewerage-works, canals, stormwater channels, drains, embankments for the protection of low-lying lands from flood-waters, or other works, and for determination of boundaries of alienated lands and for trigonometrical survey of the Colony.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the entry on any lands for the purposes of making preliminary surveys for railways, tramways, waterworks, sewerage-works, canals, stormwater channels, drains, embankments for the protection of low-lying lands from flood-waters, or other works, and for determination of boundaries of alienated lands and for trigonometrical survey of the Colony,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 30th November, 1897.*

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th November, 1897.

16. **STAMP AND PROBATE DUTIES BILL**:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That the Order of the Day be discharged.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.
17. **NORTH SYDNEY LOAN ENABLING BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Bruncker,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Bruncker, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
18. **STRATHFIELD RAILWAY CROSSING BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to enable the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close a certain level-crossing near Strathfield Railway Station, and to provide a way in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of that way to be a public thoroughfare.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to enable the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close a certain level-crossing near Strathfield Railway Station, and to provide a way in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of that way to be a public thoroughfare.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
19. **SYDNEY WATER SUPPLY CONDUIT ADDITIONAL WORKS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
20. **POSTPONEMENT**:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Appropriation Bill postponed until To-morrow.
21. **JOINT STOCK COMPANIES ARRANGEMENT (CONTINUATION) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 1 DECEMBER, 1897, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.
Ordered, that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for To-morrow.

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

- (1.) Land and Income Tax (Amendment) Bill (No. 2):—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill intituled "*An Act to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years; to make better provision in respect of assessment-books; and for purposes incidental to the above objects*," returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th November, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

30th November, 1897.

(2.) Co-operative Colliery Tramway Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Assembly in the Bill, intituled “*An Act to authorise the maintenance and use of a tramway which has been constructed from the Co-operative Mine, situate on the Wentworth Estate, in the parish of Hexham, county of Northumberland, in the Colony of New South Wales, to the screens above the Co-operative railway line, and which said tramway crosses various streets and ways in the Borough of Plattsburg; and to enable William George Laidley, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, to divert the course of Kenrick-street, between Wentworth-street and Fletcher-street, and giving him compulsory powers to acquire lands forming the site of the said tramway,*”—including the amendments in the Title.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th November, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

23. POSTPONEMENT.—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Bill (No. 2) postponed until Tuesday, 14th December.

24. PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Cann moved, pursuant to Standing Order No. 112, That the Honorable Member for Paddington, Mr. Neild, be not further heard.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 22.

Mr. Gould,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	
Mr. Sydney Smith,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. McLean.

Noes, 20.

Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Rose,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Thomas Brown.
Mr. Pyers,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Dick.
Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Dacey,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Standing Order No. 112, That the Honorable Member for The Manning, Mr. Young, be not further heard.

Question put and passed.

Original Question put,—That this Bill be now read a second time.

The House divided.

Ayes, 29.

Mr. Gould,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Garrard,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	
Mr. Sydney Smith,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Cann,	

Noes, 15.

Mr. Carroll,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Black,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Neild.
Mr. Millen,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. Lyne,	
Mr. Dick,	
Mr. James Thomson,	
Mr. Edden,	
Mr. Wheeler,	
Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. Ferguson,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.

Ordered, that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for To-morrow.

25. SUPPLY:—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 the Committee of Supply.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 29.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Cook,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Millen,	Mr. Black,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Young,	Mr. F. Clarke,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Cann.
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Newman,	
Mr. Archibald Campbell,		

Noes, 9.

Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. Neild,	
Mr. Dick,	
Mr. Wheeler,	
Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. Edden,	
<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. James Thomson,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Whereupon

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

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

The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to certain resolutions.

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

The Chairman then reported the resolutions, which were read a first time, as follows:—

ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND OTHER SERVICES, PROPOSED TO BE PROVIDED FOR BY LOAN.

I.—Permanent and Reproductive Works.

No. IV.—TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

(107.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £320,000, for Railways and Tramways: being £150,000 towards Improvements of Grades and Curves—further sum; £150,000 for Additions to Railway Lines, Stations, Buildings, Workshops, for Rolling Stock, and for other purposes, including Safety Appliances; £10,000 for Additions to Tramway Workshops and Buildings, and for other purposes; and £10,000 for Additions to Tramway Lines and Rolling Stock, and for other purposes.

No. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

(108.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £12,100 for Wollongong Harbour Works—the Cost of works taken over by the Government—further sum.

(109.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £137,600 for Bridges: being £48,500 for Pymont Bridge; and £89,100 for Glebe Island Bridge.

(110.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £349,450, for Harbours and Rivers: being £18,000 for Lighthouse and Quarters, Cape Byron; £5,000 for Nambucca River Improvements—further sum; £50,000 for Richmond River Improvements—further sum; £5,000 for Cape Hawke—Improvements to Entrance—further sum; £15,000 for Manning River Improvements—further sum; £30,000 for Clarence River Improvements—further sum; £6,000 for Bellenger River Improvements—further sum; £10,000 for Macleay River Improvements—further sum; £5,000 for Camden Haven Improvements—further sum; £10,000 for Tweed River Improvements—further sum; £1,600 for Improvement of the Apsley River; £7,000 for Horse Ferry Dock and Landing at Dawes Point—with Roadway thereto—Subject to the North Shore Council constructing a suitable Dock, &c., at Blue's Point, North Shore; £2,250 for Dock for Dredges, Tweed River; £8,500 for Trial Bay Prison—Erection of New Wing, Electric Light, &c.; £25,000 for landing Silt and forming Ground; £5,000 for providing extra mooring accommodation for loaded ships at Newcastle Harbour; £10,000 for Deepening of Eastern Channel, Sydney Harbour; £600 for Completion of Sea Wall, Rushcutters Bay, and Reclamation—further sum; £2,500 for Mossman's Bay—Reclamation Works; £14,000 for Wharf Accommodation, Woolloomooloo Bay, including Cargo Sheds, east side; £10,000 for New Jetty, Circular Quay, west side; £1,500 for Reconstruction of Wharf at Eden—further sum; £2,500 for Glebe Island—Levelling, &c.; £100,000 for Country Towns—Water Supply generally; and £5,000 for Services of other Departments Advance Account, to provide for Works and Services carried out for other branches of Service; and also for repairs to British and Foreign Men-of-War Ships. The value to be replaced from time to time, as the cost of such Works or Services is ascertained—the whole amount to be held available until adjusted.

(111.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £160,750, for Government Architect (Public Buildings generally—Erections, additions, alterations, &c.): being £15,000 for Court-houses—Bowraville, Adaminaby, Coramba, Parkes, Glen Innes, Broken Hill, Kew, Wyalong, Gulgong, Court-houses generally; £2,000 for Lock-ups—Port Macquarie, Burwood, Lock-ups generally; £15,000 for Police Stations—Darlinghurst, Manilla, Wardell, Balranald, Wollongong, Whitton, Moonbi, Dalmorton, Tuena, Narromine, Bugonia, Captain's Flat, Police Stations generally; £10,000 for prison for females—erection; £11,500 for Parramatta Gaol—additions, &c.; £3,000 for Darlinghurst Gaol—additions, &c.; £30,000 for Kenmore Hospital for Insane, including fittings, &c.—further sum; £2,000 for Parramatta Hospital for Insane—additions, fittings, &c.; £2,000 for Rydalmere Hospital for Insane—additions, fittings, &c.; £17,500 for Post and Telegraph Offices—Broken Hill (South), Taree, Wyalong (West), Manilla, Dulwich Hill, Lismore, Newcastle West, Wentworth, Newcastle, Post and Telegraph Offices generally, purchase of sites, Post and Telegraph Offices; £21,500 for General Post Office—Mansard Roof, &c.; £6,000 for Art Gallery—additions—further sum; £800 for Lands Office—strong-room; £1,400 for Board of Health New Offices, including fittings, &c.—further sum; £1,500 for Australian Museum—additions, &c.; £6,500 for Government Printing Office—additions, electric light, fittings, &c.; £1,000 for Royal Mint—additions, fittings, &c.; £1,500 for Government House—renewal of Building, &c.; £8,800 for Botanic Gardens—improvements; £450 for Sydney Hospital—further sum; £4,300 for Little Bay Hospital—new nurses' quarters, &c.; £4,000 for Land Board and District Survey Offices, Tamworth—erection; and £4,000 for Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board—new offices.

(112.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £22,580 for Sewerage Construction: being £280 for compensation for land resumed at Botany; £900 for Carrington or Henson-street Branch of Long Cove Creek, purchased from Ashfield Council; £500 for stormwater channel—Munni-street to Shea's Creek; £200 for stormwater channel through Callan Park reclamation—further sum; £15,000 for Willoughby and Chatswood sewerage; £2,200 for Rookwood Asylum—sewerage; £2,500 for White's Creek stormwater channel—further sum; and £1,000 for Jenolan Caves—drainage works in connection with Government buildings.

(113.)

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(113.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £355,175 for Railway Construction: being £450 for extension of railway into Rookwood Cemetery—further sum: £7,000 for trial surveys; £50,000 for tramway construction—generally; £10,000 for Cootamundra to Gundagai railway—further sum; £2,725 for Berrigan to Finley railway—further sum; £279,500 for Moree to Inverell railway; and £5,500 for Milson's Point to Hornsby railway—further sum.

(114.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £142,250, for Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage: being £99,500 for general reticulation and improvements to water supply to districts of Canterbury, Surry Hills, Redfern, Botany-road, Rookwood, Glebe; also trunk main from Centennial Park Reservoir to the western and north-western suburbs; £7,750 for additions upper canal banks above Prospect, and other minor works; £8,500 for raising puddle wall of Prospect embankment and works connected therewith; £7,500 for extension of water supply, districts of Camden and Narellan; and £19,000 for extension of water supply, district of Carlingford.

NO. IX.—PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, LABOUR AND INDUSTRY.

(115.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £50,000, for Public Instruction—being for public school buildings and sites.

X.—SECRETARY FOR MINES AND AGRICULTURE.

(116.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £3,900 for Jenolan Caves, being for resumption of accommodation house, and to provide improved buildings and furniture, Jenolan Caves—further sum.

(117.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £10,000, for water supply—to provide water supplies for minor townships, and incidental expenses thereto.

NO. XI.—POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

(118.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £50,000, for construction and extension of telegraph and telephone lines, generally.

II.—Other Works.

(To be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue in thirty years, by means of an Annual Sinking Fund.)

NO. III.—CHIEF SECRETARY.

(119.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £2,800 for police, to provide a steam-launch for the use of the Water Police.

(120.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £39,540 for Military: being £11,240 to provide drill halls and buildings, with equipment, in connection with defence works, volunteers, and others; and £28,300 for purchase of arms and ammunition for reserve stock.

NO. IV.—TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

(121.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £800 for Mercantile Explosives Branch, for purchase of a steam-launch for towage purposes.

(122.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £1,500, for Board of Health, for instruments and fittings for new bacteriological laboratories.

(123.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £9,500 for Marine Board for conversion of steamer "Ajax" into Pilot Boat for Newcastle.

NO. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

(124.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £59,751, for Bridges at,—Cockburn River, Road Tamworth to Nundle; Albury-street, Murrumburrah, within Municipality; Urana Creek, Road Deniliquin to Urana; Emu Creek, Road Booral to Bulladelah; George's Creek, Road Kempsey to Jeogla Mountain; Rocky Creek, Road Coast Road to Perrett's; Cockle Creek, Road Cockle Creek to Teralba; Kangaroo River, Kangaroo Valley (further sum); Taylor's Creek No. 2, Road Deniliquin *via* Aratula to Tocumwal; Bong Bong Creek, Road South Grafton to Moonee; Tumut River, Road Tumut *via* Brungle to Gundagai; Saucy Creek, Road Bombala to Mahratta to Craigie; Stony Creek at Coila, Main South Coast Road; Willandra Creek Approaches, Road Booligal to Ivanhoe; Burrangong Creek, Road Caragabel to Clifton; Whcney Creek, Road Bell's Line to Putty, G. N. Road; Bridges (3), Deep Creek and Jackson's Waterholes, Road Narrandera to Buckinbong; Bridge Oakey Creek, Road Tamworth to Barraba; over Burton's Creek, Road Pambula to New Buildings; over Jones' Creek at Gundagai, Road Gundagai to Wantabadgery; over Cudgegong River, at Rylstone; over Jandra Creek, Road Bourke to Louth; over Mebi River, at Moree; over Chandler River; over Byewash at Paroo River, at Wanaaring, Road Bourke to Wanaaring; Plumbago Creek, Road Ballina to Tenterfield; over Burrill Creek, Road Burrill Creek to Kimbriki, Moruya; over Hunter River at Glendon, Road Waddell Orchard to Singleton Road; over Paterson River, at Hinton, Road Hinton to Phoenix Park.

(125.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £7,446, for Punts and Launches: being for new steam ferry punt for Grafton, Clarence River; new hand ferry punt (including approaches), Coraki, Richmond River (Adams-street); new steam launch for the Clarence River ferry service; new steam launch for the Hunter River ferry service.

(126.)

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(126.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £8,000 for Harbours and Rivers: being £1,500 for shallow-draft steamer for Dredge Service; £1,500 for steamer for snagging operations; and £5,000 for self-propelled sand-pump dredge—further sum.

(127.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £1,000 for improvements, George's River.

(128.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £850 for wharf, Balranald—raising; wharf at Newport, Pittwater (foot of Queen's-parade).

(129.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £53,960 for Government Architect (Public Buildings generally—erection, additions, alterations, fittings, &c.): being £11,500 for Court-houses—Coolaman, Bingera, Oberon, Tamworth, Hay, Mudgee, Bathurst, Goodooga, Grafton, Delegate, Darlinghurst, Redfern (fittings, &c.), Armidale, Hill End, Gulgong, Warren, Court-houses generally; £2,000 for Lock-ups—Narrabri (West), Rozelle (Balmain), Wyalong, Deniliquin (South), Lock-ups generally; £10,000 for Gaols—Forbes, Moree, Parramatta, Bathurst, Biloela, installation of electric light in the principal gaols in the Colony, viz., Darlinghurst, Parramatta, Goulburn, Bathurst, East Maitland, and Young, Gaols generally; £750 for Hospital for Insane, Gladesville; £13,000 for Police Stations—Collic, Wauchope, Koorawatha, Girilambone, Broke, Bathlow, Cessnock, Warroo, Booligal, Peat's Ferry, Ellenborough, Mulwala, Bourke, Goolagong, Gunning, Linton (Wood's Reef, &c.), Bobadah (Overflow Mines), Albion Park, Bega, Broken Hill, Gresford, Bingera, Police Stations generally; £4,000 for Post and Telegraph Offices—Howlong, Nowra, Jerilderie, Boggabri, Junee, Bathurst, Carrington—further sum, Post and Telegraph Offices generally; £9,000 for Benevolent Asylums—Rookwood, Newington, and Liverpool; £1,000 for Quarantine Station—additions, &c.; £460 for Custom Houses—Sydney and Broken Bay; £500 for Hawkesbury Agricultural College—irrigation works; £800 for Registrar-General's Offices—electric light; £350 for Little Bay Hospital—fittings, &c.; and £600 for Admiralty House—additions, &c.

NO. X.—SECRETARY FOR MINES AND AGRICULTURE.

(130.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £5,000 for Mines Department—For erection of agricultural colleges and to provide a recreation reserve, in lieu of land taken for Experimental Farm purposes.

III.—Repayment of Loans.

(131.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £177,200 to meet 5 per cent. debentures falling due in 1898—In July,—Railways and Public Works—31 Vic. No. 27.

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF PUBLIC WORKS, PROPOSED TO BE PROVIDED FOR BY LOAN.

II. Other Works.

(To be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue in thirty years by means of an Annual Sinking Fund.)

NO. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

(132.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £34,000, for Bridge at Pymont—construction of timber portion.

NO. X.—SECRETARY FOR MINES AND AGRICULTURE.

(133.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1897-8, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £600, for Jenolan Caves—to provide Fittings, &c., for improved Buildings.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolutions were read a second time, and agreed to.

26. WAYS AND MEANS:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported progress and obtained leave to sit again. The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to certain resolutions.

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

The Chairman then reported the resolutions, which were read a first time, as follows:—

(8.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty, during the present Session, a sum not exceeding £2,024,752 be raised by the sale of Debentures or the issue of Stock, secured upon the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, and bearing interest at a rate not exceeding 4 per centum per annum, to defray the expenses of certain Public Works and Services of the Colony, and for other purposes.

(9.) *Resolved*,—That towards raising the supply to be granted to Her Majesty,—

1. Where, on the death of any person on or after the fifteenth day of December, 1897, duty is, by virtue of section fifty-three of the Stamp Duties Act of 1880 or section two of the Stamp Duties Acts Further Amendment Act of 1894, payable in respect of any real or personal estate or property, such estate or property shall, for the purpose of levying, collecting, and charging such duty, be deemed to be part of the estate of the person dying as aforesaid, and duty shall accordingly be payable thereon as hereinafter mentioned.

2. All duties payable as aforesaid and all duties payable under section fifty-five of the Stamp Duties Act of 1880 or section one of the Stamp Duties Acts Further Amendment Act of 1894, on the death of any person on or after the fifteenth day of December, 1897, shall be charged and paid at the rates chargeable and payable upon the estates of persons dying on or after the said day

(10.)

30th November, 1897.

(10.) *Resolved*.—That towards raising the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty,—

1. There shall, on and after the fifteenth day of December, 1897, be charged, levied, collected, and paid for the use of Her Majesty under the provisions of the Stamp Duties Acts, 1880–1894, and to form part of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for and in respect of the instruments hereinafter mentioned, duties of the several amounts and at the several rates herein specified, that is to say:—

	£	s.	d.
ACKNOWLEDGMENT by executor or administrator in lieu of conveyance under section twenty of the Probate Act of 1890 Amendment Act	1	0	0
APPLICATION under section seventy-nine of the Real Property Act to be registered as proprietor of an estate upon transmission	1	0	0
APPOINTMENT OF A NEW TRUSTEE, and appointment in execution of a power of any property or of any use, share, or interest in any property by any instrument not being a will	1	0	0
CONVEYANCE by way of exchange. Same duty as on conveyance by way of sale as assessed by the Commissioner on the value of property exchanged, and any money passing to equalise the dealing.			
CONVEYANCE of any property by the official assignee to a mortgagee. Same duty as on conveyance on sale calculated on the amount at which the security has been valued.			
DECLARATION made in New South Wales under Colonial or Foreign Marine Policy, 3d. for every £100 and fractional part of £100 insured.			
DISCLAIMER of mortgaged land under the Bankruptcy Act, 1887, by an official assignee or trustee. The same duty as on conveyance on sale as assessed by the Commissioner on the value of the property at the time of disclaimer.			
FIRE POLICIES and Renewal Receipts, 4d. for every £100 and fractional part of £100 insured.			
FORECLOSURE ORDER. The same duty as on conveyance on sale as assessed by the Commissioner on the value of the property at the time of the foreclosure.			
NOTARIAL ACT OF ANY KIND whatsoever (except a protest of or noting a bill of exchange or promissory note)	0	2	6
NOTING Bill of Exchange or Promissory Note	0	1	0
PASSENGER TICKET given or issued in the Colony by or on behalf of any steamship company, association, or owner of any steamship, in return for the payment of a sum of money amounting to £2 or upwards, unless a stamped receipt is given in respect of such payment and at the time thereof	0	0	2
SETTLEMENT, DEED OF GIFT, OR VOLUNTARY CONVEYANCE OF ANY PROPERTY. The amount (to be assessed by the Commissioner on the value of the property) which would be payable as probate duty on the property if the settlor had died at the time of making the settlement, deed, or conveyance, and the property had formed part of his estate.			

(2.) (a) Where the consideration or any part of the consideration for a conveyance on sale consists of money payable periodically for a definite period not exceeding twenty years, so that the total amount to be paid can be previously ascertained, the conveyance is to be charged in respect of that consideration with *ad valorem* duty on such total amount.

(b) Where the consideration or any part of the consideration for a conveyance on sale consists of money payable periodically for a definite period exceeding twenty years, or in perpetuity, or for any indefinite period not terminable with life, the conveyance is to be charged in respect of that consideration with *ad valorem* duty on the total amount which will or may, according to the terms of sale, be payable during the period of twenty years next after the day of the date of the instrument.

(c) Where the consideration or any part of the consideration for a conveyance on sale consists of money payable periodically during any life or lives, the conveyance is to be charged in respect of that consideration with *ad valorem* duty on the amount which will or may, according to the terms of sale, be payable during the period of twelve years next after the day of the date of the instrument.

(3.) (a) Where a person having, before or after the fifteenth day of December, 1897, contracted for the purchase of any property, but not having obtained a conveyance thereof, contracts to sell the same to any other person, and the property is in consequence conveyed immediately to the sub-purchaser, the conveyance shall be charged with *ad valorem* duty in respect of the consideration for the sale to the original purchaser, or in respect of the consideration for the sale by the original purchaser to the sub-purchaser, whichever consideration is the larger.

(b) Where a person having before or after the said day contracted for the purchase of any property, but not having obtained a conveyance, contracts to sell the whole or any part or parts thereof to any other person or persons, and the property is in consequence conveyed by the original seller to different persons in parts or parcels, the conveyance of each part or parcel shall be charged with *ad valorem* duty, as assessed by the commissioners in respect of the consideration moving from the sub-purchaser thereof, or in respect of an amount which bears the same proportion to the consideration for the sale to the original purchaser as the value of such part or parcel bears to the value of the property originally contracted to be sold, whichever amount is the larger.

(4.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th November, 1897.

(4.) (a) On any unstamped or insufficiently-stamped instrument stamped after the execution thereof there shall be paid the unpaid duty and a fine of twenty-five pounds, and also by way of further fine where the unpaid duty exceeds ten pounds of interest on such duty at the rate of five pounds per centum per annum from the day upon which the instrument was first executed up to the time when the amount of interest is equal to the unpaid duty.

(b) In the case of the instruments hereinafter mentioned the following provisions shall have effect:—

The instrument, unless it is written upon duly stamped material, shall be duly stamped with the proper *ad valorem* duty before the expiration of one month after it is first executed, or after it has been first received in the Colony in case it is first executed at any place out of the Colony.

If the assessment of the commissioner has been required, the instrument shall be stamped in accordance with the assessment within fourteen days after notice of the assessment.

If any such instrument executed on or after the fifteenth day of December, 1897, is not duly stamped in conformity with the foregoing provisions, in addition to the fine payable on stamping the instrument, there shall be paid a further fine equivalent to the stamp duty thereon.

Conveyance on sale of any real property; conveyance by way of exchange; conveyance by the official assignee to a mortgagee; declaration under foreign marine policy; disclaimer by the official assignee; lease; settlement, gift, or voluntary conveyance; transfer of run or station held under lease or promise of lease from the Crown or any interest therein.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolutions were read a second time and agreed to.

27. LOAN BILL:—

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolution of Ways and Means, No. 8, to authorise the raising of a loan for the Public Service of the Colony, and for other purposes.

(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise the raising of a Loan for the Public Service of the Colony, and for other purposes,*"—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

28. PROBATE DUTIES BILL:—

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolutions of Ways and Means (Nos. 5 and 9), to impose certain stamp and probate duties; and for purposes of and incidental to the above objects.

(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to impose certain Stamp and Probate Duties; and for purposes of and incidental to the above objects,*"—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

29. STAMP DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolution of Ways and Means (No. 10), to amend the Stamp Duties Acts, 1880–1894, and to impose certain Stamp Duties.

(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Stamp Duties Acts, 1880–1894, and to impose certain Stamp Duties,*"—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at eighteen minutes after Seven o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 77.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 1 DECEMBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Casual Employees dismissed by Public Service Board:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of this House a copy of the opinion of the Attorney-General on the question of alleged casual employees dismissed by the Public Service Board?

Mr. Reid answered,—I find it is not usual to lay the opinions of the Law-Officers of the Crown upon the Table.

- (2.) Charges made by Mr. Parkes, M.P., against the Works Department:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What was the total cost of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the Public Works Department at the instance of Mr. Varney Parkes, M.P.?

(2.) What was the amount of costs paid on behalf of Mr. Varney Parkes, M.P., in connection with the same?

(3.) What amount of costs did Mr. Hickson, Under Secretary for Works, incur in connection with these proceedings?

(4.) Has the Minister authorised the payment to Mr. Hickson of the amount of costs incurred by him?

(5.) If not, is it intended to make provision for the payment as aforesaid, and when?

(6.) Did the report bear out the charges made by Mr. Varney Parkes, M.P.?

(7.) What further action does the Minister intend taking in the matter?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1 and 2.) I would refer the Honorable Member to my Right Honorable colleague, the Colonial Treasurer.

(3.) £666.

(4.) Yes.

(5.) Answered by No. 4.

(6.) The Honorable Member can judge for himself, if he reads that report.

(7.) None.

- (3.) Decision of Supreme Court in Land Case *re* Harrington:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—Referring to the recent decision of the Supreme Court in the land case *re* Harrington, does he intend to accept that decision, or appeal to the Privy Council?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—Application has been made for leave to appeal to the Privy Council.

- (4.) Bridge over the Murray River at Moama:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What is the cause of delay in proceeding with the redecking of the bridge over the Murray River at Moama?

(2.) Will he state when the work will be proceeded with?

Mr. Young answered,—The last communication received from the Victorian Government, dated 15th October, shows that the work already authorised was on the eve of being proceeded with. I will have further inquiries made.

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- (5.) Provisions supplied to Mrs. Smith, of Suttor:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a Mrs. Smith, of Suttor, near Queanbeyan, who received provisions while in distress, by order of the Government, is now being charged for the same?
 - (2.) Will he take steps to have the account paid by the Government?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—Mrs. Smith was supplied with provisions at the expense of the Government up to the date of her children being boarded to her. Since then she was supplied with rations until the first payment was made, on the 1st September, out of which she was expected to pay for goods supplied. There are four children, and she receives a weekly allowance for each, and will not now pay for the goods.
- (6.) Erection of new School at Gundaroo:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—In view of the delay with regard to the erection of the new school at Gundaroo, and the fact that the present building is inadequate, will he give instructions that the school may be conducted in the local Court-house?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—This matter will receive consideration after the school vacation.
- (7.) Proposed Water Supply at Captain's Flat:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has his attention been directed to the following telegram in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of Tuesday, 30th November:—"A resident who has been attacked with typhoid fever has been taken to the hospital this morning in a very bad state. The water in the creek is considered to be polluted"?
 - (2.) In view of the foregoing, will he give imperative instructions to have the proposed water supply at Captain's Flat carried out without further delay?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) Yes; the water in the creek is reported to be polluted, but I understand the residents are not depending upon it for their water supply.
 - (2.) The question is receiving attention, and every effort will be made to have the preliminary inquiries expedited.
- (8.) Expenses of the McSharry Arbitration Case:—Mr. Wright, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Have the expenses in connection with the McSharry Arbitration Case been paid out of the Consolidated Revenue?
- Mr. Reid answered,—The expenses referred to not being properly chargeable to the Consolidated Revenue, have not been paid therefrom. The cost of resisting what are deemed to be improper claims against loan works and loan funds has always been charged against such works and funds, just as improper claims against Consolidated Revenue Fund are resisted at the expense of that Fund.
- (9.) Contributions of Stock Inspectors to the Superannuation Fund:—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it intended to bring in the Bill to deal with the contributions of Stock Inspectors to the Superannuation Fund this Session?
 - (2.) If not, will he see that those officers who desire to have their deductions refunded are paid at once?
 - (3.) Is he aware that a circular was issued, on 28th June last, telling them these amounts would be refunded?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) No.
 - (2.) I intend to consult the Cabinet as to what is to be done in this matter. Several of the Inspectors have retired on the Fund, and if the Inspectors are not made legally liable to the Fund, with the rights under the Act, what is to become of the pensioners?
 - (3.) I believe some such circular was issued, but the matter is being reconsidered.
- (10.) Appointment of Mr. W. H. Golding as Acting Postal Inspector:—Dr. Ross asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that Mr. W. H. Golding has been appointed Acting Postal Inspector; if so, will it lead to a permanent appointment to that position?
 - (2.) Was it offered to any other person in the Service, his senior?
- Mr. Cook answered,—
- (1.) Instead of appointing a successor to the Inspector who recently retired, Mr. Golding, Relieving Officer, who had previously acted in that capacity, was appointed acting Postal Inspector. I am unable to definitely answer the second portion of this Question, but it is improbable that Mr. Golding will be permanently appointed as Inspector while any of his seniors are qualified and willing to accept such a position.
 - (2.) No; as no increase of salary or promotion was involved, but merely a change of designation.
- (11.) Appointment of Land Valuers:—Mr. T. R. Smith, for Mr. Price, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Are any arrangements being made by the Land Tax Commissioners to reduce the assessments of lands against which no objections or appeals have been lodged, but which lands have been assessed at a higher rate than that to which contiguous and similar properties have been reduced on objection or appeal?
 - (2.) If so, what is the nature of such arrangements, and when will they come into operation?
 - (3.) Have the Commissioners any record of assessments by reference to which the relative correctness of the original work of the different assessors or revisors of assessments could be tested?
 - (4.) If not, will the Commissioners cause such a record to be prepared, in order that the important appointments held by the valuers of lands for taxation purposes may be justified by records of actual performance?
- Mr.

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Mr. Reid answered,—

(1 and 2.) Every possible facility has been extended to taxpayers who considered themselves aggrieved by reason of the amount at which their lands were assessed, and the opportunity thus afforded has been widely availed of. Any cases, however, involving undoubted hardship will receive the careful consideration of the Commissioners, notwithstanding that the prescribed time for lodging objections or appeals may have expired.

(3 and 4.) There are, unfortunately, no simple methods by which the qualifications of land assessors may be accurately gauged, but every possible care will be taken in the selection of applicants for future appointments.

- (12.) Expenditure on Road, Wallamba River:—*Mr. T. R. Smith*, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House copies of all papers in connection with the grant for the expenditure of the sum of £115 for expenditure on a continuation of the newly opened glen, or a road, past the Public School, and thence down the south side of the Wallamba River?

Mr. Young answered,—I will lay the papers upon the Table if moved for in the usual manner, but their contents are of so little public importance that I hardly think the Honorable Member would be justified in taking this course.

- (13.) Railway from Liverpool to Mulgoa:—*Mr. T. R. Smith* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Will it be possible to get the surveyor's report of the railway from Liverpool to Mulgoa laid upon the Table of this House during the present Session of Parliament?

(2.) If the report cannot be ready to lay upon the Table of this House, will he give instruction for the report to be ready as one of the first businesses of next Session?

(3.) Is he aware that the construction of this railway will open up thousands of acres of the best fruit and agricultural lands in the county of Cumberland?

(4.) Is he also aware that there are large and extensive blue-metal quarries that this railway will pass through at Luddenham and other places along the route?

(5.) Will he make inquiries as to the large areas of land that have been taken up along this proposed route during the last ten years?

(6.) Is he aware that at least 500 small farms and orchard blocks, ranging from 5 to 50 acres, have been purchased during the last ten years, and a great many of these blocks have been cleared, fenced, and planted with fruit-trees, and occupied by the owners or purchasers?

Mr. Young answered,—The matter will receive full consideration during the recess.

- (14.) Wentworth Falls Reserve:—*Mr. T. R. Smith* asked the Secretary of Lands,—

(1.) Has an application been made to him for a portion of a reserve at Wentworth Falls for a cricket ground?

(2.) Will he sanction the handing over to the Wentworth Falls Cricket Club the above portion of above reserve; and when will the dedication take place?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Section 25, of 5 acres 2 roods, village of Wentworth Falls, was dedicated for public recreation on the 7th May, 1886. The appointment of trustees has been approved, and will shortly be gazetted.

- (15.) Increases to Railway Men:—*Mr. T. R. Smith* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How long is it since the railway men of New South Wales received their increases in accordance with the Railway Regulations?

(2.) Is there any reason why these privileges have been taken from the railway men of New South Wales; if so, what are the reasons?

(3.) Do the Commissioners intend paying railway men the increases they are entitled to?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the railway men are being dealt with in accordance with the Railway Regulations. The Honorable Member will find full information on this subject in my remarks in Committee of Supply a few days ago.

- (16.) Appointment of Electoral Registrar at Cecil Park:—*Mr. T. R. Smith* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) On account of the large increase of population at Cecil Park during the last eighteen months, is it his intention to appoint an Electoral Registrar at that place?

(2.) Is he aware of the great inconvenience residents are put to on account of the distance they are compelled to travel to the nearest Registrar?

Mr. Brunner answered,—It is intended to appoint an Assistant Registrar at Cecil Point.

- (17.) Public School Teachers' Residences:—*Mr. T. R. Smith* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Does he intend to have rents on Public School teachers' residences reduced to a fair and reasonable rent?

(2.) Is it a fact that the teacher's residence at Penrith Public School is rated at £60 per year, whereas it is only worth £15?

(3.) Is it a fact that the teacher's residence at St. Mary's is rated at £60, whereas it is only worth, at the very outside, £20?

(4.) Is it a fact that all Public School teachers' residences throughout the country districts of the Colony are rated at from 50 to 75 per cent. over their value?

(5.) Is it a fact that the Education Department and Public Service Board have promised for the last eighteen months to have these rents placed upon a fair and equitable basis?

(6.) Is it the intention of the Department to refund to these teachers the amounts they have paid in rents over and above a fair rental for the houses they occupy?

Mr. Garrard answered,—This is a matter for the attention of the Public Service Board, who, I am informed, have the whole question under consideration.

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(18.) Statement made by Mr. W. C. Hill, in the Supreme Court:—Mr. Sleath asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Mr. W. C. Hill made a statement on oath in the Supreme Court that certain homestead lessees owed him money, and got judgment and sold the said lessees off, and afterwards swore in the Equity Court that they never owed him any money?

(2.) Will he make inquiries in reference to this matter?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) I am not aware.

(2.) This does not fall within the province of my Department.

(19.) Inquiry Branch, Public Works Department:—Mr. Wright asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it true that a new sub-Department is being created under his control, to be called "The Inquiry Branch"; and, if so, is it intended that the officers of this branch have to open all correspondence addressed to various officers (heads of branches)?

(2.) Will he further explain what are the whole of the duties to be performed by the new branch, &c.?

Mr. Young answered,—To facilitate replies to inquiries, and to save the time of the various heads of branches and other officers, an inquiry room has been opened in connection with my Department; and the officer-in-charge, on the strong recommendation of the Audit Office Inspector, also opens all correspondence addressed to the Under Secretary and Accountant. Frequently cheques and Post Office Orders are received by letter, over which, under the old system, there was not in his opinion a complete check, and a proper record has now been instituted.

(20.) Leave of Absence to Employees in the Government Printing Office:—Mr. Copeland asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to his Answer, of the 18th November, to a series of Questions asked by Mr. Copeland as to the relative treatment of the Clerical Branch of the Public Service and the Government Printing Office employees, with respect to annual leave and to payment while on sick leave as arranged by the Public Service Board,—

(1.) Is he aware that the hours of employment for the clerks in the Public Service extend from 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., and, deducting (say) three-quarters of an hour for lunch, is equivalent to 6½ hours' actual service per full day, with 3 hours added for Saturday, thereby totalling 36½ hours of actual service per week. On the other hand, the Printing Office employees, comprising skilled compositors, binders, and others, render service from 8.30 a.m. to 6 p.m., which (deducting one hour for lunch) give an actual service of 8½ hours per full day, and, with 3½ hours for Saturday, totals the week's actual work to 46 hours, as against 36½ hours for the clerical week, showing a balance therefore of 9½ hours, or more than a full day's work per week, or 52 full days' work per year, in favour of the printer as against the writer. In view of this fact, will he say whether, when the former is requested to work additional overtime in his employer's interest, he is not entitled to be paid therefor without being in consequence placed at a disadvantage as to annual leave when compared with his fellow employee of the Clerical Branch of the Public Service?

(2.) When giving his answer (No. 2), was he fully aware that the two months' annual sick leave provided for by the Public Service Board Regulations for the Clerical Staff is covered by full pay, with an extended period if necessary on half-pay, while the Printing Office employee is restricted to four days only on full pay, and the extension to a month's sick leave (if necessary) is not covered by "sick pay," as stated by him, but by sick half-pay only?

(3.) Will he be good enough, as the responsible Minister over this branch of the Public Service, to reconsider his formerly-expressed determination not to bring these matters under the notice of the Public Service Board?

Mr. Reid answered,—I will be glad if the Honorable Member will postpone this Question until Tuesday next, as there has not been sufficient time for further information.

2. LICENSING ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 73.

Lieutenant-Governor.

A Bill, intituled "An Act to enable Licensing Courts and Licensing Magistrates to grant or refuse any application for a brewer's or spirit merchant's license; to provide that the business of the holder of any such license shall be carried on only on premises described in the license, or in an endorsement made thereon by such Court or Magistrate; to enable a married woman who has obtained a protection order or judicial separation, or a woman whose marriage has been dissolved, or whose husband is an insane patient, to obtain a publican's or colonial wine license; and for those purposes and purposes incidental thereto to amend the Licensing Acts, 1882-1883,"—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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3. SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE WORKING CLASSES:—Mr. Schey moved, without Notice, That it is a case of urgent and pressing necessity that the Notice of Motion,—

"(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the social condition of the working classes of Sydney and suburbs, more especially in respect of the three following heads of inquiry:—(a) The number of mechanics and labourers respectively who may be wholly or partially out of employment, the period during which such want of employment has been experienced, and the alleged causes thereof; (b) the course of wages in different trades and callings,

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"callings during the period of the last three years, and the rates obtained at the present time ;
 "(c) the existence and extent of juvenile vagrancy in the public streets, classifying, as far as may be
 "practicable, any such returns as to age, sex, parentage, education, and place of birth.
 "(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Lyne, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Bavister,
 "Mr. Hurley, Mr. Watson, Mr. Moore, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Watkins, and the Mover,"—
 should be proceeded with this day.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 28.

Dr. Ross,	Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. T. R. Smith,	Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Edden.
Mr. Willis,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Wright,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Fegao,	Mr. Schey.
Mr. Copeland,	
Mr. McParlane,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Perry,	
Mr. Bavister,	
Mr. Miller,	
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. James Thomson,	
Mr. Gormly,	
Mr. Afleck,	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Henry Clarke,	

Noes, 42.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Young,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. McMillan,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Milten,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Rigg,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. O'Reilly.
Mr. Cotton,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Frank Farnell.
Mr. Robert Jones,	

And so it passed in the negative.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for The Lachlan, Mr. Carroll, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The unsatisfactory management in connection with the making of dams and weirs by the Water Conservation Branch of the Public Works Department."

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

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

Point of Order:—Mr. Young stated that the subject of this Notice had already been very fully discussed in Committee of Supply; and he requested Mr. Speaker to decide whether it was competent for Mr. Carroll to again discuss it on a motion for adjournment.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker said that he had previously ruled (following the ruling of the Speaker of the House of Commons) that a Member could not discuss, on such a motion as this, any subject which could be subsequently debated in the Committee of Supply, and, as in this case the matter had been fully discussed in Committee of Supply, it would be clearly out of order to permit a second discussion in the House, the object of the rule being to prevent two discussions on the same subject. The notice was therefore out of order.

5. **FRIENDLY SOCIETIES BILL**:—Mr. Brunker moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Friendly Societies, and for other purposes.

Question put and passed.

6. **CROWN LANDS CONSOLIDATION BILL**:—

(1.) Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to consolidate the Laws relating to Crown Lands.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Carruthers then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to consolidate the Laws relating to Crown Lands*,"—which was read a first time.

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

7. **NORTH SYDNEY LOAN ENABLING BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Brunker moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Brunker, *passed*.

Mr. Brunker then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to validate certain Loans raised by the formerly existing Boroughs of East Saint Leonards and Victoria, and renewed by the Borough of North Sydney*."

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to validate certain Loans raised by the formerly existing Boroughs of East Saint Leonards and Victoria, and renewed by the Borough of North Sydney*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

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8. SYDNEY WATER SUPPLY CONDUIT ADDITIONAL WORKS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, *passed*.

Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to 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.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a 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,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

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9. JOINT STOCK COMPANIES ARRANGEMENT (CONTINUATION) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Young moved, "That" the report be now adopted.

Mr. Gould moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of the Title,"—instead thereof.

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

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out, be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of the Title,—put and passed. On motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill 2^o with an amended Title.

Mr. Gould moved, That the report be now adopted.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 39.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Neild,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Lync,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Afleck,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Rigg.
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Wright,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Storey,	M. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Sec,	Mr. Frank Farnell.
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Morgan,	
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	

Nocs, 9.

Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Ashton.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Hughes.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

- (2.) Mr. Gould then moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 28.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Afleck,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Lee,	Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Newman,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Carruthers.
Mr. Storey,	Mr. O'Reilly,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Bull.
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Millard,	

Noes, 8.

Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Hughes.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Millen.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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 continue section 3 of the Joint Stock Companies Arrangement Act, 1891, to the 1st day of January, 1899.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to continue section 3 of the Joint Stock Companies Arrangement Act, 1891, to the 1st day of January, 1899,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

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10. APPROPRIATION BILL.—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

Mr. Reid moved, That the report be now adopted.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Reid then moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to 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.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to appropriate and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales certain sums to make good the Supplies granted for the Service of the year from the 1st day of July, 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,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 1st December, 1897.*

11. LOAN BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 2 DECEMBER, 1897, A.M.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

(2.) Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the raising of a Loan for the Public Service of the Colony, and for other purposes.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the raising of a Loan for the Public Service of the Colony; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 2nd December, 1897, a.m.*

12. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—

(1.) Probate Duties Bill; second reading.

(2.) Stamp Duties (Amendment) Bill; second reading.

(3.) Supply; resumption of the Committee.

(4.) Ways and Means; resumption of the Committee.

(5.) Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Bill; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, "That this Bill be now read a second time,"

(6.) Stockton Graving-dock (Leasing) Bill; second reading.

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13. GLEBE ISLAND BRIDGE BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read, — on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a stone causeway, having a steel swing-span in the centre, in substitution for the present bridge at Glebe Island.

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

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

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

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to sanction the construction of a stone causeway, having a steel swing-span in the centre, in substitution for the present bridge at Glebe Island.

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

(2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a stone causeway, having a steel swing-span in the centre, in substitution for the present bridge at Glebe Island*,"—which was read a first time.

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

14. PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Young moved, That the report be now adopted.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 30.

Mr. Gould,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Brunner,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Millard.
Mr. Perry,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Rigg,	
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.

Noes, 13.

Mr. Hurley,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Davis,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Price,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Molesworth.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Wheeler.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

15. FISHERIES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read, —Mr. Brunner moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.

16. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Orders of the Day of Government Business postponed until To-morrow.

17. NYNGAN TOWN HALL (MORTGAGE) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Waddell moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

(2.) Mr. Waddell then moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Waddell, *passed*.

Mr. Waddell then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*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.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1st December, 1897.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Municipal Council of 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,*"—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, 2nd December, 1897, a.m.*

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

Debate ensued.

Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only twelve Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, namely, Mr. Ball, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Garrard, Mr. Gould, Mr. McFarlane, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Perry, Mr. Price, Mr. Sleath, and Mr. Watson,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at twenty-two minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

Acto South Wales.

No. 78.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 2 DECEMBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Pastoral Holdings of Toorale and Dunlop:—Mr. Carroll asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) How many acres of land were made available for the public by the subdivision of the pastoral holdings of Toorale and Dunlop, in the Land District of Bourke?
 - (2.) How many acres have been selected on these runs under the homestead leasing system?
 - (3.) How many acres have the registered owners of Toorale and Dunlop Pastoral Holdings held under occupation license since the passing of the Land Act of 1884; and what rent have they paid annually per acre for the same?
 - (4.) On what date was it decided to be advisable, in the public interest, to withdraw the residue of the land held under occupation, and offer same for occupation license under the scrub leasing system?
 - (5.) On what dates were the scrub leases so offered made available to the public at Bourke?
 - (6.) What was the upset of rental value per annum placed on the said scrub leases?
 - (7.) How many applications were received for this land?
 - (8.) On what date were these scrub leases withdrawn from the public?
 - (9.) On what date were they again submitted for public competition, and the name of the person or persons who became possessed of them, and what rent the Crown now receives for same?
 - (10.) Has he any objection to lay the whole of the papers upon the Table of this House before Parliament goes into recess?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—My honorable colleague has no objection to laying the whole of the papers upon the Table of this House; and probably that will be the simplest way of giving this information sought through the Honorable Member.

(2.) Sale of Newspapers, &c., in the Domain on Sundays:—Mr. Watson asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the authorities have summoned persons for selling newspapers and other literature in the Domain on Sundays?
- (2.) Is it a fact that on each occasion the charges were dismissed?
- (3.) Is it a fact that, despite such dismissal, there is still an attempt being made to prevent these persons from meeting a public demand?
- (4.) If so, will the Government see that this unnecessary interference is put an end to?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—A Mr. MacNamara has been summoned for selling goods in the Domain, in contravention of the by-law 207. He was not summoned for Sunday selling. There have been two cases dismissed by the Magistrates, and the matter has been referred to the Crown Solicitor.

(3.) Detention of Claude Herrick in Darlinghurst Gaol:—Mr. Sleath asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that one Claude Herrick was detained four days in Darlinghurst Gaol after proper bonds had been entered into for his appearance at trial?
- (2.) If this has occurred, who is responsible for this detention?

Mr. Gould answered,—It has been ascertained, on inquiry, that the recognizances were entered into by Herrick's sureties at Orange on the 15th November ultimo, but that the Comptroller-General of Prisons was not informed until Monday, the 22nd ultimo, when Herrick's personal recognizance was at once taken at the gaol, and he was then discharged from custody.

(4.)

2nd December, 1897.

(4.) Long-service Medals to Members of the Volunteer Force:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Wright*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Referring to his Answer to Questions on the 6th May, 1897, as well as previous ones during the last three years on the subject of long-service medals to the Volunteer Force, what reasonable prospect (if any) is there of these medals ever being issued?

(2.) Are there any grounds for the rumour that the Volunteer Officers' decorations are to be recalled?

(3.) Will he give instructions for a Colonial long-service medal to be issued locally without further delay, as there is a prospect of some of the intended recipients dying before the issue of the British medal?

Mr. Brunner answered,—Some delay has arisen through the question having been raised as to whether those serving under a partially-paid system are eligible to receive decorations and medals originally intended for purely volunteers. The Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the 10th August, 1897, intimated that this question was about to be considered by a Joint Departmental Committee of the War Office and Colonial Office, and that a further communication would be made.

(5.) Payment of Moneys for the Supply of Water:—*Mr. Howarth* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House a return showing the names of persons who have entered into bonds for the payment of moneys for the supply of water, and who are defaulters in that respect?

(2.) The amounts due in each case; if any action has been taken for the recovery of the same; and, if not, why not?

Mr. Young answered,—I am not aware what bonds the Honorable Member refers to. I do not enter into bonds with individuals—the water supplies being managed by Water Boards or Municipal Councils, as laid down by law.

(6.) Allora Spring Wheat:—*Mr. Hayes* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has he seen a letter, written by *Mr. White*, of Scone, stating he had procured from the Department of Agriculture some Allora Spring wheat for seed; that this year he has 100 acres under crop; having been informed that the wheat was unfit for milling, he had some of it ground into flour, and the flour tested by *Mr. Shadler*, who reported it was very inferior, dark in colour, and weak; that he had decided not to sell this season's wheat for seed, although he had orders for the whole crop, and would suffer a heavy loss?

(2.) Is the Allora Spring wheat growing this season on the Wagga Wagga Experimental Farm, sown in August, and estimated to yield 20 bushels to the acre, the same or a similar variety of wheat to that grown by *Mr. White*?

(3.) If there is any doubt, will he have some of the wheat milled, and the flour from it tested, for baking, by sending it to one or more Sydney bakers, before recommending farmers to use this wheat for seed?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) *Dr. Cobb* explains that the improved Allora Spring wheat sown at the Wagga Farm is superior in every respect to the ordinary variety. It was sown because it escapes rust, responds readily to superphosphate, and its milling qualities, from analyses made by the chemist of the Department, show that it is fairly good milling wheat. *Dr. Cobb* further states that he does not recommend Allora Spring wheat without reservation, but only for late sowing; in fact, special pains were taken to explain that the lesson taught by this particular crop was how to get a paying one when you must sow late. Allora Spring does not make such good bread as Manitoba wheat, but to say its flour is dark and the variety not worth growing is not correct. Hundreds of thousands of acres of this kind of wheat are grown in various parts of the world.

(3.) Certainly this is one of the experiments intended to be carried out by the Department in connection with this crop. When these are completed the results will be published for general information. Out of about 400 acres of wheat planted at this farm the experiment made with Allora Spring wheat only amounted to some 25 acres. It is intended to mill and have analyses made of the various varieties of wheats grown at this farm, and full particulars of the yield, date sown, when harvested, as well as the milling values, will be issued for the information of farmers and others.

(7.) Forests and Quarries Bill:—*Mr. Piers* asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is it his intention to deal with the Forests and Quarries Bill this Session?

Mr. Brunner answered,—Time will not now admit of the introduction and passage of this Bill. It is, however, the intention of my honorable colleague during the recess to invite those interested in the subject to meet and confer with him.

(8.) Examination for Admission to the Public Service:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Alexander Campbell*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it a fact, as reported in a section of the metropolitan Press, that two sons of *Mr. J. S. McGowen*, M.P., have been admitted into the Civil Service without having passed an examination, while others, who have been several years in the Service, have been dismissed because they failed to pass the necessary examination?

Mr. Reid answered,—It is not a fact. *Mr. McGowen*, M.P., has one son in the Public Service, who was appointed as a junior, at 12s. per week, in the Roads and Bridges Department, on 9th April, 1894, by the Honorable Member for the Hume, *Mr. Lyne*, when Secretary for Public Works. He is at present a draftsman in the same Branch, receiving £75 per annum. I am informed that this young gentleman passed a University examination prior to his appointment.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

2nd December, 1897.

- (9.) Case of McBurney and Wallis :—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Waddell*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has his attention been directed to the remarks of the Registrar in Bankruptcy on the case of *McBurney and Wallis*, which was inquired into a few months ago?
 - (2.) If so, will he introduce legislation next Session to protect the producers of the Colony from similar treatment in the future?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The Question is a very difficult one, and I cannot promise legislation next Session.

- (10.) Advances to Crown Tenants :—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he, in view of the provisions of the law virtually making it impossible for holders of settlement leases or homestead selections to borrow money to improve their land, take into his consideration the advisability of either establishing a fund from which to make advances to such Crown tenants, or else having the law so altered that settlement lessees and homestead selectors will have an increased security of tenure, so that they will be able to borrow money if necessary to improve their holdings?

Mr. Brunker answered,—My honourable colleague is not favourably disposed to any proposal which may cause, with regard to homestead holdings, a repetition of the ruinous borrowing in the past on selections, which has resulted in nine-tenths of the land being diverted from residential settlement. He is, however, in favour of allowing advances to be made on the actual improvements effected, so that tenant right therein may be transferred as a security in *bonâ fide* transactions.

- (11.) Conditional Purchase made by John Hayes :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has any decision yet been arrived at on the inquiry held by the Bathurst Land Board, under the 20th section of the Crown Lands Act of 1884, in reference to the *bonâ fides* of the conditional purchase made by one John Hayes on the 30th June, 1893?

(2.) If so, what decision has the Board arrived at in the case?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) That the conditional purchase was not made in good faith. Notice of appeal by the conditional purchaser has, however, been received.

- (12.) Renewals of Licenses to Publicans :—*Mr. M. T. Phillips* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that he has issued, or caused to be issued, a circular to the Licensing Benches of the Colony, instructing them not to grant renewals of licenses to publicans who hold licenses, and pay for same less than £30, where other licenses have been granted within 10 miles of the house, paying less than £30?

(2.) Will he have any objection to lay upon the Table of this House a copy of such circular?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) A circular was issued stating that, in view of an opinion given by the Attorney General, no certificates for the renewal of licenses originally granted at the reduced fee of £15 should in future be issued at such reduced fee in cases where other licensed premises are situated within a distance of 10 miles of the premises for which a renewal of license is sought.

(2.) The above reply gives the substance of the circular.

- (13.) Leave of Absence to Members of the Police Force :—*Mr. Affleck*, for *Mr. Ravister*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In regard to leave of absence to members of Police Force, and the Regulations in connection therewith, was it the intention of the authorities drafting those Regulations that the one day per month of leave allowed to the Force should be taken as "annual leave" referred to in section 108 of Police Rule Book?

(2.) If members of the Force are called on to perform extra duty, or leave has been for a period suspended, is it a fact that under such circumstances no back leave is granted to the men so deprived of their ordinary leave?

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

(1.) The leave of absence referred to in Regulation 108 was not intended to be annual. It is only granted when specially applied for.

(2.) When special extra duty is performed, or when the ordinary monthly leave is suspended, it is made up to the men as far as practicable.

2. WILLIAM MALLETT, BOTANY :—*Mr. Dacey* presented a Petition from *William Mallett*, of Botany Road, Botany, explaining the circumstances under which his property was unintentionally transferred by him; and praying the House to take steps to cancel the deed of transfer obtained from him by fraud.

Petition received.

3. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—*Mr. Gormly*, as Chairman, brought up the Twenty-fourth Report from the Printing Committee.

4. PAPERS :—

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from Sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(2.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr.

2nd December, 1897.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Statement respecting the Wollongong Harbour Arbitration Case. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 12th May, 1897,—“Appointment of Chief Inspector of Mines.” Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor were delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Pyrmont Bridge Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 74.

A Bill, intituled “*An Act to sanction the removal of the present Pyrmont Bridge, and the construction in lieu thereof of a Timber Bridge, with Steel Swing Span, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in their report, presented on 6th December, 1894,*”—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, 2nd December, 1897.

(2.) Municipal Loans Further Validation Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 75.

A Bill, intituled “*An Act to enable the Governor to validate certain Loans to Municipalities, and the securities, if any, therefor,*”—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, 2nd December, 1897.

(3.) Church and School Lands Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 76.

A Bill, intituled “*An Act to vest the Church and School Lands in Her Majesty, free from all trusts and provisions affecting the same; to validate certain dealings with those lands; and to provide for the appropriation of moneys at credit of the Public Instruction Endowment Account; to make better provision for dealing with the said lands, and with the money derived therefrom; and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*”—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 2nd December, 1897.

6. ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES FOR 1897-8:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 77.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-Governor recommends to the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the accompanying Additional Estimates of the Expenditure of the Government of New South Wales for the year 1897-8.

Government House,

Sydney, 2nd December, 1897.

Ordered to be printed, together with the accompanying Estimates, and referred to the Committee of Supply.

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

(1.) Artesian Wells Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, 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,*”—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 2nd December, 1897.

JOHN LACKBY,

President.

ARTESIAN

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

2nd December, 1897.

ARTESIAN WELLS BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 2nd December, 1897.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 1, clause 1, line 13. *After* "Board" *insert* "would be benefited by water from the proposed well, and"
- Page 2, clause 1, line 5. *After* "those" *insert* "owning or"
- Page 2, clause 1, line 5. *After* "occupying" *insert* "or being mortgagees of"
- Page 2, clause 1, line 6. *After* "who" *insert* "own or"
- Page 2, clause 1, line 6. *After* "occupy" *insert* "or are mortgagees of"
- Page 2, clause 1. At end of clause *add* "Any report, recommendation, or decision of a Land Board under this Act shall be subject to an appeal or reference to the Land Appeal Court in the manner prescribed by the Crown Lands Act of 1884, or any Act amending the same, or any regulations made thereunder. The decision of the said Court shall be final."
- Page 2, clause 2, line 30. *After* "occupiers" *insert* "owners or mortgagees"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 59. *After* "exceeding" *insert* "fifty"
- Page 3, clause 3, line 13. *Omit* "first"
- Page 3, clause 3, line 14. *After* "payable" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 3, clause 4, line 24. *After* "exceeding" *insert* "fifty"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 35. *After* "exceeding" *insert* "fifty"

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

(2.) Campbelltown Reservoir Acts Repeal Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to repeal the Acts eighteenth Victoria number twenty-three and thirty-ninth Victoria number eleven, and to vest certain lands and chattels in Her Majesty,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 2nd December, 1897.JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(3.) Abattoir Road Act Amendment Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to revoke the dedication of part of certain lands set forth and described in the Schedule to the Abattoir Road Act of 1860; and to repeal the said Act in part,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 2nd December, 1897.JOHN LACKEY,
President.

8. PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be "now" read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Copeland moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the word "now" with a view to adding the words "this day three months."

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

Debate continued.

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

The House divided.

Ayes, 53.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Knox,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. T. R. Smith,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. See,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Millard,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Schey.
Mr. McLean,	
Mr. Nelson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Harvey,	Mr. Bull.
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	

Noes, 22.

Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. McElhone,
Mr. Reymond,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Black,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Millon,
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Neild,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Rose.

*Tellers,*Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Dick.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original

2nd December, 1897.

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

The House divided.

Ayes, 48.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. See,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Knox,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Lee,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Schey,
Mr. Millard,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Hayes,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Harvey,	Mr. F. Clarke.
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	
Mr. Moore,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. T. R. Smith,	Mr. J. O. L. Fitzpatrick.

Noes, 29.

Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. A. B. Piddington.
Mr. McElhone,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Raymond,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Wilks.
Mr. Dick,	
Mr. Griffith,	
Mr. Black,	
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Hassall,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Hughes,	
Mr. Edden,	
Mr. James Thomson,	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Neild,	
Mr. E. M. Clark,	
Mr. Thomas,	
Mr. Millen,	
Mr. Harris,	
Mr. Molesworth,	
Mr. McGowen,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, *passed*.Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of a deep-water harbour at Port Kembla.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a deep-water harbour at Port Kembla,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 2nd December, 1897.*

9. LITHGOW CO-OPERATIVE COAL COMPANY RAILWAY BILL:—Mr. Hogue, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 27th October, 1897; together with a copy of the Bill as amended and agreed to by the Committee.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Hogue then moved, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday next.

Question put and passed.

10. PROBATE DUTIES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 3 DECEMBER, 1897, A.M.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 43.

Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Millen,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Wilks,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. McCourt,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Cann,

Noes, 16.

Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. See,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Hurley.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Schey.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

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

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

2nd December, 1897.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported a *Point of Order*, and obtained leave to sit again so soon as the decision of the House had been given.

Point of Order:—The Chairman stated that Mr. Reid had proposed an amendment to leave out from the word "intestate," in the twelfth line of the Bill, to the end of the clause; and Mr. Lyne submitted that the leaving out of the proviso would increase the burdens of the people, and was therefore out of order. He (the Chairman) ruled that it was in order, because it did not increase the area of taxation, and the people affected were not enjoying an exemption, and that the clause only proposed to give them an exemption.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the Bill itself would not, at present, tax any one, and could only do so upon the death of a person whose estate would be taxable; but the omission of the proposed exemption would increase a burden upon a class of persons who were not taxable by the Bill to the full extent of other persons, and would be in effect an augmentation of the tax. He must, therefore, disagree with the Chairman's ruling.

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

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

Ordered, that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.

11. STAMP DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

Ordered, that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday next.

12. PROBATE DUTIES BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Young moved, "That" the report be now adopted.

Mr. Reid moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clause 1," instead thereof.

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

Debate ensued.

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

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out, be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clause 1,—put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Reid then moved, That it be an instruction to the Committee that they have power to make provisions therein to bring the Bill into conformity with the Resolutions Nos. 5 and 9 of the Committee of Ways and Means.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill 2^o with a further amendment.

Ordered, That the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday next.

13. AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION ENABLING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Australasian Federation Enabling Act of 1895*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 2nd December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

14. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Crown Lands Consolidation Bill postponed until Tuesday next.

15. STOCKTON GRAVING-DOCK (LEASING) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

(2.) Mr. Carruthers moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Carruthers, passed.

Mr. Carruthers then moved, That the Title of the Bill be, "*An Act to 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.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered

2nd December, 1897.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

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

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 3rd December, 1897, a.m.*

16. GLEBE ISLAND BRIDGE BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Chanter moved, pursuant to Standing Order No. 142, That the Honorable Member for The Manning, Mr. Young, be not further heard.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 33.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. McGowen.
Mr. Young,	Mr. Chanter,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	
Mr. Parkes,	Mr. McLean,	
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Robert Jones,	
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Howarth,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Ball,	
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Jessep,	

Noes, 12.

Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Cruickshank.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Perry.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question put,—That this Bill be now read a second time.

The House divided.

Ayes, 33.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Ball,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Law,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Rigg.
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Wilks.
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Bavister,	
Mr. Dick,	Mr. Parkes,	

Noes, 6.

Mr. Miller,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Wheeler.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. McLaughlin.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

Mr. Young moved, That the report be now adopted.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Standing Order No. 142, That the Honorable Member for The Lachlan, Mr. Carroll, be not further heard.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 23.

Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Millard.
Mr. Parkes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Wilks.
Mr. Reid,	
Mr. Watson,	

Noes, 19.

Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Schey,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Pyers.
Mr. McLaughlin,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Dick,	Mr. Hurley.
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. E. M. Clark,	
Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. Thomas Brown,	
Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. Wheeler,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question,—That the report be now adopted,—put and passed.

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

2nd December, 1897.

(2.) Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to Standing Order No. 142, That the Honorable Member for St. Leonards, Mr. E. M. Clark, be not further heard.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 23.		Noes, 20.	
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Ball,	Mr. Millen,	Mr. McGowen.
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. Ferguson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. Schey.
Mr. Sydney Smith,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Parkes,	Mr. E. M. Clark,	
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Archibald Campbell.	Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. McLean,		Mr. Fegan,	
Mr. Dugald Thompson,		Mr. Bavister,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to Standing Order No. 142, That the Honorable Member for The Lachlan, Mr. Carroll, be not further heard.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 23.		Noes, 21.	
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Thomas,	Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Schey,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. McGowen.
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Ball,	Mr. Carroll,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Dacey.
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. Parkes,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Reid,	Mr. Miller,	
		Mr. Ferguson,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Carroll moved, pursuant to Standing Order 142, That the Honorable Member for The Manung, Mr. Young, be not further heard.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 25.		Noes, 18.	
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. McGowen.
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Nelson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Young,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. Miller,	Mr. Dick.
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Law,	Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Wheeler,	
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Ball,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. Howarth,	
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Bavister,	
Mr. Parkes,	Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Hawthorne.	Mr. E. M. Clark,	
Mr. Sydney Smith,		Mr. Schey,	
Mr. Reid,		Mr. McLaughlin,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

The House divided.

Ayes, 32.		Noes, 9.	
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Ball,	Mr. Parkes,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	<i>Tellers.</i>	Mr. Wheeler.
Mr. Law,	Mr. Schey,	Mr. Perry,	<i>Tellers.</i>
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Wilks.	Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Howarth,		Mr. Carroll.
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Millard,		
Mr. Watson,	Mr. McGowen,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time.

Mr. Young moved, That this Bill do now pass.

Debate ensued.

Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *ayes* had it.Whereupon, Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only eleven Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Carroll, Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Pyers, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. Miller, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. E. M. Clark, and Mr. Ferguson.

2nd December, 1897.

Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be, "*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.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a stone causeway, having a steel swing-span in the centre, in substitution for the present bridge at Glebe Island,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 3rd December, 1897, a.m.

17. PAPER:—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Correspondence referring to the Harbour Trust of Wollongong, and the Arbitration case, Hungerford against that Trust. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

18. FRIENDLY SOCIETIES BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Brunker 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 consolidate and amend the law relating to Friendly Societies, and for other purposes.

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

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

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

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Lee reported that the Committee had come to a Resolution.

Ordered, on motion of Mr. Lee, That the report be *now* received.

Mr. Lee then reported the Resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Friendly Societies, and for other purposes.

On motion of Mr. Brunker, the Resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Mr. Brunker then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Friendly Societies, and for other purposes,*"—which was read a first time.

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

19. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Orders of the Day of Government Business, postponed until Tuesday next.

20. AUSTRALIAN LEGAL PROFESSIONS FEDERATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Schey moved,—That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 40.

Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. E. M. Clark,

Mr. Law,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Hurley,

Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Tellers,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Haynes.

Noes, 4.

Mr. Edden,
Mr. Dacey.
Tellers,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Macdonald.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Debate be adjourned until Wednesday next.

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

(1.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill; to be further considered in Committee.

(2.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill; to be further considered in Committee.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 79.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 7 DECEMBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Release of Edward Gregory :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that Edward Gregory, an employee of the Goulburn Borough Council, has now sufficiently recovered from his temporary insanity to be released from the asylum?
- (2.) Is he aware that Gregory has a wife and family in Goulburn in destitute circumstances?
- (3.) Should he not be fully acquainted with the case, will he make full inquiries, with the view of releasing Gregory?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Inspector-General of Insane :—

- (1.) Edward Gregory is detained during the pleasure of his Excellency the Governor, and his mental condition is not at present such as to permit of his being discharged with safety.
- (2.) The circumstances of Gregory's wife and family are not understood to be such as to call for any special intervention.
- (3.) The whole circumstances of the case have been fully considered.

- (2.) Leave of Absence to Employees in the Government Printing Office :—Mr. Copeland asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to his Answer, of the 18th November, to a series of Questions asked by Mr. Copeland as to the relative treatment of the Clerical Branch of the Public Service and the Government Printing Office employees, with respect to annual leave and to payment while on sick leave as arranged by the Public Service Board,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the hours of employment for the clerks in the Public Service extend from 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., and, deducting (say) three-quarters of an hour for lunch, is equivalent to 6½ hours, actual service per full day, with 3 hours added for Saturday, thereby totalling 36½ hours of actual service per week. On the other hand, the Printing Office employees, comprising skilled compositors, binders, and others, render service from 8.30 a.m. to 6 p.m., which (deducting one hour for lunch) gives an actual service of 8½ hours per full day, and, with 3½ hours for Saturday, totals the week's actual work to 46 hours, as against 36½ hours for the clerical week, showing a balance therefore of 9½ hours, or more than a full day's work per week, or 52 full days' work per year, in favour of the printer as against the writer. In view of this fact, will he say whether, when the former is requested to work additional overtime in his employer's interest, he is not entitled to be paid therefor without being in consequence placed at a disadvantage as to annual leave when compared with his fellow employee of the Clerical Branch of the Public Service?

- (2.) When giving his Answer (No. 2), was he fully aware that the two months' annual sick leave provided for by the Public Service Board Regulations for the Clerical Staff is covered by full pay, with an extended period if necessary on half-pay, while the Printing Office employee is restricted to four days only on full pay, and the extension to a month's sick leave (if necessary) is not covered by "sick pay," as stated by him, but by sick half-pay only?

- (3.) Will he be good enough, as the responsible Minister over this Branch of the Public Service, to reconsider his formerly-expressed determination not to bring these matters under the notice of the Public Service Board?

Mr. Reid answered,—I have sent the Honorable Member's Questions on for the consideration of the Public Service Board.

- (3.) Overtime worked in the Charitable Institutions Department :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) How many hours overtime in the aggregate have been worked by the officers of the Charitable Institutions Department, Head Office, from 1st July, 1896, to 30th June, 1897?
- (2.) What amount of money has been paid to such officers for working such overtime?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The information is being prepared, and will be laid upon the Table in the form of a return. (4.)

7th December, 1897.

- (4.) Darling Island :—Mr. Schey asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) What does he intend to do with regard to Darling Island?
 (2.) When will the works which have been proposed, with regard to the Island, be gone on with?
 Mr. Young answered,—Both railway and wharf are now in course of construction.
- (5.) Chinese Gambling Saloons :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Is he aware that there is an actual increase in the number of gambling dens in the neighbourhood of Goulburn-street, to which his Answer of the 5th August last referred, when he said, "The police will not relax their efforts to suppress this serious evil" ?
 (2.) Is he aware that a terrace of new shops in Goulburn-street has just been taken, and opened for gambling purposes ?
 (3.) If the promised efforts of the police have failed in dealing with this increasing Chinese plague, will he appoint a vigilance officer whose sole duty shall be to exterminate this growing evil?
 Mr. Bruncker answered,—The Inspector-General of Police has furnished me with the following information :—The number of such places has increased of late. Continued efforts have been made by the Police to obtain the necessary evidence to support a prosecution, but Europeans who purchase tickets are not informed where the drawing will take place, and it is necessary to prove under the Lotteries Act that there has been a drawing of tickets.
- (6.) Disposal of Diseased Meat :—Mr. Schey asked the Minister of Justice,—
 (1.) Has any correspondence passed between his Department and the Stipendiary Magistrates, or any of them, concerning the sale or other disposal of diseased meat ?
 (2.) If so, has he any objection to lay a full copy of such correspondence upon the Table of this House ?
 Mr. Gould answered,—
 (1.) About two years since communications passed between the Department and the Stipendiary Magistrates, with reference to prosecutions under the Diseased Animals and Meat Acts, in which applications for the remission of the penalties and costs were submitted.
 (2.) It would not appear that any public interest would now be served by tabling the correspondence.
- (7.) Carpenterian Reformatory, Brush Farm :—Mr. Hogue asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
 (1.) What was the gross income for the year ended 30th June, 1897, from the sale of jam and other preserves manufactured at the Carpenterian Reformatory, Brush Farm ?
 (2.) What was the net income, after deducting cost of sugar, &c., used in the manufacture of the preserves so sold ?
 (3.) At what price were the products in question sold ?
 (4.) Is it a fact that other public institutions are supplied with boots, tinware, clothing, &c., from the Carpenterian Reformatory ; and, if so, what was the gross amount received for the same, and the estimated cost of material ?
 Mr. Garrard answered,—I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will move for this information in the form of a return.
- (8.) The Marine Board :—Mr. McElhone asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In reference to Mr. McElhone's Question of 23rd November, *re* defalcations under the Marine Board and Naval Brigade to the amount of over £2,000, as per papers moved for by Mr. McElhone on 23rd October, 1895, and as such papers show that these defalcations were due to the neglect of the President of the Marine Board, Captain Hixson and Commander Lindeman, the Secretary and Commander of the Naval Brigade, as Mr. Brodie, Inspector of Public Accounts, reports,—
 (1.) Have any steps been taken at any time to compel Captain Hixson and Secretary Lindeman to refund the amount embezzled, as per page 3 of Mr. Brodie's report, which states the frauds practised by the late accountant and paymaster have been of such a character that, by the exercise of the most ordinary care and supervision, they would have been almost immediately discovered ?
 (2.) If not, will he call upon the officials mentioned to pay the money lost through their neglect of duty ?
 Mr. Reid answered,—
 (1.) No.
 (2.) The amount embezzled has already been made good from the Guarantee Fund.
- (9.) Expenditure in connection with the Easter Encampment :—Mr. Wheeler, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Is it his intention, as announced in the public Press, to augment the Military Vote, already agreed to by this House, to the extent of some £5,000 or £6,000, said to be needed for the purpose of meeting expenditure incurred by the holding of an Easter encampment ?
 (2.) Will he afford this House an opportunity of expressing an opinion as to the question ?
 Mr. Bruncker answered,—I believe an arrangement has been made between the Right Honorable the Colonial Treasurer and the Major-General for the purpose of carrying out an encampment ; the amount of expenditure being limited.
- (10.) North Coast Railway :—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. F. Clarke, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) Is it his intention to refer the North Coast Railway to the Public Works Committee during the present Session ?
 (2.) If so, does he intend to refer certain sections only for inquiry, or the entire proposal ?
 (3.) If he determines upon the former course, is he aware that the official estimate of the cost of construction of certain sections, particularly from West Maitland to Taree, is particularly high, whereas other sections which tap the most productive country, notably Taree to Kempsey and Coff's Harbour, are comparatively low ?
 (4.) Will he consider whether the fairest way of dealing with this question would not be by a reference of the whole North Coast Railway scheme, with a view to construction according to the state of public finance ?
 Mr.

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Mr. Young answered,—I propose to refer at least one section of this railway to the Public Works Committee before the close of the present Session, and I feel sure that the Committee will give it consideration, not merely on its own individual merits, but as part of the whole scheme alluded to by the Honorable Member.

(11.) Damage caused to Hides by Branding :—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. F. Clarke, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to the damage caused to hides by the system of branding peculiar to this Colony?

(2.) In view of the loss occasioned, will he introduce legislation making it compulsory to brand on places which will cause less injury to hides?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) It is proposed to introduce a measure dealing with this question next Session.

(12.) Stock Inspectors discontinuing to contribute to the Superannuation Fund :—*Mr. Chanter* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How many officers of the Stock Department elected to discontinue contributing to the Superannuation Fund?

(2.) What are their names?

(3.) As it was subsequently decided by the Attorney-General that they should not have contributed at all, will he take their cases into special consideration, and authorise the payment of their refunds at once (as they have in some instances incurred liabilities in anticipation of the refunds being made), as intimated that they would be in the circular issued on 28th June last?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Thirty-one.

(2.) The names are given on the attached list.

List of Officers of the Stock Department who elected to discontinue contributing to the Superannuation Fund.

Name.	Designation.	Name.	Designation.
Bruce, A. ...	Chief Inspector.	Crocker, C. J. ...	Inspector.
Weller, E. C. ...	Deputy Registrar of Brands.	Yeo, J. ...	"
Cotton, James ...	Inspector.	Dargin, C. W. ...	"
Lyne, C. ...	"	Rochfort, J. A. T. ...	"
Dawson, R. W. ...	"	Broughton, B. ...	"
Farrand, A. H. ...	"	Elworthy, W. J. ...	"
Ffrench, E. V. ...	"	Wilks, J. ...	"
Gethings, H. A. ...	"	Johnston, R. W. ...	Clerk.
Palmer, H. E. ...	"	Guy, L. A. ...	"
Mackay, T. T. W. ...	"	Treasure, W. J. ...	"
Meadows, R. ...	"	Thomson, A. C. ...	"
May-Steers, E. ...	"	Yeo, G. ...	"
James, A. ...	"	Byrne, P. J. ...	"
King, C. B. ...	"	Sedgwick, A. ...	"
Kirkpatrick, R. ...	"		
Henderson, J. L. ...	"		
Turner, J. F. ...	"	Total ...	31

(3.) Yes.

(13.) Retirement of Mr. C. J. Booty from the Public Service :—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Was there a young man in the Public Service named C. J. Booty?

(2.) If so, was he retired, and for what reason?

(3.) What was his age on retirement, and for what cause was he retired?

(4.) On what amount of pension per annum was he retired?

(5.) Is he aware that Dr. Angel Money has said that Booty is quite able to work for at least another fifteen years?

(6.) Will he cause Mr. Booty to be again examined by the proper medical officer, to see if he is fit for duty again?

(7.) If not, is it the practice of the Government to pension off young men such as Mr. Booty, allowing him to draw a pension, and at the same time compete with others in the open business market of the country?

(8.) What is really the intention of the Government with regard to this Mr. C. J. Booty?

Mr. Reid answered,—I will make inquiries into this case, and decide whether the gentleman named should be called upon to return to the Service or not.

(14.) Vacancies on the Board of Trustees of the Savings Bank of New South Wales :—*Mr. Perry* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has he taken any steps to fill the vacancies on the Board of Trustees of the Savings Bank of New South Wales; and, if not, will he take into consideration the advisableness of not appointing to the vacant positions any gentleman connected as a Director with other banking institutions, in view of the published facts that a sum of nearly half a million sterling has already been borrowed by those institutions from the funds of the Savings Bank of New South Wales, and that three of the present Trustees are already Directors of Banks which have borrowed largely from the institution?

Mr. Reid answered,—Three appointments have just been made. I think it for the advantage of the Savings Bank that a limited number of Bank Directors should be on the Board of Trustees.

(15.)

7th December, 1897.

(15.) Homestead Leases on New Angledool Station, Narren River:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—In view of the late inquiry held by the Bathurst Land Board at Bathurst into the *bona fides* of the conditional purchases made by one John Hayes (in June, 1892), and one Jesse Patman, will he cause similar inquiries to be made by the Local Land Board touching the *bona fides* of the homestead leases, consisting of 10,240 acres each respectively, taken up by the following individuals on the new Angledool Station, Narren River, *via* Walgett, viz.:—George Farlow, a late employee on the station; Pat. Ryan, a late employee on the station; Mr. Mason, a late employee on the station; Mr. Waterson, a late employee on the station; William Newcoman; and Mr. Moore, the manager of the station?

Mr Brunker answered,—I must reiterate the statement made in my replies to Questions on the same subject by the Honorable Member, on the 19th and 27th October and the 17th November last, viz., that until reliable evidence is forthcoming the Government are powerless to deal with the alleged wholesale system of dummyming.

(16.) Applications for Scrub Leases on Blowclear West, Coradgery, &c.:—Mr. Thomas Brown asked the Secretary for Lands,—With reference to applications for conversion of pastoral leases into scrub leases, or the granting of scrub leases at termination of said pastoral leases on the following holdings in the Central Division, viz.—Blowclear West, Coradgery, Bruie Plains, Curra, Wallen Billen, Mungery, Derribong, Tyrie, Middlefields, Tarrabong, Orange Plains, Woodlands, Jumble Plains (Blocks A and B), Melrose (Block D), Burra Burra, Melrose Plains, Gobandary, The Treffs, Murrumbogie, Carlisle, and Burrawang—will he kindly furnish the following particulars:—

(1.) The names of said holdings on which applications for scrub leases have been received, and the areas embraced in these applications?

(2.) The holdings and areas in which applications have been refused?

(3.) The holdings and areas in which a decision has not yet been arrived at?

(4.) The holdings and areas in which applications have been approved; also the terms and conditions attached to each approved application?

Mr. Brunker answered,—If the Honorable Member will move for a return in the usual manner the information will be supplied.

(17.) Water supplied to Charitable Institutions by the Water and Sewerage Board:—Mr. Lyne asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he state the names of the hospitals and charitable institutions supplied with water free of charge by the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board?

Mr. Young answered.—The Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage has furnished me with the following information:—

Names of Hospitals and Charitable Institutions supplied with water free of charge by the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board.

Name.	Address.
Balmain Cottage Hospital	Balmain.
Benevolent Asylum	Sydney.
Randwick Asylum	Randwick.
Blind Asylum	Woolloomooloo.
Do	Strathfield.
Children's Hospital	Glebe.
Children's Diphtheria Ward	Glebe.
State Children's Relief Department	Paddington.
Lewisham Hospital	Lewisham.
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institution	Newtown.
Home of Hope	Newtown.
Infants Home	Ashfield.
Montefiore Jewish Home	Dowling-street.
Little Sisters of the Poor	Randwick.
Cottage Hospital... ..	North Sydney.
Ophthalmic Hospital	Victoria Terrace.
Children's Home... ..	Liverpool.
Ragged School	Brisbane-street.
Do	Little Hill-street.
Do	Harrington-street.
Do	Botany-street, Waterloo.
Prince Alfred Hospital	Missenden Road.
School of Industry	Darlinghurst.
City Night Refuge	Kent-street.
St. Ann's Orphanage	Liverpool.
St. Joseph's Sanatorium... ..	Auburn.
St. Vincent's Hospital	Darlinghurst.
Sydney Hospital	Macquarie-street.
Sydney Hospital Dispensary	do
Thomas Walker Hospital	Concord.
Salvation Army Prison Gate Refuge	St. Peters.
Sydney Night Refuge	Francis-street.
St. George's Cottage Hospital	Kogarah.
Ragged School	Walter-street, Glebe.
Western Suburbs Hospital	Enfield.
Sydney Rescue Home	Newtown.
Mission Hall	Woollahra.
Y.M.C.A.... ..	Botany.

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Church of England Parochial School	Point-street, Pyrmont.
Salvation Army Barracks	North Sydney.
Do	Goulburn-street.
Mission Hall	Little Queen-street.
Do	Liverpool-street.
Bethany	Balmain.
Children's Home... ..	Woolloomooloo.
Labour Home	Harris-street.
Royal Naval Home	
St. Joseph's Novitiate	North Sydney.
St. Joseph's Providence... ..	Cumberland-street.
Maternity Home	Newtown.
Female Refuge	Pitt-street.
St. Magdalene's Refuge... ..	Tempe.
Good Samaritan... ..	Pitt-street.
Church Home	Paddington.
Orphanage of Mercy	Willoughby.
City Mission Hall	Bourke-street.
Mater Misericordia	Church Hill.
St. Martha's Home	Leichhardt.
Babies' Home	Knox-street.
Children's Hospital	Glebe.
Blind Asylum	Petersham.
Church Home for Inebriates	
Soup Kitchen and Night Refuge	William-street.
St. Thomas' School	Lewisham.
Mariners' Church, &c.	Lower George-street.
Mission Hall	Alexandria.
Do	Bay-street, Glebe.
Do	William-street, Paddington.
Cabmen's Shelter	Loftus-street.
Do	Moore Park.
Do	Ashfield.
Do	Summer Hill.
Do	Burwood.
Do	Strathfield.
Do	Newtown.
Do	North Sydney.
Do	Petersham.
Do	Lewisham.
Do	Woollahra.
Do	Darling Point Road.
Do	Albert-street, City.
Do	Croydon.
Do	Randwick.

2. EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE TO WOMEN:—Mr. Fegan presented a Petition from certain residents of New South Wales, stating that it is expedient that the electoral franchise should be extended to women on the same conditions as apply to men; and praying that the House will take measures to further the object of Petitioners.
Petition received.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Statement showing Balances at credit of the Government in the various Banks on the 6th December, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of the Public Service Board relative to the appointment of George McRae, Esq., as Principal Assistant Architect, Department of Public Works.

(2.) Ninth Report of the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, from 1st July, 1896, to 30th June, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 10th November, 1897,—“Proposal to transfer Emmaville, Deepwater, and the Nine-mile from the Police District of Glen Innes to that of Tenterfield.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunner laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of the Coast Hospital, Little Bay, for the year 1895.

(2.) Report of the State Children's Relief Board for the year ended 5th April, 1897.

(3.) Return to an Order, made on 19th May, 1897,—“Leasing of Portion of Church and School Estate, Randwick-Kensington Racecourse.”

(4.) Return to an Order, made on 27th October, 1897,—“Land Statistics—Gosford Population Area.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

7th December, 1897.

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 The Rock to Green's Gonyah.
 (2.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendix, and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Coolamon to Arial.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD—RETIRING ALLOWANCES AND GRATUITIES:—Mr. Neild, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 10th August, 1897; together with Appendix.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
6. POSTPONEMENTS:—
 (1.) The following Orders of the Day postponed until Tuesday, 21st December:—
 (1.) Grand Jury Bill; second reading.
 (2.) Educational Facilities Bill; second reading.
 (2.) The following Orders of the Day postponed until Wednesday, 15th December:—
 (1.) Tonnage Rates Bill; second reading.
 (2.) Truck Bill; second reading.
 (3.) Forests and Quarries Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate State Forests and Timber Reserves; to provide for the granting of licenses in respect of limber, trees, bark, gum, stone, and other materials and things on State Forests and Timber Reserves; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
 (4.) Nullum Tempus Act Declaratory Bill; second reading.
 (5.) Noxious Weeds Bill; second reading.
 (6.) Rabbit Bill; second reading.
 (7.) Sheep Directors Election Bill; second reading.
 (8.) Stamp Duties Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.
 (9.) Cattle Driving Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.
 (10.) Wills, Probate, and Administration Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.
7. ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor were delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Land and Income Tax (Amendment) Bill (No. 2):—
 FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 78.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide that the Land and Income Tax for 1896 may be assessed, levied, and collected after that year; to validate certain assessments, charges, notices, and payments in respect of any Land Tax and Income Tax; to make better provision for the collection of the Land and Income Tax for 1896 and subsequent years; to make better provision in respect of assessment-books; and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
 Sydney, 2nd December, 1897.*

- (2.) Australasian Federation Enabling Act Amendment Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 79.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Australasian Federation Enabling Act of 1895,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
 Sydney, 6th December, 1897.*

- (3.) Campbelltown Reservoir Acts Repeal Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 80.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to repeal the Acts eighteenth Victoria number twenty-three and thirty-ninth Victoria number eleven, and to vest certain lands and chattels in Her Majesty,*"—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, 6th December, 1897.*

(4.)

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(4.) Abattoir Road Act Amendment Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 81.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to revoke the dedication of part of certain lands set forth and described in the Schedule to the Abattoir Road Act of 1860, and to repeal the said Act in part,*"—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, 6th December, 1897.

(5.) Municipalities Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message, No 82.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Laws relating to Municipalities,*"—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, 6th December, 1897.

(6.) Distillation Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 83.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Laws relating to the distillation, rectifying, and compounding of spirits; the prevention of unlaful distillation; the protection of the revenue arising from the duties on spirits; and the authorisation and regulation of the warehousing under bond and the exportation free of duty of spirits distilled within the Colony of New South Wales,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,
Sydney, 6th December, 1897.

(7.) Employers' Liability Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 84.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts extending and regulating the liability of employers to make compensation for personal injuries suffered by workmen in their service,*"—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, 6th December, 1897.

(8.) Contractors' Debts Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 85.

A Bill intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts for better securing the payment of Debts due to Workmen, Tradesmen, and others,*"—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, 6th December, 1897.

(9.) Nuisances Prevention Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 86.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Laws relating to the prevention of certain Nuisances in Municipalities,*"—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, 6th December, 1897.

(10.)

7th December, 1879.

(10.) Claims against the Government and Crown Suits Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 87.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act for consolidating enactments relating to Claims against the Government and Crown Suits,*"—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, 6th December, 1897.

(11.) Compensation to Relatives Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 88.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to compensation to relatives of persons killed by accidents,*"—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, 6th December, 1897.

(12.) Registration of Deeds Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 89.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Law relating to the Registration of Deeds,*"—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, 6th December, 1897.

(13.) Quarantine Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 90.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Laws relating to Quarantine,*"—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, 6th December, 1897.

(14.) Public Entertainments Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 91.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts for regulating places of Public Exhibition and Entertainment,*"—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, 6th December, 1897.

(15.) Co-operative Colliery Tramway Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 92.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the maintenance and use of a tramway which has been constructed from the Co-operative Mine, situate on the Wentworth Estate, in the parish of Hexham, county of Northumberland, in the Colony of New South Wales, to the screens above the Co-operative Railway-line, and which said tramway crosses various streets and ways in the Borough of Plattsburg; and to enable the executors of William George Laidley, or their assigns, to divert the course of Kenrick-street, between Wentworth-street and Fletcher-street, and giving them compulsory powers to acquire lands forming the site of the said tramway,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,
Sydney 6th December, 1897.

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8. PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH PROPERTY BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Fegan moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Sleath moved, pursuant to Standing Order 142, That the Honorable Member for Wellington, Mr. Haynes, be not further heard.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 8.

Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Afleck.

Tellers,

Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Macdonald.

Noes, 49.

Mr. Chanter,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Reymond,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. McLean,Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Black,
Mr. Newman,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Henry Clarke,Mr. Young,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Neild.

Tellers,

Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Wood.

And so it passed in the negative.

Debate continued.

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

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

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

(2.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Fegan, *passed*.Mr. Fegan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the 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.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the 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,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th December, 1897.

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

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

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, 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,*"—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 December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

REAL PROPERTY (CROWN LANDS) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 7th December, 1897.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, clause 1, line 6. After "Governor" insert "under the Crown Lands Act of 1895 or any Act amending or repealing the same"
Page 1, clause 1, line 6. After "trustee" insert "or"
Page 1, clause 1, line 6. Omit "or administrator"
Page 1, clause 1, line 7. After "trustee" insert "or"

Page

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Page 1, clause 1, lines 7 and 8. *Omit* "or administrator as if he held the same in his own right" *insert* "as if a power to that effect were contained in the instrument creating such trust" or the will appointing such executor, as the case may be, or by any administrator in respect of land which he holds as administrator. Provided that no such exchange or surrender shall be effected by any administrator without the consent of all persons beneficially interested or the order of the Court in that behalf which may be obtained in the same manner as an order under the thirty-fifth section of the Probate Act of 1890"

Page 2, clause 3, lines 20 and 21. *Omit* "Provided that he shall not exercise the powers hereby conferred except at the request of the Secretary for Lands"

Examined,—

ARGHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

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

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the 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,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 7th December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(3.) Joint Stock Companies Arrangement (Continuation) Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to continue section 3 of the Joint Stock Companies Arrangement Act, 1891, to the 1st day of January, 1899,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 7th December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(4.) North Sydney Loan Enabling Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to validate certain Loans raised by the formerly-existing Boroughs of East St. Leonards and Victoria, and renewed by the Borough of North Sydney,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 7th December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

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

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to make further provision for the vesting of trust property in new trustees,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 7th December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

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

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to bring New South Wales within the provisions of the International Patents Convention of 1883,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 7th December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

10. POSTPONEMENT :—Mr. Fegan moved, That the Order of the Day for the second reading of the Coal Mines Regulation (Amendment) Bill be postponed until To-morrow.
Debate ensued.

And it being Eight o'clock, Government Business only taken under Sessional Order, adopted on the 25th November, 1897.

11. PROBATE DUTIES BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Bruncker moved, "That" the report be now adopted.
Mr. Reid moved, that the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clause 2," instead thereof.
Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.
Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out, be so inserted.

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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Mr. Copeland moved, That the proposed amendment be amended by the addition of the words "and the Schedule."

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

Debate ensued.

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

The House divided.

Ayes, 28.

Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Carroll,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. A. B. Piddington.
Mr. Chapman,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Price,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Moore.
Mr. Hassall,	
Mr. Wright,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Levien,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Schey,	
Mr. Wood,	

Noes, 35.

Mr. Brunker,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Lec,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Ashton.
Mr. Jessep,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. Hawthorne,	
Mr. Thomas,	

And so it passed in the negative.

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clause 2,—put and passed. On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill 3° with further amendments.

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

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

12. STAMP DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Brunker moved, "That" the report be now adopted.

Mr. Reid moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clause 2, subsection (r) of clause 4, and clause 11," instead thereof.

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

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Rose moved, That the proposed amendment be amended by the addition of the words "and clause 10."

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

The House divided.

Ayes, 15.

Mr. Travers Jones,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. See,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Levien,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Price,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Gormly.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Hassall.

Noes, 38.

Mr. Newman,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. McGowen.
Mr. Reid,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Lec,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Ashton.
Mr. Law,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cook,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Wheeler.
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	

And so it passed in the negative.

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out, be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clause 2, subsection (r) of clause 4, and clause 11,—put and passed.

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill 2° with further amendments.

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

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

7th December, 1897.

13. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.
The Chairman also reported That the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES—1897-8.

No. III.—CHIEF SECRETARY.

(134.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £32,500, to defray additional charge under the head "Special Grant to Country and Suburban Municipalities, equal to two shillings and sixpence per pound of the total amount of the general rates collected during the period from the fourth day of August, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six, to the second day of August, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven."

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

14. WAYS AND MEANS:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.
The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

(11.) Resolved,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Additional Service of the financial year 1897-8, the sum of £32,500 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

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

15. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND (MUNICIPAL GRANT) BILL:—

- (1.) Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolution of Ways and Means (No. 11), 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.
(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill 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,*"—which was read a first time.
(3.) Mr. Reid moved, That the Bill be printed, and now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.

- (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 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.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to appropriate and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales a certain sum to make good supplies granted for the Services of the year 1897-8,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th December, 1897.

16. ARTESIAN WELLS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.
On motion of Mr. Bruncker, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the 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.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th December, 1897.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

7th December, 1897.

17. PROBATE DUTIES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

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

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to impose certain Stamp and Probate Duties; and for purposes of and incidental to the above objects.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to impose certain Stamp and Probate Duties; and for purposes of and incidental to the above objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th December, 1897.*

18. STAMP DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

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

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Stamp Duties Acts, 1880-1894, and to impose certain Stamp Duties.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Stamp Duties Acts 1880-1894, and to impose certain Stamp Duties,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th December, 1897.*

19. STRATHFIELD RAILWAY CROSSING BILL:—Mr. Reid, pursuant to leave granted on the 30th November, 1897, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to enable the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close a certain level-crossing near Strathfield Railway Station, and to provide a way in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of that way to be a public thoroughfare,*"—which was read a first time.

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 80.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 8 DECEMBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Road Vote:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Wood, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it a fact that he has issued instructions to Road Superintendents to the effect that they are to hold over one-twelfth of the Road Vote until further orders?

Mr. Young answered,—No. Road Superintendents were told “to reserve, until further instructed, one-twelfth of the Schedule amounts,” eleven-twelfths of the Schedule amount being the sum voted, or £550,000 out of a Schedule amount of £600,000.

- (2.) Bandmaster Hutchison:—*Mr. Dick*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) What are the duties of a warrant officer in the Permanent Artillery, as fulfilled by Bandmaster Hutchison?
 - (2.) What are the duties of this same officer as bandmaster of the Permanent Artillery Band?
 - (3.) How often is this same officer employed as bandmaster to the Police upon the pay of an ordinary constable?
 - (4.) Will he take steps to confine Warrant Officer and bandmaster Hutchison to his military duties by providing for the separate appointment of a bandmaster to the Police?
 - (5.) Will such appointment be made by competition?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1.) The bandmaster of a Regiment is a “Warrant Officer.” This merely denotes his rank in accordance with Queen’s Regulations, section 2, paragraph 34.

(2.) His duties are those of a bandmaster, namely,—He instructs the band, attends all parades at which the band plays; attends, and is responsible for the band, when it plays in public or at any entertainment. He has carried out his duties as bandmaster satisfactorily, and any extra work he has taken up has never interfered with his duties as such. In the Imperial Service the bandmaster receives from £70 to £100 a year from the Band Fund, in addition to his pay as a Warrant Officer; this he does not receive here. Again, in the Imperial Service, especially in India, where, as in Australia, there are very few certificated bandmasters, most bandmasters get an opportunity of instructing other bands besides their own, and receive pay for the same. The Police Band will find it impossible to get an efficient substitute for Mr. Hutchinson at the rate of pay offered.

(3.) The Police bandmaster attends practice twice weekly, about two hours being occupied each time, and arranges and supervises the music-lessons of junior members. He conducts the band on occasions of public performances sanctioned by the Inspector-General. A quantity of music used by the band has been composed and arranged by the bandmaster.

(4 and 5) When Mr. Hutchinson’s services can be spared from military duties there is no objection to them being utilised by the Police. The Inspector-General of Police does not recommend a bandmaster exclusively for the Police Band.

- (3.) Man named Clarke charged at Newtown Police Court:—Mr. Newman asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is it a fact that a man named Clarke, a resident of Orange, has been charged at the Newtown Police Court with being an accessory in a horse-stealing case?

(2.) Does the prosecutor in the case live in Sydney?

(3.) Is it a fact that Clarke has been four times brought before the Newtown Police Court and remanded, to be again brought before the Court?

(4.) Is it a fact that on the occasions he was brought before the Court no evidence was called against him?

(5.)

8th December, 1897.

(5.) Is this man in business at Orange; and will the Minister take steps to recoup him any expenses he may have incurred travelling to and from Sydney to answer the charges made against him?

(6.) Will he also make provision in the future to prevent persons charged with alleged offences being brought long distances to answer charges until the Crown is prepared to deal with same?

Mr. Gould answered,—I am not aware of the particulars of the case referred to, but I will make inquiries, and inform the Honorable Member of the result in due course.

(4.) Police Station at Howe's Valley:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will tenders be invited for the urgently-needed repairs and additions to the Police Station at Howe's Valley?

Mr. Young answered,—I am not yet in a position to give a definite reply to this Question.

(5.) Compositors in the Government Printing Office:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that ten first-grade compositors in the Victorian Government Printing Office receive £200 per year, while only one in the New South Wales Government Printing Office receives that amount?

(2.) Is it a fact that eleven second-grade compositors in the Victorian Government Printing Office receive £183 per year, while only eight special hands in the New South Wales establishment are paid that sum?

(3.) Is it a fact that third-grade compositors in the Victorian Government Printing Office are paid £168 per year, while first-class compositors in the New South Wales establishment receive only £156 per year, and second-class compositors there are paid only £145 12s. per year each?

(4.) Is it a fact that in Victoria compositors are classed with the clerical section of the Civil Service, and are entitled to three weeks' holiday per year, while those in the New South Wales Government Printing Office are in the same class as messengers and labourers, receiving only one week's holiday per year?

(5.) Is it a fact that in Victoria the compositors in the Government Printing Office receive sick leave on full pay for any period not exceeding four months, while in the New South Wales establishment, under similar circumstances, the compositors only receive half pay, and not more than one month is allowed?

Mr. Reid answered,—I have referred the Questions of the Honorable Member to the Public Service Board for their information.

(6.) Contributors to the Civil Service Superannuation Fund:—Mr. Carroll, for Mr. Chanter, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Does a contributor to the Civil Service Superannuation Fund, who resigns and is re-employed in the service of the State prior to the Act of 1895, forfeit all contributions paid up to the time of his resignation; and are his past services before re-employment accounted in the period covered in Superannuation awards?

Mr. Reid answered,—There was no provision under the Civil Service Act of 1884 for a refund of Superannuation payments to an officer on his resigning from the Service, nor is there any power under the Public Service Act of 1895 to make such a refund to an officer who resigned prior to the passing of that Act. As regards the latter part of the Question, Mr. Edmund Barton, when Attorney-General, ruled that an officer's resignation does cancel service, so far as its computation in addition to a new period of service may be concerned.

(7.) Prosecution of Joseph Noble:—Mr. Harvey asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Will he say whether one Joseph Noble was prosecuted for fraudulently procuring a provisional certificate of title for certain land at Coogee, in 1886, whereby the estate of the late Samuel Lane was deprived of said land?

(2.) Was not such fraud carried out by the assistance of a clerk then employed in the Registrar-General's Department?

(3.) Has any claim been made for compensation?

(4.) Is it intended to award any compensation to the widow and executrix of the late Samuel Lane; if not, why?

(5.) Will he please have all papers laid upon the Table of the House in connection with the trial of Noble, in February, 1895, together with His Honor Judge Windeyer's strictures on the Registrar-General's Department, with a full report of the inquiry into the working of that Department at the time named?

Mr. Gould answered,—As a claim for compensation in respect of certain lands which, it is alleged, the late Samuel Lane was deprived of by the issue of a provisional certificate of title to one Joseph Noble, has been made by the representatives of Samuel Lane, and is still *sub judice*, I am not prepared to give specific replies to the Honorable Member's Questions at the present time, or to lay upon the Table of this House the papers referred to.

(8.) Proposed Railway from Guyra to Coff's Harbour:—Mr. McLaughlin asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Referring to the promise made by the Minister to a recent deputation, has he yet authorised the completion of Mr. Surveyor Kennedy's survey of the proposed railway line from Guyra to Coff's Harbour?

(2.) If not, will he be good enough to state the cause of delay, and when this survey may be expected to be commenced?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) All the Departmental Surveyors are employed at more urgent work.

(9.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

8th December, 1897.

- (9.) Amendment of the Libel Act:—Mr. Jessep asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the Answer given by the Attorney-General to a deputation with reference to the amending of the Libel Act, will he consider the advisability of bringing in a Bill to deal with the question next Session?
- Mr. Reid answered,—Yes.
- (10.) Entrance to Lake Macquarie:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will a dredge be available for deepening the entrance to Lake Macquarie, now in a very shallow condition?
- Mr. Young answered,—In about six weeks.
- (11.) Operation of the Public Health Act of 1896:—Mr. Ball asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has the Board of Health been appointed under the Public Health Act of 1896?
 - (2.) If so, who are the members of the above Board?
 - (3.) Have the provisions of the Health Act been carried out in all parts of the Colony?
 - (4.) If not, in what portion of the Colony has the Act been put into operation?
 - (5.) Have any regulations been issued or gazetted yet with reference to the sale of meat in country towns; if so, in what towns?
 - (6.) If not, when are such regulations likely to be issued?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Mr. E. Fosbery; the Honorable Dr. MacLaurin; Dr. T. P. Anderson Stuart; Mr. E. W. Knox; Dr. W. H. Goode; Mr. James Powell; Dr. Ashburton Thompson, Chief Medical Officer of the Government, President.
 - (3 and 4.) The Public Health Act came into force in all parts of the Colony on 1st January, 1897; its provisions are to be carried out by the local authorities appointed to administer it in section 9 of the Act.
 - (5.) No.
 - (6.) No such regulations are contemplated.
- (12.) Post Office at Cooranbong:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Postmaster-General,—Has it been decided to invite tenders for carrying out repairs to the Post Office at Cooranbong; if so, when?
- Mr. Cook answered,—Cooranbong is one of the places at which an office and residence were erected before the locality was sufficiently developed. The building needs repairs, which it is estimated will cost over £100, and the reports show that the small business will not warrant this expenditure, and the question has been raised of reducing it to a non-official office, in which case the present building would probably be sold or pulled down.
- (13.) Railway Concessions to School Teachers:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he ascertain from the Railway Commissioners if any concession is likely to be granted to school-teachers returning home from the country during Christmas holidays, seeing that they are debarred from enjoying the privilege of availing themselves of travelling by excursion trains that is afforded to the general public?
- Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed the issue of holiday excursion tickets will apply generally from the 17th December to the 1st January. No special excursion rate can be made in favour of school-teachers alone.
- (14.) Lavatory Carriages for the Western Line:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When lavatory carriages are likely to be placed on the Western Railway line on long journeys for the better convenience of the travelling public?
- Mr. Reid answered,—It is assumed the Honorable Member refers to second-class carriages with lavatory accommodation; and I am informed that such carriages are now run on the Western Mail train. First-class lavatory carriages have been run on the Western Line for some years.
- (15.) Cattle Inoculated for Pleuro-pneumonia:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—In view of the Answer to the Question of Dr. Ross on 18th November, touching the number of cattle that have been inoculated for pleuro-pneumonia, viz., 3,000,000, will he state first,—
- (1.) The number, or approximate number, that died from the effects of inoculation?
 - (2.) The number, or approximate number, that recovered from the effects of inoculation, with or without the loss of the tail or part of the tail?
 - (3.) What was the result of inoculation, and did it affect or suppress the disease in any way; or in any district in the Colony was the result of inoculation a failure?
 - (4.) Can he state approximately the number of cattle at present suffering from pleuro-pneumonia in the Colony, or the percentage of the same so affected?
 - (5.) Has the disease increased or diminished since cattle were inoculated?
 - (6.) Is the disease at present in existence to any great extent in the Colony; and what is the percentage of healthy from infected cattle?
 - (7.) Has inoculation for pleuro-pneumonia had anything to do of late years in increasing the prevalence of tuberculosis amongst cattle?
- Mr. Reid answered,—If the Honorable Member will be good enough to move for a return in the usual way, I will endeavour to obtain the information.
- (16.) Residence of Officers in the Permanent Force:—Mr. Lee asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the Major-General, in General Order 192, 29th November last, issued the following Order:—"Staff and other officers in permanent employment will be good enough to arrange to live within 2 miles of their offices or head-quarters, as the case may be; officers living over two miles will be good enough to procure quarters within the above distance at an "early date"?"
- (2.)

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- (2.) Is he aware that many of the officers who will be affected by this General Order have procured and are making homes for themselves beyond the limited distance?
- (3.) Will these officers have to sacrifice these homes, at any cost, to comply with this General Order?
- (4.) In the event of such sacrifice, will the loss sustained by the officer be refunded to him by the Government; and, if so, from what Vote?
- (5.) Can he state what sudden necessity has arisen to require the issue of such an order?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—
- (1.) Correct.
- (2.) That is why the order was issued.
- (3.) Officers in permanent employ are always expected to be ready to move at short notice wherever they may be required.
- (4.) Certainly not.
- (5.) No sudden necessity. Some of the officers were notified a year ago that they lived too far away from the scene of their duties. The Public Service is to be considered before private convenience. Some special cases have already been dealt with on their merits.
- (17.) Mr. John Groves, Auditor, Rookwood Borough Council:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he be good enough to lay upon the Table copies of all correspondence which has passed between his Department and the Rookwood Borough Council; also any which has passed between his Department and Mr. John Groves, with reference to that gentleman's duties, &c., as auditor to such borough?
- Mr. Reid answered,—I would suggest that the Honorable Member call at the Treasury, and see the papers referred to. They do not refer to a matter of public importance—only a municipal squabble—and it is thought they are not worthy of being laid upon the Table.
- (18.) Mr. John Groves, Auditor, Rookwood Borough Council:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he be good enough to lay upon the Table copies of all correspondence which has passed between his Department and the Rookwood Borough Council; also any which has passed between his Department and Mr. John Groves, with reference to that gentleman's duties, &c., as auditor to such borough?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—There will be no objection to laying these papers upon the Table provided they are moved for in the usual way.
- (19.) Bonuses in connection with the Federal Convention:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What bonus has been paid to the compositors and readers who were engaged to the early hours of the morning (for a period of over three weeks) in the production of the daily *Hansard* for the Federal Convention?
- (2.) What was the average amount of the bonus paid (a) to the compositors, and (b) to the readers?
- (3.) What bonus was paid to the Chief Clerk and head reader respectively; and what special services did they render to merit so much greater reward?
- (4.) Did the compositors out of their own bonus subscribe a bonus for a boy of tender years who had been employed till all hours of the morning for a period of over three weeks?
- (5.) Is this pecuniary recognition of the services of these compositors and readers defrayed wholly by New South Wales?
- (6.) If not, what total sum did New South Wales bestow on her compositors and readers for their services to the Federal cause during the long weary hours of the hot nights of September last?
- (7.) What bonus was paid to the messengers of the staff of the Legislative Council for services rendered in ordinary office hours to the Federal Convention?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) One month's salary, amounting to £122 7s. 5d.
- (2.) One month's salary, less overtime already paid, averaging (a) £1 11s. 6d., (b) £1 19s. 1d.
- (3.) Chief Clerk, £35 8s. 4d.; head reader, £5. The Chief Clerk was paid the same as other officers not receiving overtime. The head reader was paid at the same rate, viz., one month's salary, but less overtime already paid.
- (4.) Not aware.
- (5 and 6.) No; the expense will be defrayed by the Colonies concerned.
- (7.) Half a month's pay.
- (20.) Watchmen in the Public Service:—Mr. Harvey, for Mr. McElhone, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a man named E. Waite, who has only been two and a half years in the Public Service, goes on duty at 9 a.m. and leaves at 4 p.m., and is not on duty on Sundays and public holidays, and he is paid £125 a year for forty and a half hours per week, and he has no night duty to perform?
- (2.) Is it not a fact that a man named Pratt, a day-watchman, receives £130 a year, and that he never performs any night duty?
- (3.) In view of the fact that the night-watchmen, who are on duty eighty-four hours per week, are only paid £104 per annum, will he cause such alterations to be made as will put the men on an equality as to hours of service and pay?
- (4.) Is it not a fact that the watchmen have to get particulars of all goods per lighter, and enter into the memo. book, from which the wharfinger gets his information, as the wharfingers do not begin their duties until about 9 a.m., and leave work at an early hour of the day, for which they receive high salaries?

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(5.) Will he cause the Public Service Board to be made aware of the above, with the view of altering the hours of work and pay of work of the watchmen referred to, and advise them that the unfortunate night-watchmen should be allowed time to attend church, without having to pay approved men 1s. per hour out of their paltry pay of £104 per year?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) E. Waite is a day-watchman acting as wharfinger at Blackwattle wharf; he performs all the duties of a wharfinger at that wharf; his salary is £125 per annum; his hours of duty commence at 9 a.m. till 4.30 p.m.

(2.) Platt is a day-watchman, with a salary of £130 per annum. His duty is to assist berthing vessels, and to regulate the steamer picnic traffic at the Quay. He is on duty from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sundays and holidays inclusive.

(3.) The watchmen have one month of night duty, and the following month they are on day duty; they have no responsible duties to perform except to patrol the wharfs.

(4.) If a vessel berths at Cowper Wharf before or after the wharfinger's hours of duty, the watchman takes a note of same and gives the information to the wharfinger, which is verified by him afterwards.

(21.) Plebiscite Vote on the Fiscal Question:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Government to take a Plebiscite Vote on the Fiscal Question at the next General Election, as promised by the Premier on 25th August, 1896.

Mr. Reid answered,—The promise made by the Government will not be overlooked.

(22.) Mr. Buckland, Public School Teacher at Kingswood:—*Mr. Morgan*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Minister for 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?

(9.) Is he aware that Mr. Buckland, the teacher, lives 2 miles from the school by the nearest public road?

(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?

(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?

(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. Garrard answered,—The information applied 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.

(23.) Allowances to Provisional Schools:—*Mr. Edden*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Must Provisional Schools be conducted in every respect as Public Schools, and be subject to all the provisions of the Public Instruction Act with respect to religious instruction?

(2.) What amount is allowed to Public Schools in each class for cleaning allowances?

(3.) Are Provisional teachers allowed any cleaning allowances; and are the teachers of these schools compelled to wash and clean their schools themselves without any pay?

(4.) What amount is allowed to Public Schools in each class or grade for fuel during the winter months?

(5.) Is it a fact that Provisional Schools are generally very cold and drafty, and that children attending these schools are compelled to sit during school-hours, no matter how cold it is, without any fire?

(6.) Is it a fact that no fuel allowance is given to Provisional Schools?

(7.) Will he approve of an allowance being granted to Provisional Schools for washing and cleaning out such schools?

(8.) Will he approve of an allowance for fuel and cleaning for all kinds of schools during the winter months, similar to that allowed to classes 8, 9, and 10?

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Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) The allowance towards cost of cleaning schools is—For a First Class School (three Departments), 14s. a week ; for a Second Class School (three Departments), 11s. a week ; for a Third Class School (three Departments), 9s. a week ; for a Fourth Class School (two Departments), 6s. 6d. a week ; for a Fifth Class School, 4s. a week ; for a Sixth Class School, 3s. a week ; for a Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Class School, 1s. a week.
- (3.) (a) No ; (b) yes.
- (4.) The actual cost is allowed.
- (5.) No ; fuel allowance is granted to Provisional Schools where necessary.
- (6.) No.
- (7.) No.
- (8.) No.

(24.) George-street Asylum, Parramatta:—*Mr. Edden*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What is the area of ground on which the Asylum for the infirm and feeble at Parramatta is built?
- (2.) Is it a fact that there are over one thousand aged, infirm, and feeble people located in this George-street Asylum?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the buildings in which this large number of feeble people are located is part of an old four-storey woollen mills, and is saturated with oil and grease?
- (4.) In the event of a fire breaking out in the Asylum, is there any provision for saving the lives of the unfortunate inmates?
- (5.) What is the area of the garden attached to the Institution?
- (6.) Are the Superintendent and his family supplied with vegetables from the garden free of charge ; also with milk free from the Institution?
- (7.) Does the Superintendent of the Asylum carry on a poultry farm, and attend poultry sales in the district in opposition to other poultry dealers and business people during office hours?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Acting Director of Government Asylums:—

- (1.) Four and a half acres.
- (2.) There are 1,069 inmates.
- (3.) The building is an old woollen mill. Steps are being taken to relieve this Asylum by providing increased accommodation.
- (4.) All possible precautions have been taken.
- (5.) Three-quarters of an acre.
- (6.) Superintendent is allowed usual rations, &c., for which he is charged £45 per annum.
- (7.) No.

(25.) South Head Road Trust:—*Mr. Price* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) The names of the members of the South Head Road Trust?
- (2.) The amounts granted to the South Head Road Trust for the years 1895, 1895-6, 1896-7, and 1897-8?
- (3.) The quantity of metal purchased by the said Trust, showing quantities delivered and contracted to be delivered, for the years 1895-6, 1896-7, and 1897-8?
- (4.) Were tenders called for the supply of metal ; if so, the names of the tenderers, the prices tendered at, and quantities?
- (5.) Was any metal bought by the Trust privately ; and, if so, from whom, what quantity, and at what price?
- (6.) Is it the practice of the Trust to give the contract to the lowest tenderer ; if not, what reason is assigned for departing from the practice?
- (7.) Will he see that in future tenders are called for the supply of metal, and that the lowest tender is accepted?

Mr. Young answered,—I will forward copies of these Questions to the Trust, and invite them to furnish replies thereto, and communicate the Answers to the Honorable Member.

(26.) Appointment of Land Valuers:—*Mr. Price* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Referring to Questions Nos. 1 and 2, asked on the 1st instant, and to the reply given thereto, will the Commissioners of Taxation state definitely whether or not it is necessary for objections to be lodged by taxpayers in order to insure their lands being assessed at a uniform value with that to which contiguous and similar lands have been reduced on objection and appeal?
- (2.) Referring to the reply given to Questions Nos. 3 and 4, asked on the 1st instant, if the Commissioners of Taxation, as was stated, have no simple method of gauging the competency of land assessors, or the accuracy of their assessments, upon what principle do the Commissioners appoint some assessors to revise the work of others?
- (3.) Is it considered that any better method can be devised for ascertaining the competency of assessors than a record of actual performance ; if so, what system is considered best, and why?

Mr. Reid answered,—No further information can be afforded other than that already furnished. The Honorable Member may rest satisfied that every possible means are being taken in the careful selection of competent land valuers, so as to secure an equitable assessment in the interests of the taxpayers as well as the State.

(27.) Punt Approaches at Raymond Terrace:—*Mr. Price* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the approaches to the Miller's Forest side of the punt approaches at Raymond Terrace have been constructed higher than the roadway ; and, if so, who is responsible for the mistake in the levels?

(2.)

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- (2.) Has his attention been directed by his officers to the fact that, in consequence of the construction of the punt approaches, vehicles are unable to cross the river with loads; if so, will this not entail a considerable loss in revenue, and will he make inquiry as to whether it will not also injure the traffic between Raymond Terrace and Miller's Forest, and thereby divert the trade between those places?
- (3.) Has a report been obtained in connection with this matter; and, if so, by whom, and what is the nature of such report?
- (4.) Is it intended to alter the punt approaches; and, if so, in what direction, and when?
- (5.) Has he any objection to lay the papers in connection with this matter upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Young answered,—I am informed no mistake has been made in the levels. It is a fact, however, that the approach is a difficult one for teams to negotiate, and steps are being taken to remedy this.

(28.) Vacancies on the Board of Trustees of the Savings Bank of New South Wales:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is the Mr. James Ewen, lately appointed a trustee of the Savings Bank of New South Wales, also the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the City Bank?
- (2.) At the time of making this appointment, was he aware that the Bank that this gentleman is Chairman of owes £166,884 to the Savings Bank?
- (3.) Can he say whether a Director of any Bank, doing general banking business in Sydney, is also a Director of any other similar Bank?
- (4.) Does he approve of the appointment of Bank Directors as Trustees of the Savings Bank; if so, is it his intention to fill the other vacancies by appointing other Bank Directors to them, there now being five out of thirteen?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) No; the deposits of money in the City Bank is a long-standing custom, and is not exceptional, as the same practice obtains in the case of eight other Banks doing business in Sydney.
- (3.) I do not know; but I do know that on the Board of the Savings Bank of New South Wales there are Directors of Banks doing general banking business in Sydney with whom the Savings Bank has placed deposits, as it has done with the City Bank. For instance, Mr. R. C. Close has been for years a Trustee of the Savings Bank, although that Bank has large sums deposited in the Bank of New South Wales, of which he is a Director; as have other gentlemen who are Directors of other Banks also acted as Trustees of the Savings Bank.
- (4.) Yes; I approve of a limited number of Bank Directors being on the Board of Trustees; but I do not propose to make any further appointments.

(29.) Railway from Gregra to Cudal:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has he yet arrived at any definite decision with regard to the construction of the railway, or branch line, from Gregra to Cudal; if so, when is the work likely to be constructed?
- (2.) Is it his intention to refer it to the Public Works Committee for consideration and report; if so, when?

Mr. Young answered,—The consideration of this matter must stand over for next Session.

(30.) Suspension of Labour Conditions on Mining Leases, Parishes of Tuena and Kangaloolah:—Mr. Travers Jones asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) What suspension of the labour conditions have been granted on mining leases 7,981–7,982 and 8,050, parishes of Tuena and Kangaloolah, county of Georgiana; when were these granted, and what is the name of the lessee?
- (2.) What was the record on the 23rd October last in the Warden's books, at Tuena, with regard to these leases?
- (3.) Did the Warden report these leases to the Minister for cancellation on account of the non-fulfilment of the labour conditions; and, if so, on what date?
- (4.) Did the Department receive a complaint, dated the 25th October, as to the non-fulfilment of the labour conditions on these leases?
- (5.) Did the Minister, on the 22nd November, grant an additional suspension of labour conditions on these leases?
- (6.) If additional suspension was granted on the 22nd November, was it at the request of the lessee or his agent; and, if the latter, was the proper authorisation produced?
- (7.) What was the reason assigned for asking the additional suspension?
- (8.) Did the Department obtain a report from the Warden before granting the additional suspension on the 22nd November; if so, on what date, and what was that report?

Mr. Gould answered,—This information will be obtained as soon as possible, and laid upon the Table of the House.

(31.) Operation of the Public Health Act of 1896:—Mr. Jessep asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) In view of the fact that the Public Health Act, in Part 8, section 53, provides for the fixing of limits of the strength and purity of articles for general consumption, has the Board of Health taken the necessary steps to make provision for the adoption of a standard of strength and purity of such articles?
- (2.) Is it a fact that a standard for the purity of milk has been recommended by the largest milk companies and local dairymen carrying on business in the city and suburbs, and submitted to the Premier for the approval of the Government?
- (3.) If so, has such standard been adopted, and when will it be advertised in the *Government Gazette*?
- (4.) If not, when will such standard be fixed and advertised in the *Government Gazette*?

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- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) The Board of Health has decided on standards of strength and purity for certain articles of food in general consumption.
- (2.) No. The Board decided on a standard of strength and purity for milk, which was made generally known preliminary to adopting it and publishing it in the *Gazette*. It has been agreed to by the largest milk companies and local dairymen carrying on business in the city and suburbs.
- (3 and 4.) The standard for milk will be published in the *Government Gazette* as soon as advice has been received on a point which is now under consideration of the Crown Law Officers.
2. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Twenty-fifth Report from the Printing Committee.
3. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—
- (1.) Agricultural Holdings Bill; second reading.
- (2.) Art Unions Amendment Bill; second reading.
4. CROWN LANDS BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to amend the law relating to the determination of values of improvements, the rescission of reservations of water frontage, and to appeals by the Minister to the Land Appeal Court; to provide for certain holdings within suburban or population boundaries; and to amend section 11 of the Crown Lands Act of 1895; and for other purposes*,"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 7th December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

CROWN LANDS BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 7th December, 1897.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 1, clause 1. *Omit* clause 1.
- Page 1, clause 2, line 13. *Omit* "land has"
- Page 1, clause 2, line 13. *Omit* "day of the"
- Page 1, clause 2, line 14. *After* "Act" *insert* "Crown Lands have"
- Page 1, clause 2, line 17. *Omit* "the land" *insert* "such lands"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 1. *Omit* "their" *insert* "the"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 1. *After* "value" *insert* "of such improvements"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 6. *Omit* "themselves"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 6. *Before* "value" second occurring *insert* "agreed"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 7. *Omit* "as agreed to be paid"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 11. *After* "the" *insert* "value of the"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 12. *Omit* "are" *insert* "is at least"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 14. *After* "lessee" *insert* "upon application within the prescribed time"
- Page 2, clause 3, lines 18 to 21. *Omit* "such application lodged on or after the day of the commencement of this Act as well as to any such application now pending and not determined by the Minister or the Local Land Board before the said day" *insert* "land the value of which shall be determined after the commencement of this Act"
- Page 2, clause 3, lines 25 and 26. *Omit* "in virtue of which he lodged his application upon the rescission of such reservation" *insert* "(where such applicant is the owner of such adjoining land)"
- Pages 2 and 3, clauses 4, 5, and 6. *Omit* clauses 4, 5, and 6, *insert* the following new clauses—
- "On and after the commencement of this Act section fifty-nine of the Crown Lands Act of 1895 shall be repealed.
- "The Minister may within three years after any recommendation, determination, decision, or award of a Local Land Board, whether made before or after the commencement of this Act, appeal, by way of reference, to the Land Appeal Court, from such recommendation, determination, decision, or award in any case in which it appears—
- "(i) that the rights, revenues, or interests of the Crown have been, or may hereafter be, injuriously affected by such recommendation, determination, decision, or award; or
- "(ii) that a Local Land Board has failed or neglected to duly discharge its duty according to law, or has exceeded such duty,
- "(iii) that such recommendation, determination, decision, or award has been made or given against evidence or the weight of evidence, or upon insufficient evidence; or
- "(iv) that such recommendation, determination, decision, or award is not in accordance with law."
- "Provided that nothing in this section shall apply to any case to which the provisions of section six of the Crown Lands Act of 1889 apply, nor to any case in which a certificate of conformity has been issued or ordered to issue under the provisions of section thirty-six of the Crown Lands Act of 1884.

References by
the Minister to
Court: Not
under sections
of Act of 1889.

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" The following provisions shall apply to appeals under this section :—

" (a) With the reference the Minister shall cause to be transmitted to the registrar of the said Court a document signed by him setting forth the grounds of the reference, and all papers connected with the case; and shall also cause to be served upon the parties to such case a notice of appeal setting forth the grounds of the reference as aforesaid, within such time and in such form as the said Land Court may by rule in that behalf prescribe.

" (b) Subject to the provisions of this section the Land Appeal Court shall deal with every such reference, and the rights and liabilities of the Crown in respect thereof shall be the same as if such reference were an appeal by the Crown; and no provision of the Crown Lands Acts relating to appeals or the lodging of deposits shall, except as aforesaid, apply to any such reference.

" (c) Nothing in this section shall prejudice or affect the right of the Crown or any person to apply for a writ of prohibition or mandamus, or in the nature of a mandamus.

" (d) The Land Appeal Court, upon the hearing of any such reference, may determine the same or may order the case to be sent back to the Local Land Board for further evidence, or may make any other order interlocutory or final which, to the said Court, may appear just.

" (e) The Land Appeal Court shall have full power of awarding costs on any such reference, and whether against or in favour of the Crown."

" On and after the commencement of this Act section eleven of the Crown Lands Act of 1895 shall be repealed, and the following section enacted in place thereof:—

" A notification that Crown lands are set apart for holdings of any kind shall render the lands in such notification specified, so long as the said lands remain so set apart, available for the purpose of an application for an additional conditional purchase or conditional lease of a series of which the original conditional purchase was made before the date of the notification in any case where—

" (a) the application is made not later than forty days after the date of the notification; and

" (b) the applicant has been for six months previously and still is in *bonâ fide* residence on some conditional purchase or conditional lease of the same series at the date of the notification.

" During the period within which, in pursuance of this section, application as aforesaid to add to any series may be made, the land in such notification specified shall not be available for any applications other than those by this section authorised; but the notification as aforesaid shall not affect the granting or renewing of occupation licenses and annual leases unless the same be expressly excluded:

" Provided that—

" (c) the area which may be added to any series by all such additional conditional purchases and conditional leases shall, together with such series, not exceed the area sufficient in the opinion of the Local Land Board to enable the holder thereof by agriculture, or by agriculture combined with any other ordinary pursuits, to maintain his home thereon, and shall not, in any case, exceed the area which may be taken under the Principal Act; and

" (d) such additional conditional purchases and conditional leases shall be taken so as to conform to the general design of the subdivision, if any, of such tract or area;

" (e) where the notified capital value of the land applied for is more than one pound per acre, the price to be paid for an additional conditional purchase applied for under this section or for an additional conditional purchase into which a conditional lease, applied for under this section, is converted, shall be such notified capital value. In any case the deposit on any additional conditional purchase shall be ten per centum, and the annual instalments of purchase money shall be five per centum of the aforesaid capital value."

" Section thirty-one of the Crown Lands Act of 1895 shall be deemed to have applied and shall apply to any conditional purchases and conditional leases, the applications for which were made before the day of the commencement of that Act, although such applications were not confirmed before that day.

" Where any application has already been disallowed or disposed of under the provisions of the section aforesaid, the Board may, at the request of the applicant, and on such terms as the Board may prescribe, deal with such application as if it had not been disallowed or disposed of."

" Any appraisalment made after the commencement of this Act of the value of any improvements, the subject either of ownership or of tenant-right, upon land applied for as or held under any conditional or other purchase or homestead selection or any lease shall be subject to the following provisions:—

" (a) The said value shall be the value to an incoming tenant.

" (b) The said value shall not include what may be justly due to the inherent capabilities of the land:

" Provided that where the owner of the improvements or person having tenant right therein has derived no benefit from the use of the improvements in consequence of having been disturbed in the use thereof, such owner or person shall be entitled to receive in addition to the value assessed as aforesaid interest at a rate not exceeding five per centum per annum on the amount expended by him in effecting such improvements calculated from the time of such expenditure. And such interest shall be paid and may be recovered in the manner provided in the Crown Lands Act for the payment and recovery of the value of improvements, the subject of ownership, or tenant-right. But this proviso shall not apply where the improvements are the property of the Crown."

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered,

8th December, 1897.

Ordered, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be forthwith taken into consideration.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again at a later hour of the day.

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

(1.) Appropriation Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to appropriate and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales certain sums to make good the Supplies granted for the Service of the year from the 1st day of July, 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,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 8th December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(2.) Loan Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the raising of a Loan for the Public Service of the Colony, and for other purposes,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 8th December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

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

MR. SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the 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 land within the municipal district of Nyngan, and for other purposes,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 8th December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

6. DAY LABOUR—RAILWAY DEVIATIONS :—Mr. McGowen, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 30th June, 1897; together with Appendix.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

7. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Sydney—Flinders Division, Mr. Nelson, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The unsatisfactory treatment received by Hudson Brothers from the Government with reference to a contract for a steam crane for Garden Island."

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

8. CASE OF SYDNEY COOPER, AS TO MINING UNDER A ROAD, PARISH OF CLIVE, COUNTY OF GOUGH :—Mr. Cruickshank, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 24th August, 1897; together with Appendix. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

9. CROWN LANDS BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had disagreed to the Council's amendments.

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

10. VEGETATION DISEASES BILL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act 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,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 8th December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

VEGETATION

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

8th December, 1897.

VEGETATION DISEASES BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 8th December, 1897.

JOHN J. CALVERT,

Clerk of the Parliaments.

Pages 2 and 3, clauses 3, 4, 5, and 6. *Omit* clauses 3, 4, 5, and 6, *insert* the following new clause:—

“Any person authorised in writing by the Minister may at any time enter upon any vessel, ship, or place, with or without assistants, and search for insects and fungi and diseased plants and packages likely to convey disease, and may remain there for that purpose so long as may be reasonable.” Power to enter

Page 3, clause 7, subclause (b). *Omit* subclause (b)

Page 3, clause 7, subclause (e). *Omit* subclause (e)

Page 4, clause 11, subclause (II). *Omit* subclause (II)

Page 4, clause 12, lines 35 and 36. *Omit* “Governor” means “Governor with the advice of the Executive Council”

Page 4, clause 12, lines 45 to 49. *Omit* “‘Owner or occupier’ includes the agent of any owner or occupier, and also any joint owner or joint occupier. ‘Owner’ includes any person holding any land under any lease or license from the Crown or any person deriving title from, under, or through him”

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,

Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

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

12. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Orders of the Day of Government Business postponed until To-morrow.

13. CROWN LANDS BILL:—Ordered, on motion of Mr. Carruthers, 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 December, 1897, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the Crown Lands Bill,—

Disagrees to such amendments,—because it is considered that they are detrimental to settlement, and to good administration of the Crown Lands.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 8th December, 1897.

14. SUNDAY TRADING BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Copeland 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 legalise and regulate Sunday trading.
Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 27.

Mr. T. B. Smith,	Mr. Griffith.
Mr. Lyne,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Dr. Ross,	
Mr. McElhone,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. FitzGerald.
Mr. Travers Jones,	
Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. E. M. Clark,	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Hassall,	
Mr. Goodwin,	
Mr. F. Clarke,	
Mr. See,	
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Chanter,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Gormly,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. Anderson,	
Mr. Price,	
Mr. Watson,	
Mr. James Thomson,	
Mr. Carroll,	

Noes, 46.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Schey,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Pyers.
Mr. Haynes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Jessep.

And so it passed in the negative.

15. AUSTRALIAN LEGAL PROFESSIONS FEDERATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Schey, “That this Bill be now read “a second time.”

And the Question being again proposed,—

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

Debate ensued.

Mr. Pyers moved, pursuant to Standing Order 142, That the Honorable Member for Wilcannia, Mr. Sleath, be not further heard.

Question put and negatived.

Debate continued.

Mr. Affleck moved, pursuant to Standing Order 142, That the Honorable Member for Darlington, Mr. Schey, be not further heard.

Question put.

The

8th December, 1897.

The House divided.

Ayes, 29.		Noes, 29.	
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Greene,	Dr. Ross,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. T. R. Smith.	Mr. Millard,	Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Newman,	Mr. Schey,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Dick,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. McElhonn,	Mr. Thomas,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Afleck.	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Nicholson.
Mr. Ball,		Mr. Wilks,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Morgan,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Thomas Brown,	
Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Dugald Thomson.	Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Hogue.
Mr. Anderson,		Mr. F. Clarke,	

The numbers being equal, Mr. Speaker, in order to enable the Honorable Member to continue his remarks, gave his casting vote with the *Noes*, and declared the Question to have passed in the *negative*.

Debate continued.

Question put,—That this Debate be now adjourned.

The House divided.

Ayes, 33.		Noes, 18.	
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Chanter,	
Mr. Gould,	Dr. Ross,	Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Young,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Gormly,	
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Greene,	Mr. Hogue,	
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Price,	
Mr. Afleck,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. T. R. Smith,	
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. F. Clarke,	
Mr. McElhonn,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Ashton.	Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Dugald Thomson,		Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. Haynes,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Thomas,	
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Cruickshank,	
Mr. James Thomson,	Mr. FitzGerald.	Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. Law,		Mr. E. M. Clark.	
Mr. Wheeler,		<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. Garrard,		Mr. Cann,	
Mr. Newman,		Mr. Schey.	
Mr. Thomas Brown,			

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

6. PAPER:—Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 23rd November, 1897,—“Sunny Corner Mining Leases.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
17. CONSTRUCTION OF THE TELEPHONE TUNNELS:—Mr. Lyne, as Chairman, brought up a Progress Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 30th June, 1897; together with Appendix.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
18. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 9 DECEMBER, 1897, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported a *Point of Order*, and obtained leave to sit again so soon as the *Point of Order* had been decided by the House.

Point of Order:—The Chairman stated that, on the Question of the first clause “Short Title” being proposed, Mr. Copeland was about to move the omission of the word “Railway” to insert the word “Tunnel”, and was giving his reasons in support of the motion, when he (the Chairman) ruled that it was out of order to discuss the principles of the Bill on the Question of the Short Title. He was directed by the Committee to submit the matter to the House.
Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker ruled in accordance with the Chairman’s decision.

On motion of Mr. Neild, 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 To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at eight minutes after Three o’clock a.m., until Four o’clock p.m. This Day.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

Acto South Wales.

No. 81.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 9 DECEMBER, 1897.

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

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Settlement Areas on the Brookong Holding :—Mr. Ball asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) What area of land is likely to be available for settlement on the Brookong Holding?
- (2.) When is the above land likely to be thrown open for settlement?
- (3.) What is the cause of delay?
- (4.) When will the land in the Bullenbong Holding be available for settlement?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) An exchange proposal is now under consideration which would make about 15,000 acres available for settlement. Certain further proposals relating to the leasehold area have also been made, which, if carried into effect, would render available, approximately, an additional 10,000 acres.
- (2.) Presuming no special difficulty occurs in connection with surveys and legal transactions, it will be at least six months before the land can be made available.
- (3.) The case is now awaiting consideration by the Local Land Board.
- (4.) This case awaits registration of the release of mortgage by the surrenderer, which has been promised at an early date.

(2.) Naval Authority over Waters adjacent to Garden Island :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What power or authority can the Naval authorities exercise over the waters adjacent to Garden Island?
- (2.) Under what legal authority do such Naval authorities prohibit the citizens of Sydney from fishing in such adjacent waters?
- (3.) Have such Naval authorities any legal power to order our citizens to remove from any portion of such adjacent waters?
- (4.) If so, over what portion of such waters have the Naval authorities jurisdiction; to what extent, and under what Act of Parliament?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—With regard to this Question, I have been unable to obtain a reply from the Attorney-General, by whom only it can be decided.

(3.) Compositors in the Government Printing Office :—Mr. Willis, for Mr. O'Sullivan, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that ten first-grade compositors in the Victorian Government Printing Office receive £200 per year, while only one in the New South Wales Government Printing Office receives that amount?
- (2.) Is it a fact that eleven second-grade compositors in the Victorian Government Printing Office receive £183 per year, while only eight special hands in the New South Wales establishment are paid that sum?
- (3.) Is it a fact that third-grade compositors in the Victorian Government Printing Office are paid £168 per year, while first-class compositors in the New South Wales establishment receive only £156 per year, and second-class compositors there are paid only £145 12s. per year each?
- (4.) Is it a fact that in Victoria compositors are classed with the clerical section of the Civil Service, and are entitled to three weeks' holiday per year, while those in the New South Wales Government Printing Office are in the same class as messengers and labourers, receiving only one week's holiday per year?

(5.)

9th December, 1897.

- (5.) Is it a fact that in Victoria the compositors in the Government Printing Office receive sick leave on full pay for any period not exceeding four months, while in the New South Wales establishment, under similar circumstances, the compositors only receive half pay, and not more than one month is allowed?
- Mr. Reid answered,—As promised, I have forwarded the Honorable Member's Questions to the Public Service Board, who will, no doubt, make the necessary inquiries.
- (4.) Schedule 2 of the Public Service Act of 1895:—*Mr. Thomas Brown*, for *Mr. Dacey*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) For what reason was Schedule 2 of the Public Service Act of 1895 omitted from the Public Service *Gazette*, dated 16th December, 1896?
 - (2.) Does the omission of Schedule 2 affect the permanent position of persons whose names appeared in the *Gazette* above referred to?
 - (3.) By what authority is the Public Service Board empowered to designate persons permanently employed in the Government Printing Office as employees?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) There is no legal necessity for publishing the Schedule referred to. The names of the temporary officers who were placed on the permanent staff were included in the *Gazette* notice of the grading, and they were thereby made permanent officers.
 - (2.) No.
 - (3.) I presume the Honorable Member refers to the use of this word in the Regulations. I understand employees is the usual term.
- (5.) Punishment of Officials in the Prisons Department:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. McGowen*, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that in the Prisons Department officials are punished for small offences by stoppage of pay?
 - (2.) Are the following instances correctly stated, *i.e.*:—(a) Darlinghurst—Overseer tailor Quinn fined ten days' pay for imperfect work turned out on one occasion; (b) Parramatta—Overseer tailor Hegarty fined fourteen days' pay for a similar occurrence; (c) Darlinghurst—Overseer of mat-shop fined seven days' pay for clerical error; (d) third-class warder Mitchell, Parramatta, coming off night duty at 7 a.m., is told that he is wanted for escort duty, and because he remonstrates is forthwith suspended, and afterwards removed to Dubbo Gaol and charged expenses of removal; (e) Parramatta—Chief warder Brown, after twenty-seven years and eight months service, charged with gossiping (the first report against him during that long period), was fined seven days' pay, and recommended to put in an application for leave, with a view of retiring?
- Mr. Gould answered,—I will presently lay the information sought upon the Table of the House in the shape of a return.
- (6.) Wool and Produce consigned to Agents:—*Mr. Macdonald* asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Whether the promised Bill for the protection of consignors' wool and other produce, while in hands of selling agents, has yet been finally dealt with?
 - (2.) If not, will he, in view of the urgent necessity for legislation on the subject, do what he can to expedite the completion and consideration of the measure?
- Mr. Gould answered,—This Bill has not yet been finally dealt with, but will be submitted for the consideration of the Cabinet during the recess.
- (7.) Unincorporated Populous Areas:—*Mr. Affleck*, for *Mr. Rose*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it his intention to abandon his original intention of bringing the unincorporated populous areas in old settled districts under a form of Local Government?
- Mr. Reid answered,—This is a matter which I propose to deal with in the Municipal Bill next Session.
- (8.) Deviation at Clear Farm Hill:—*Mr. Neild*, for *Mr. Wheeler*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—Has the deviation at Clear Farm Hill, on the road from Howe's Valley to Putty, yet been confirmed?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—The road has been established, and it was notified as a road for public traffic in the Supplement to the *Government Gazette*, dated the 8th instant.
- (9.) Examiners for the Admission of Solicitors:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) The names of the examiners for the admission of solicitors, by whom appointed, and under what regulations they act, and by whom framed?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the names of candidates are endorsed upon the examination papers; and, if so, is this not an unusual course in connection with examinations?
 - (3.) Would it not be advisable to alter the system of endorsing the names of the candidates, and substituting a system of numbers?
 - (4.) Will he be good enough to inquire into this matter, with a view of having an alteration made in the direction intimated?
- Mr. Gould answered,—
- (1.) Professor Cobbett, Messrs. Hanbury Davies, H. P. Owen, R. P. Allen, E. E. Fosbery, H. C. E. Rich, and M. E. a'Beckett. Appointed by the Judges of the Supreme Court. They act under regulations relating to the admission of solicitors, promulgated by the Judges.
 - (2.) Yes. It is not an unusual course. A similar practice prevails in connection with the annual examinations of the University students. In the solicitors' examinations all papers are examined and revised by two members of the Board.
 - (3 and 4.) This is a matter in which I cannot interfere, as the provisions with regard to the examination and admission of solicitors are vested by law in the Judges of the Supreme Court.

9th December, 1897.

(10.) Glen Ora Road:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he be good enough to lay upon the Table of this House all correspondence and other papers in connection with the grant for expenditure on a continuation of the newly-opened Glen Ora Road, past the Public School, and thence down the south side of the Wallamba River?

Mr. Young answered,—There will be no objection to the course proposed if moved for in the usual way.

(11.) Grants to the New South Wales Rifle Association:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What amounts have been granted to the New South Wales Rifle Association during the years 1895-6, 1896-7; and also the amount proposed for 1897-8; and for what purpose have such amounts been granted?

(2.) Is it the intention of the Government, when issuing such grants, that the amounts shall be applied to the encouragement of rifle-shooting, with a view to developing the marksmanship of civilians and members of the Defence Forces under what is known as "Active service conditions" (or such conditions as would exist during actual service), or are such amounts given for the purpose of advancing club shooting under conditions which would be inapplicable in modern warfare, viz., the use of wind gauges, verniers, coloured lines, &c.?

(3.) Has his attention been directed to the extracts from the report and speeches of Colonel Brown, Sir James de Hoghton, D.A.A.G., School of Musketry, Hythe, General Sir Gerald Graham, V.C., Colonel Brownrigg, Lord Wolseley, General Roberts, and others, forwarded to his office by *Mr. Price*, on the 7th instant; if so, will he be good enough to have a report prepared upon the subject during the recess, and published in the newspapers for public information prior to the meeting of Parliament in March next?

(4.) Is it a fact that out of the sum of £3,417, given as prize money, nearly one-third of the amount was won by forty persons under such conditions as would be practically useless in active service?

(5.) What is the reason that the amounts allotted for "Battle firing" and "Shooting under conditions of active service," such as "Judging distances," "Disappearing targets," "Volley firing," &c., are so disproportionate when compared with the prizes given for individual shooting under club rules?

(6.) Will he be good enough to cause an inquiry to be instituted into this matter also, with a view to developing the "Fire discipline" and "Fire efficiency" of our Defence Forces?

(7.) Is he aware that the individual expenses incurred by country corps and mounted troops, desirous of competing at the Rifle Association meeting, debar a large number from entering the military competitions?

(8.) Will he take steps to inquire into the advisability of making provision for the issue of free passes by rail for the infantry and mounted troops desirous of participating in such rifle meetings?

(9.) In view of the importance of the subject, will he be good enough to cause a full inquiry to be made into the various matters, with a view to encouraging our Defence Force to become more efficient in rifle-shooting under such conditions as would apply in active service?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1.) £1,000 in each year for prizes.

(2.) The amount granted was for prizes, no condition being attached.

(3.) Yes; and the matter will receive consideration.

(4.) No.

(5.) Because the amount received for entrance fees does not cover the expense of conducting these matches, whereas in the matches for individual shooting the entrance fees and revenue from "sighters" pay the cost of conducting the matches and more than 80 per cent. of the prizes.

(6.) This is very desirable, and will be carried out at an early date.

(7.) I am not aware, but probably it is so.

(8.) This has been dealt with as regards the present year, and the necessary free passes were granted.

(9.) The matter will receive attention.

(12.) Appeals against Rent of Residences:—*Mr. Simeon Phillips* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When will the appeals forwarded to the Public Service Board by members of the Civil Service, with regard to the charges made for rent of residences, be dealt with?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Public Service Board inform me that they have now obtained the necessary information to enable them to deal with this matter, and they propose shortly to have a conference with the Departments on the subject, and to come to a determination thereon in a very short time.

(13.) Leave of Absence to Members of the Police Force:—*Mr. Simeon Phillips* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that members of the Police Force stationed in the country are entitled to ten days annual leave?

(2.) Will he inquire whether there are any cases in which such leave has been refused?

(3.) If so, will he take steps to secure to the men the leave to which they are entitled?

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

(1.) There is no fixed term of annual leave to Police.

(2 and 3.) No reasonable application which it has been practicable to grant has been refused.

(14.)

9th December, 1897.

- (14.) Alleged Nanami Dummy Cases :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—
 (1.) Is it his intention to take any further action in the alleged Nanami dummy cases that were brought under his notice by Dr. Ross, in July, 1896; if so, when, and why are the proceedings being so long delayed?
 (2.) Is it the intention of the Crown Prosecutor to go on with the proceedings; if so, what is the cause of the delay?
 Mr. Bruncker answered,—My honorable colleague cannot at present add anything to his reply to the Honorable Member's Question of the 25th August last.
- (15.) Teachers' Salaries in Country Districts :—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Hassall, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Will he take into consideration the expediency of making the necessary arrangements for payment of teachers' salaries in the country on or about the date the schools break up for the holidays, instead of waiting until the end of the month, and thereby enable them to visit Sydney or other localities during the vacation?
 Mr. Garrard answered,—It would be impossible to pay before the end of the month.
- (16.) Employment of Pilots in the Government Service :—Mr. Hughes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) What is the maximum age at which pilots are employed in the Government Service?
 (2.) What is the age of the pilot recently appointed at the Tweed Heads?
 Mr. Reid answered,—
 (1.) There are no regulations on the subject, except that men are taken on in the prime of life.
 (2.) Forty-one years.
- (17.) Master of the Steam-launch "Mabel" :—Mr. Hughes asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Does the present master of the steam-launch "Mabel" hold a harbour and river master's certificate?
 (2.) What is the date of his discharge from the Royal Navy?
 Mr. Bruncker answered,—
 (1.) Yes.
 (2.) 1st January, 1897.
- (18.) Case of Regina v. Dalton :—Mr. Jessep asked the Minister of Justice,—
 (1.) Does he intend to proceed any further in the case of Regina v. Dalton, for alleged fruit-stealing; if not, why not?
 (2.) Did not the Judge who presided intimate that a further prosecution could take place?
 Mr. Gould answered,—My honourable colleague, the Attorney-General, has furnished me with the following information :—The accused was convicted summarily at Richmond Police Court, on the 1st July last, of counselling another person to steal oranges; he appealed at last Windsor Quarter Sessions, on the 20th October, and the conviction was quashed. The question as to the initiation of further proceedings rests entirely in the hands of the prosecutor. The Judge who presided at Windsor being at present on circuit, it has been impossible to refer the matter to him.
- (19.) Bandmaster Hutchison :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—How many days, during the six months ending 30th November last, was Bandmaster Hutchison employed, and paid for, as an ordinary constable, as bandmaster to the Police Force?
 Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed by the Inspector-General of Police that the bandmaster receives the annual pay of a constable, and gives general attention to the requirements of the band. No record is kept of the number of days he is engaged.
- (20.) Regulation of Wool and Produce Brokers Bill :—Mr. F. Clarke asked the Minister of Justice,—
 (1.) Is the Bill dealing with the regulation of wool and produce brokers yet drafted?
 (2.) If so, will it be introduced and laid upon the Table of this House this Session, so that Honorable Members may have an opportunity of reading it during the recess?
 Mr. Gould answered,—I would refer the Honorable Member to my reply just given to the Question submitted by Mr. Macdonald.
- (21.) Proposed Electric Trams from Milson's Point to Ridge-street :—Mr. F. Clarke asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that the Railway Commissioners propose to substitute electric trams for the present cable-tram system, Milson's Point to Ridge-street, as soon as the George-street electric-tram system is in operation?
 (2.) Has the question of running electric trams from Milson's Point to Hornsby, instead of the present train service, also been seriously considered by the Commissioners?
 Mr. Reid answered,—
 (1.) I am informed the Railway Commissioners contemplate working the cable-tram line referred to by electrical power, but not necessarily as soon as the George-street line is in operation.
 (2.) No.
- (22.) Bridge and Sluice-gates at Cook's River Dam :—Mr. McLean asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) Has he accepted a tender yet for the construction of a bridge and sluice-gates at Cook's River Dam?
 (2.) What is the amount of tender, and the time for completion of contract?
 (3.) When will tenders be invited for the embankment across the Marrickville Valley?
 Mr. Young answered,—
 (1.) Yes.
 (2.) (a) £10,057 11s. 9d.; (b) forty weeks.
 (3.) About six weeks.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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(23.) Case of Sergeant Stafford :—Mr. Ferguson asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it the intention of the Government to give effect to the finding of the Select Committee in the case of Sergeant Stafford; if so, when?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I find, on reference to the papers, that this case has been outstanding for a very long time. Among the papers there is a recommendation made, after inquiry, by the Inspector-General of Police. It read as follows :—“I have no hesitation in saying that Stafford has no claim whatever, and that he was not treated with any injustice. He was dealt with on the report and recommendation of the late Superintendent Zeuch, who was a just and by no means severe officer. He repeatedly assured me that he adhered to his opinion of the justice of the decision.”

(24.) Improvement Leases granted at Jervis Bay :—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has he any objection to lay upon the Table all papers in connection with the improvement leases granted at Jervis Bay; or will he give the Honorable Member for Gloucester an opportunity of inspecting the documents during the recess; if so, will he instruct his officers to facilitate the inspection of the papers?

(2.) Is he aware that the concessions granted to the improvement lessees operate unfairly in respect to persons engaged in the timber industry on the Northern rivers?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) My honorable colleague has no objection whatever.

(2.) No.

(25.) Reserves on the Manning River :—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that the classification of reserves as Class “C” on the Manning River, and in the county of Gloucester, is operating prejudicially to the timber industry?

(2.) Will he take steps to have the classification altered to Class “A”?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) No. On the contrary, it was understood from a deputation which waited upon my honorable colleague, the Minister for Mines and Agriculture, in April last, that the trade was in a flourishing condition.

(2.) I cannot give any undertaking at present. I understand that the reserves are amongst the most valuable in the Coast Districts for present and future requirements of the timber industry.

2. PAPERS :—Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Notifications of resumptions, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, for Public School Purposes, at Big Leather and Coramba Township. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return to an Order, made on 10th November, 1897,—“Ryan’s and Daly’s Conditional Purchases, parish of Yetholme, county of Roxburgh.”

(2.) Return respecting the Improvement Leases on the Toorale and Dunlop Resumed Areas.

(3.) Return respecting the Improvement Leases at Jervis Bay.

(4.) Correspondence respecting Mr. Groves, Auditor to the Rookwood Borough Council.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return to an Order, made on 17th November, 1897,—“Coal shipped at the Newcastle Dyke.”

(2.) Return to an Order, made on 26th October, 1897,—“Transshipment of Tonnage and Live Stock, per rail, on the Border between New South Wales and Victoria.”

(3.) Return to an Order, made on 17th November, 1897,—“Coal from the Northern Collieries.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Return respecting Stoppage of Pay to certain Officials in the Prisons Department.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

(1.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plans, relating to the proposed New Houses of Parliament for the Colony.

(2.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Condobolin to Euabalong.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE :—Mr. McLean, as Chairman, brought up a Progress Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 24th June, 1897; together with Appendix.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

(1.) Glebe Island Bridge Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the 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,”—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 9th December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

(2.)

9th December, 1897.

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

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to appropriate and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales a certain sum to make good Supplies granted for the Services of the year 1897-8,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 9th December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

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

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the 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,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 9th December, 1897.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

6. ADJOURNMENT:—

(1.) Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Sydney—Phillip Division, Mr. Copeland, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"To urge upon the Government the necessity of instructing the Police not to harass respectable vendors of refreshments and newspapers for a reasonable amount of Sunday trading, during the summer months now ensuing, pending intelligent legislation on the subject."

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

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

Point of Order:—Mr. Sleath requested Mr. Speaker's attention to entry No. 8 in the Votes and Proceedings, No. 35, of 15th July, 1897, and to the fact that the subject of the Sunday closing of shops was then discussed. He submitted that this Notice was, therefore, out of order.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker, quoting a ruling given in the House of Commons, by Mr. Speaker Peel, on a similar Point of Order, declared Mr. Copeland's motion to be out of order.

(2.) Mr. Sleath then moved, That, in accordance with the authority given in subsection (d) of the 49th Standing Order, a second motion for the adjournment of the House be now entertained.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 45.

Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Affleck,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. See,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Raymond,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Price,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Edden.
Mr. Thomas Brown,	
Mr. Watkins,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Perry.
Mr. Cotton,	

Noes, 36.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Simoon Phillips,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Gormly.
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Hassall.
Mr. Neild,	
Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Frank Farnell,	
Mr. Morgan,	
Mr. Ball,	
Mr. McMillan,	
Mr. Carruthers,	
Mr. Lee,	
Mr. Cook,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	
Mr. Harris,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Whereupon Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Wilcannia, Mr. Sleath, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The alleged dummying of homestead leases situated in the Wilcannia district."

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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7. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Twenty-sixth Report from the Printing Committee.

8. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—

(1.) *Railway from Warren to Coonamble*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Warren to Coonamble.

Debate ensued.

Question put:—

The House divided.

Ayes, 64.

Mr. Reid,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Russell Jones,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Neild,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Millen,	Mr. T. R. Smith,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Parkes,	Mr. See,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Greene,	Mr. P. Clarke,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. Price.
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Black,	
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Law,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Simeon Phillips.

Noes, 11.

Mr. Goodwin,
Mr. McElhone,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. James Thomson.

Tellers,

Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Griffith.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(2.) *Railway from Koorawatha to Grenfell*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Koorawatha to Grenfell.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

(3.) *Railway from Woolabra to Collarendabri*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Woolabra to Collarendabri.

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 10 DECEMBER, 1897, A.M.

Question put and passed.

(4.) *Railway from Maitland to Taree*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Maitland to Taree.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 50.

Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Black,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Russell Jones,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Greene,	Mr. Price.
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. See,	Mr. Newman,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Edden.
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Hughes,	
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Bavister,	

Noes, 16.

Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Dacey.

Tellers,

Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Willis.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(5.) *Railway from the Terminus of the Rose Hill Railway to Dural*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a railway from the terminus of the Rose Hill railway to Dural.

Debate ensued.

Point of Order.—Mr. O'Reilly submitted that in moving the reference the Minister had not complied with the requirements of the Public Works Act.

Mr. Speaker decided that the Act referred to had been complied with.

Debate

9th December, 1897.

Debate continued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 36.

Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Price,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Watson.
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. Mahony,	

Noes, 32.

Mr. Sec,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Robert Jones.
Mr. Millen,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Moore.
Mr. Willis,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. Thomas,	
Mr. Ball,	
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

- (6.) *Harbour Works at Tweed River*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing harbour works at Tweed River.

Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 43.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Black,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Carroll.
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Millen,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Price,	Mr. Alexander Campbell.
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Russell Jones,	
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Bavister,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Cann,	

Noes, 14.

Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Robert Jones.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Waddell.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

- (7.) *Harbour Works at Bellinger River*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing harbour works at Bellinger River.

Mr. Sleath moved, pursuant to Standing Order 142, That the Honorable Member for The Manning, Mr. Young, be not further heard.

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

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

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Sleath, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Edden, Mr. Waddell, and Mr. Affleck.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Perry moved, pursuant to Standing Order 142, That the Honorable Member for Wilcannia, Mr. Sleath, be not further heard.

Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 27.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Cruickshank.
Mr. Cook,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Frank Farnell.
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Howarth,	

Noes, 28.

Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Price,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Millen,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Edden,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Hughes.
Mr. Watkins,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Macdonald.
Mr. Wheeler,	

And so it passed in the negative.

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

9th December, 1897.

Mr. Edden moved, pursuant to Standing Order 142, That the Honorable Member for The Manning, Mr. Young, be not further heard.

Question put and passed.

Original Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 39.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Black,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Russell Jones,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Watson.
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Egan,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Millen,	
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Nicholson,	

Noes, 12.

Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Robert Jones,
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Cann.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(8.) *Harbour Works at Nambuccra River* :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing harbour works at Nambuccra River.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 41.

Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Black,	Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Millen,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Howarth.
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Waddell,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. Molesworth.
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Price,	
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Law,	
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Carroll,	

Noes, 12.

Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. McGowen.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Thomas.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(9.) *Harbour Works at Macleay River* :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing harbour works at Macleay River.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 40.

Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Jessop,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Hughes.
Mr. Bavister,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Perry.
Mr. Cotton,	

Noes, 14.

Mr. Price,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Robert Jones.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Ball.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(10.) *Harbour Works at Hastings River* :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing harbour works at Hastings River.

Debate ensued.

Question.

9th December, 1897.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 41.

Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Russell Jones.
Mr. Black,	Mr. Watson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Simeon Phillips.
Mr. Reid,	Mr. F. Clarke,	
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Millen,	
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Nicholson,	

Noes, 14.

Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Price.

Tellers,

Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Moore.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(11.) *Harbour Works at Manning River*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing harbour works at Manning River.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 45.

Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Newman,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Edden,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Millard.
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Millen,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Molesworth.
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Rigg,	
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Watkins,	

Noes, 11.

Mr. Ball,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Robert Jones.

Tellers,

Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Wheeler.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(12.) *Weirs on the River Darling, between Bourke and Wilcannia*:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing weirs on the river Darling between Bourke and Wilcannia.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Perry moved, pursuant to Standing Order 142, That the Honorable Member for The Manning, Mr. Young, be not further heard.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 32.

Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Edden,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Robert Jones.
Mr. Kelly,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Law.
Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. Fegan,	
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	
Mr. Mahony,	
Mr. Anderson,	
Mr. Affleck,	

Noes, 18.

Mr. Carroll,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Newman,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Price,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Sleath,

Tellers,

Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Ball.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original Question put,—and Division called for,—but there not being Tellers on the part of the Noes, no division could be had, and Mr. Speaker declared the Question to have been resolved in the affirmative.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

9th December, 1897.

9. REAL PROPERTY (CROWN LANDS) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.

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

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council, in the 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.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 10th December, 1897, a.m.

10. VEGETATION DISEASES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.

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

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act 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.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 10th December, 1897, a.m.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at Six o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.



PROCLAMATION

NEW SOUTH WALES, }
 to wit. }
 (L.S.) }
 FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor. } By His Excellency The Honourable Sir FREDERICK MATTHEW DARLEY,
 Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and
 Saint George, Lieutenant-Governor of the Colony of New South Wales and its
 Dependencies.

WHEREAS by the Bill passed by the Governor and Legislative Council of New South Wales, in the seventeenth year of the reign of Her Majesty the Queen, intituled "An Act to confer a Constitution on New South Wales and to grant a Civil List to Her Majesty," and assented to by Her Majesty, under the authority of the Act of the Imperial Parliament, passed in the Session of the eighteenth and nineteenth years of the said reign, intituled "An Act to enable Her Majesty to assent to a Bill as amended of the Legislature of New South Wales to confer a Constitution on New South Wales and to grant a Civil List to Her Majesty," it was amongst other things enacted that it should be lawful for the Governor of New South Wales to prorogue the Legislative Council and Assembly thereof from time to time: And whereas it is expedient to prorogue the said Council and Assembly: Now, therefore, I, Sir FREDERICK MATTHEW DARLEY, the Lieutenant-Governor aforesaid, in pursuance of the power and authority so vested in me, do hereby prorogue the said Legislative Council and Assembly until Friday, the twenty-first day of January next, and the same stand so prorogued accordingly.

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

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

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

1897.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

BUSINESS UNDISPOSED OF AT THE CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

(PROROGUED, 10TH DECEMBER, 1897).

QUESTIONS:—

1. MR. SCHEY *to ask* THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,—
 - (1.) What power or authority can the Naval authorities exercise over the waters adjacent to Garden Island?
 - (2.) Under what legal authority do such Naval authorities prohibit the citizens of Sydney from fishing in such adjacent waters?
 - (3.) Have such Naval authorities any legal power to order our citizens to remove from any portion of such adjacent waters?
 - (4.) If so, over what portion of such waters have the Naval authorities jurisdiction; to what extent, and under what Act of Parliament?
2. DR. ROSS *to ask* THE SECRETARY FOR MINES,—In view of the Answer to the Question of Dr. Ross on 18th November, touching the number of cattle that have been inoculated for pleuro-pneumonia, viz., 3,000,000, will he state first,—
 - (1.) The number, or approximate number, that died from the effects of inoculation?
 - (2.) The number, or approximate number, that recovered from the effects of inoculation, with or without the loss of the tail or part of the tail?
 - (3.) What was the result of inoculation, and did it affect or suppress the disease in any way; or in any district in the Colony was the result of inoculation a failure?
 - (4.) Can he state approximately the number of cattle at present suffering from pleuro-pneumonia in the Colony, or the percentage of the same so affected?
 - (5.) Has the disease increased or diminished since cattle were inoculated?
 - (6.) Is the disease at present in existence to any great extent in the Colony; and what is the percentage of healthy from infected cattle?
 - (7.) Has inoculation for pleuro-pneumonia had anything to do of late years in increasing the prevalence of tuberculosis amongst cattle?
3. MR. O'SULLIVAN *to ask* THE SECRETARY FOR MINES,—
 - (1.) What is the cause of the delay over the Captain's Flat water supply scheme?
 - (2.) Has any change been made with regard to the plans for the same?
 - (3.) What is the probable cost of the new proposal?
 - (4.) Does he intend to carry out the first or the second proposal?
 - (5.) Will he take into consideration the fact that there is an outbreak of typhoid fever at Captain's Flat, and give imperative orders to have this water supply scheme carried out?
4. MR. GRIFFITH *to ask* THE SECRETARY FOR MINES,—
 - (1.) Is it a fact that on 20th October he issued a minute, for the guidance of the Warden at Orange, to the effect that the application of the Wentworth Proprietary Gold-mining Company for suspension of labour conditions ought not to be adjudicated upon by him?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the Warden was informed that the said minute was issued in conformity with the opinion of the Crown Solicitor?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that the Warden ignored this minute, and insisted on dealing with the aforesaid application?
 - (4.) Is the said Warden, notwithstanding his action in this matter, still in the Public Service of the Colony?
5. DR. ROSS *to ask* THE SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS,—In view of the Answer furnished to Mr. Lyne's Questions of the 7th December, 1897, relating to the supply of water free of charge by the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board to a long list of Hospitals and Charitable Institutions in Sydney and suburbs, will he see,—
 - (1.) That some provision or similar liberal concession is granted to Hospitals and Charitable Institutions in country districts, in a shape of a free water supply at the public expense?
 - (2.) Are there any just reasons why Hospitals and Charitable Institutions should be treated more liberally in a free water supply than similar institutions in country districts?
 - (3.) Will he see that steps are taken to have all such institutions placed on an equality as far as a free water supply is concerned?

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—ORDERS OF THE DAY:—

1. Country Towns Water and Sewerage Bill (No. 2); second reading.
2. Strathfield Railway Crossing Bill; second reading.
3. Friendly Societies Bill; second reading.
4. Crown Lands Consolidation Bill; second reading.
5. Coal Mines Regulation Act Further Amendment Bill; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, "That this Bill be now read a second time."

6. Liquor Traffic Local Option Bill ; reception of resolution from Committee of the Whole.
7. Fisheries Bill ; to be further considered in Committee.
8. Supply ; resumption of the Committee.
9. Ways and Means ; resumption of the Committee.
10. Boilers Inspection Bill ; second reading.
11. Tonnage Rates Bill ; second reading.
12. Truck Bill ; second reading.
13. Forests and Quarries Bill ; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate State Forests and Timber Reserves ; to provide for the granting of licenses in respect of timber, trees, bark, gums, stone, and other materials and things on State Forests and Timber Reserves ; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
14. Nullum Tempus Act Declaratory Bill ; second reading.
15. Noxious Weeds Bill ; second reading.
16. Rabbit Bill ; second reading.
17. Sheep Directors Election Bill ; second reading.
18. Stamp Duties Bill (*Council Bill*) ; second reading.
19. Cattle Driving Bill (*Council Bill*) ; second reading.
20. Wills, Probate, and Administration Bill (*Council Bill*) ; second reading.

GENERAL BUSINESS—NOTICES OF MOTIONS:—

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. MR. O'SULLIVAN to move, That, in the opinion of this House, all conditional purchasers in the Eastern Division should have the right to a reappraisal of their land upon application ; and that in all cases where holders of land under the 1861 Act, who have paid the 9d. per acre for a period sufficiently long to have caused them to have paid the same amount that conditional purchases would pay in full, should have their holdings converted into freeholds.
4. 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.
5. MR. CANN to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should take immediate steps for the establishment of a boot and clothing factory in which to make all boots and uniforms supplied by the Government.
6. MR. WADDELL to move,—
 - (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should introduce legislation to fix a minimum rate of wages in connection with mining for gold, silver, copper, or other metals.
 - (2.) Also limiting the hours of labour to eight hours per day, and providing that when men are working underground their time shall be reckoned from leaving the surface till their return to the surface of the ground.
 - (3.) That the above resolutions be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor."
7. MR. NEILD to move,—
 - (1.) That the Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation Act Further Amendment Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
 - (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Ashton, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Archibald Campbell, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Affleck, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Hawthorne, and the Mover.
8. MR. NEILD to move, That the prayer of the Petition of Captain Comte de Rossi, presented on the 23rd November, instant, that he be heard by counsel at the Bar of this Honorable House, be granted.
9. MR. SCHRY to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the manufacture of iron in this country should be encouraged,—
 - (1.) By the offer of a bonus of 10s. per ton for the first 100,000 tons of pig-iron or steel ingots manufactured in New South Wales from native ores with native fuel and flux.
 - (2.) By the offer of a further bonus of 10s. per ton for the first 100,000 tons of merchant iron (plates, angles, bars, &c.) manufactured in New South Wales from locally-produced pig-iron or steel ingots as aforesaid.
 - (3.) By the Government using such material as may be so produced in all Government works where iron or steel is required, and similarly specifying for use of same in all Government contracts, provided always that such materials or any of them shall be able to comply with such tests as are applied to similar materials when supplied for Government works.

10. MR. SCHEY to move, That it be an instruction to the Standing Orders Committee to frame a Standing or Sessional Order for the purpose of enabling the House to give leave for the printing in *Hansard* of the written statement of a Member who may desire not to address the House orally, securing to him the right of speech if such leave is refused, and providing for the elimination of any matter from a written statement that is inadmissible in debate in the opinion of the Speaker.
11. MR. SCHEY to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, a bonus of 10s. per ton should be offered for 200,000 tons of steel rails, with fastenings, on condition that the same be locally-manufactured from locally-found raw materials; such rails to be used upon the Government railways, or any extension thereof, and to be supplied at the rate of 40,000 tons per year for a period of five consecutive years.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
12. MR. SCHEY to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the truth or otherwise of the reflections upon the Administration and the Labour Party, contained in a letter signed "B. R. Wise," and appearing in the *Daily Telegraph* of Tuesday, 27th July, 1897.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Lyne, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Neild, Mr. Crick, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Storey, Mr. Watkins, and the Mover.
13. MR. SCHEY to move, That the Referendum Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during a former 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.
14. MR. SCHEY to move,—That the Debate on the Motion :—
 "(1.) That, 'in view of the terrible poverty and bitter distress at present and for some time past existing through the compulsory idleness of a large portion of our fellow citizens, the Government should at once appoint a Royal Commission' for the purpose of making inquiry into and reporting upon the various methods in vogue among different nations of dealing with the unemployed, pauper, and tramp classes of their several communities, and thereafter to make recommendations to the Government as to the most suitable means in their opinion of alleviating the present deplorable distress among the industrial classes, and preventing its future recurrence.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor."
 Upon which Mr. Garrard had moved, "That the Question be amended by leaving out of paragraph (1) the words 'in view of the terrible poverty and bitter distress at present and for some time past existing through the compulsory idleness of a large portion of our fellow citizens, the Government should at once appoint a Royal Commission,' and inserting the words 'a Select Committee be appointed' instead thereof,"—which lapsed by the House being counted out on Wednesday, 16th June, 1897, a.m., be restored to the Paper, and stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday, 9th December next.
15. MR. SCHEY to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The number of persons outside the Public Service who have been employed by Ministers since July, 1894, to draft Government Bills.
 (2.) The amount of money paid to such persons during that period.
 (3.) The names of the recipients of such moneys, and their respective amounts.
 (4.) The section of the Public Service Act under which drafting work is given to private draftsmen.
16. MR. SCHEY to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The amounts appropriated for Public Works in the Manning Electorate during the last three years.
 (2.) The amounts actually expended on such works during the same period.
 (3.) The amounts spent on works during the same period without or in advance of appropriations.
17. MR. SCHEY to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—(a) The names of the 693 persons retired from the Civil Service, as per return of appointments laid upon the Table early last year; (b) the amounts paid or to be paid to each of such persons on retirement, distinguishing in each case between pensions and gratuities; (c) the amount of leave of absence and holidays granted to each of such persons at or just prior to retirement, showing in each case whether such leave was on quarter, half, or full pay, and the rate of salary in each case.
18. MR. SCHEY to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) All persons temporarily employed in any Department of the State service during the three years ended on 30th June, 1897, excluding those sent to relief works through the Labour Bureau, but including all gangers and inspectors on relief and other works.
 (2.) The dates of their appointments.
 (3.) Their respective rates of pay.
 (4.) Whether still employed or no.
 (5.) The reasons of their several appointments.
19. MR. SCHEY to move, 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 prohibit the employment of Asiatics, and for other purposes connected therewith.
20. MR. SCHEY to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to stimulate and encourage thrift and self-help, with a view of making competent provision for old age, and for other purposes connected therewith.
21. MR. E. M. CLARK to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing (a) the names of persons fined for racecourse betting; (b) the amounts of fines inflicted in each case, together with the total amount of same; (c) the names of those who have paid fines; (d) the amount of arrears of fines; (e) the names of those who have been imprisoned for non-payment of fines.

22. MR. SCHEY to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the social condition of the working classes of Sydney and suburbs, more especially in respect of the three following heads of inquiry:—(a) The number of mechanics and labourers respectively who may be wholly or partially out of employment, the period during which such want of employment has been experienced, and the alleged causes thereof; (b) the course of wages in different trades and callings during the period of the last three years, and the rates obtained at the present time; (c) the existence and extent of juvenile vagrancy in the public streets, classifying, as far as may be practicable, any such returns as to age, sex, parentage, education, and place of birth.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Lyne, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Watson, Mr. Moore, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Watkins, and the Mover.
23. MR. NEILD to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all letters and other papers which have passed between the Honorable the Premier and the Minister of Justice and Captain the Comte de Rossi since the 1st July, 1896, to date, relating to the claim preferred by the last-named gentleman against the Government.
24. MR. THOMAS BROWN to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, in order to develop the agricultural and other productive resources of the interior, and for the purpose of rendering more suitable for closer settlement the large areas of Crown lands in the wheat-growing districts of the Central Division which will become available on the early termination of the pastoral leases, it is desirable that light or "pioneer" lines of railways should be constructed into those districts where these purposes can be served thereby.
 (2.) That, for the purpose of preserving the commercial basis of railway management, and securing the early construction of these lines, a portion of the increased land revenue arising from the construction of these lines shall be credited to the Railway Commissioners; the moneys so credited shall be the difference between traffic earnings and cost of maintenance, &c., and shall cease to be so credited when earnings are sufficient to meet this cost.
 (3.) That the above resolutions be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
25. MR. THOMAS BROWN to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The names of holdings in the Central Division on which applications have been received for scrub leases under the 35th section of the 1889 Land Act, and the areas embraced in such applications.
 (2.) The holdings and areas embraced in the applications refused.
 (3.) The holdings and areas in which a decision has not yet been arrived at.
 (4.) The holdings and areas in which applications have been approved; also the terms and conditions attached to each such approved application.
26. MR. SCHEY to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all correspondence which has passed between the Colonial Secretary's Department and the Rookwood Borough Council; also any which has passed between the same Department and Mr. John Groves, with reference to Mr. Groves' duties, &c., as auditor to such borough.
27. MR. THOMAS BROWN to move, That, in the opinion of this House, no general policy of converting the lands held under pastoral lease in the Central Division into scrub leases under section 35 of 1889 Land Act should be approved and given effect to until this House has been invited to consider the holdings so dealt with, and the terms and conditions under which such leases are to be held, as was done in the West Bogan scheme.
28. MR. NEILD to move, That, in the opinion of this House, a sum equal to 5s. in the £ of rates collected during the current Municipal year should be placed upon the Supplementary Estimates in aid of the Municipalities of the Colony.
29. 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.
30. 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.
31. 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.
32. MR. E. M. CLARK to move, That this House does not assent to the proposals set forth in *Gazette* notice, dated 6th October, 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.
33. MR. McLAUGHLIN to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report up the claim of John McCabe for compensation in respect of a road taken by the Government through his land, in the parish of Cooroobongatti, county of Dudley, Summer Island, Macleay River.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Ashton, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Price, Mr. Edden, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. McFarlane, and the Mover.
34. 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.
35. MR. T. R. SMITH to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) The number of bags of flour imported into this Colony from 1st October, 1896, to 1st October, 1897.
 - (2.) The number of bags of wheat, oats, barley, peas, maize, and all kinds of other seeds.
 - (3.) The number of bags of potatoes, onions, chaff in bags or bales, bales of hay, straw, &c.
 - (4.) The value of the above imports.
 - (5.) The quantity of jam, fruit, vegetables, butter, cheese, bacon, hams, eggs, bran, pollard, and sugar; also the value of these articles.
36. 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 county of Cumberland 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.
 - (5.) The amount the other Public School teachers in the county of Cumberland are rated at in comparison to the Penrith and St. Mary's teachers' residences.
37. 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.
38. MR. SLEATH to move, That, in the opinion of this House, no renewal of the mineral leases at Broken Hill be granted until terms and conditions of such renewal be approved of by Parliament.
39. MR. CANN to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) What number of mineral leases there are in the Colony; and what number of men should be employed to comply with labour conditions on the same.
 - (2.) What number of those leases are under suspension of labour conditions; and what number of men should be employed to fulfil labour conditions on those leases.
 - (3.) What number of leases are idle without suspension of labour conditions; and what number of men should be employed on such leases if they were worked.
 - (4.) What number of leases employ more labour than required by the conditions of leases; and what number of men are employed in excess of the requirements of such leases.
40. 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.
41. 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.
42. MR. WILKS to move,—
- (1.) That the Mort's Dock and Engineering Company (Limited) Enabling Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
 - (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Ashton, Mr. Parkes, Mr. Hurley, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Bavister, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Whiddon, Mr. Law, and the Mover.

43. MR. FEGAN to move, That, in consideration of the present Government being returned chiefly on the issue of Upper House reform, steps should be taken at the most favourable opportunity to give effect to their electioneering pledges in this respect.
44. 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. Anderson, Mr. Cann, Mr. O'Reilly, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Bavister, Mr. James Thomson, Mr. Kelly, and the Mover.
45. MR. CHANTER to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, a line of railway from Jerilderie to Deniliquin should be constructed with the least possible delay.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
46. MR. CHANTER to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the Deniliquin and Moama Railway should be purchased by the Government to form part of the State Railways.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
47. MR. PRICE to move, That, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that the first section of the North Coast Railway from the Manning River to the Main Northern Line should be immediately submitted to the Public Works Committee for consideration and report.
48. 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.
49. 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.
50. 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.
51. 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.
52. 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.
53. MR. PRICE to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers relating to the improvement leases granted Mr. Withers and party in the vicinity of Jervis Bay.
54. MR. PRICE to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should take action in connection with the following statements made by Mr. Arthur Griffith, M.P. for Waratah, and reported in *Hansard*, page 1947, viz.—“I know it is absolutely true that a number of large landowners in a country district met before the appointments were made. They asked one of their own members, a stock and station agent, to tender for the job of land-valuing in that district, to get it at any price, and they would make up the difference to him. I know that is true, and I wish very much I were in a position to disclose the particulars. I mention this merely to show how the system of tendering was carried out. What sort of a valuation would a man under these conditions put on the squattages of men who are helping to pay him? It amounts to nothing less than a conspiracy”—with a view of instituting proceedings against the parties to such conspiracy.
 (2.) That the Honorable Member for Waratah, Mr. A. Griffith, M.P., be requested to state the names of the persons guilty of such conspiracy to defraud the revenue; and that, in the event of the Honorable Member for Waratah declining to name the persons implicated, the Crown Law Officers be instructed to take proceedings against the Honorable Member for Waratah.
55. MR. ALEXANDER CAMPBELL to move, That the report from the Select Committee on “Claim of James and Patrick Guihen, of Kangaroo Valley,” brought up on the 19th October, 1897, be now adopted.
56. MR. NEILD to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the action of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in drawing up, printing, and circulating amongst the members of such Committee, a Draft Report approving of the Hyde Park Railway scheme, before the said Committee had concluded the taking of evidence, or had come to any decision thereon, is worthy of censure.
 (2.) That the action of the said Committee in discussing their said report with closed doors is a serious breach of section 7 of the Public Works Act of 1888.
57. MR. ANDERSON to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of Robert Theophilus Henderson against the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board for the destruction of a well and reservoir.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Fegan, Mr. McLean, Mr. Lonsdale, Mr. Lee, Mr. Rigg, and the Mover.

58. **MR. WILLIS** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the best methods of obtaining and utilising the artesian waters of the Colony.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carroll, Mr. T. R. Smith, Mr. Hassall, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Collins, Mr. Edden, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Robert Jones, Mr. Waddell, and the Mover.
59. **MR. SIMEON PHILLIPS** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the resumption by the Lands Department of the land at Dubbo originally granted as a site for building a Mechanics Institute.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Harris, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Howarth, Mr. McLean, Mr. Wood, and the Mover.
60. **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.
61. **MR. THOMAS** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, all minerals should be the property of the State, and no one should have the right to mine or search for minerals in any lands of the Colony, public or private, unless under a permit from the Government; but this shall not apply to any mines that are now being worked, or any leases that have already been granted by private landlords to mining companies.
62. **MR. MCGOWEN** to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The names of all employees who have been appointed in the Public Works Department since 1894, whether professional or clerical, temporary or permanent, whose names do not appear on the Public Service List, and whose salaries or wages are not included in the ordinary salaries Vote.
 (2.) The salary and allowance being paid to each, and the Vote to which charged; also the particular branch of the Department under which each man serves, where located, and the capacity, whether as Divisional, District, or Supervising Engineer, Clerk of Works, Surveyor, Surveyor's Assistant, Draftsman, Clerk, Inspector, Timekeeper, Overseer, Roads Superintendent, Road Superintendent's Assistant or Clerk; also casual employees performing the duties appertaining to any of the above offices.
63. **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.
64. **MR. HAYNES** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the claims of Robert Roberts, for work and labour done and material supplied to the Department of the Registrar-General.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Affleck, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Ball, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Edden, Mr. Waddell, and the Mover.
65. **MR. PYERS** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of John Brennan against the Roads Department on contracts 21v and 57v, Casino district.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Hassall, Mr. Harris, Mr. Hurley, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. Watson, Mr. Kelly, and the Mover.
 (3.) That the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence of the Select Committee of Session 1896 be referred to such Committee.
66. **MR. GRIFFITH** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, it is necessary in the interest of public safety that a Public Defender, to act in capital cases, be appointed, with all the legal and police machinery at his disposal that are now possessed by the Crown Prosecutor.
67. **MR. MCLEAN** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of John Sullivan for compensation through loss of employment in the Harbours and Rivers Department.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Wright, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Rigg, Mr. Price, and the Mover.
68. **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.
69. **MR. E. M. CLARK** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon a certain claim made by Mr. James Fitzgerald against the Department of Public Works.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Howarth, Mr. Bavister, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Affleck, Mr. Robert Jones, Mr. Edden, and the Mover.
70. **MR. MCGOWEN** to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all reports, minutes, and other documents relating to the dismissal, in August, 1896, of Charles Williams from his position as conductor in the Tramway Service.
71. **MR. KELLY** to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, a Royal Commission should be appointed to inquire into and report upon the system by which persons convicted and sentenced are released before the expiration of the term of such sentence.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.

72. **MR. DACEY** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the charges of maladministration preferred against the Commissioners of Fisheries of New South Wales by the Royal Commission on Fisheries in a report dated 14th June, 1895.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Chanter, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Smailes, Mr. Nelson, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Wood, and the Mover.
73. **MR. HAYNES** to move,—
 (1.) That this House declares its unswerving allegiance to the principle of absolute and effective self-government for the people of New South Wales.
 (2.) That, nevertheless, it considers that there are matters of continental interest in which the several Colonies have mutual inseparable concern, and which may be best dealt with by joint action on their part.
 (3.) That this House regards the present Federal Council as a means to that end, and suggests to the Government the taking of steps to have New South Wales represented forthwith on the said Federal Council.
74. **MR. HAYNES** to move, That the Capital Punishment Abolition Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
75. **MR. HAYNES** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the circumstances of the acceptance by the Tender Board of the tender of one R. J. Houston for the supply of linen drapery for the Public Service; as also with respect to the acceptance of the tenders for the supply of diagonal tweed and grey woollens, and other contracts.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Robert Jones, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Wood, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Bruncker, and the Mover.
76. **MR. MOORE** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, greater care should be exercised to prevent the alienation of auriferous and other mineral lands.
77. **MR. THOMAS** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should establish a system of technical education, of a nature suitable to the interests of the locality, in all centres of population of 1,000 inhabitants within a radius of 3 miles, and make it compulsory on the part of the children, except those rendered specially exempt by regulation of the Minister, to attend at least two nights a week from the age of 14 to 16 years.
78. **MR. LEVIEN** to move, That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide for the refund of the purchase money of any animal or carcass sold by auction and condemned under the Diseased Animals and Meat Act of 1892, and the return of the animal or carcass to the auctioneer.
79. **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. Gormly, Mr. Edden, Mr. Hurley, Mr. M. T. Phillips, and the Mover.
80. **MR. WADDELL** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should reintroduce the Lands for Closer Settlement Bill, with a view to having it passed into law at as early a date as practicable.
81. **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.
82. **MR. O'SULLIVAN** to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, documents, &c., in connection with a concession to a company of timber-getters and intending wharf-owners at Huskisson, Jervis Bay.
83. **MR. BALL** to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Municipalities Act of 1867, to enable Municipalities to raise their revenue from land values only, or from the capital value of land and improvements, leaving it optional with Municipalities to adopt either method.
84. **MR. WADDELL** to move, That, in the opinion of this House,—
 (1.) In view of the serious losses selectors, Crown tenants, and other settlers on the land have sustained through the disastrous drought, the Government should at once introduce legislation empowering them to advance money on loan at a low rate of interest (after careful inquiry into the merits of each application) to any settler on the land who has mortgaged his property, and is in need of assistance.
 (2.) The Government should immediately take the necessary steps to provide a fund for such purposes.
85. **MR. DICK** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the charges of political patronage and corruption in the Public Service, reported by the Press to have been made by Mr. Lyne, at Dubbo, on Friday, 30th July, 1897.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Bruncker, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Schey, Mr. Pyers, Mr. O'Reilly, Mr. Hughes, Mr. E. M. Clark, and the Mover.
86. **MR. CHAPMAN** to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Mining Act of 1874 by giving right of audience in Wardens' Courts and Mining Appeal Courts to agents.
87. **MR. CHAPMAN** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, legislation should be at once introduced providing for the reappraisal of conditional purchases, and the reduction of interest at present demanded from the selectors.

88. MR. CHAPMAN to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the retirement and subsequent resignation of Mr. M. J. Fitzpatrick from the Civil Service.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Levien, Mr. Bull, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Anderson, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Reymond, Mr. McLean, Mr. Rigg, Mr. Pyers, and the Mover.
89. MR. WADDELL to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the number of original conditional purchasers who are still in the possession of their holdings.
90. MR. J. C. L. FITZPATRICK to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the cost to the country, from first to last, of the proceedings taken against Frank Butler, in connection with the mountain murders.
91. MR. CHAPMAN to move, That, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable to impose a tax on all stock imported into New South Wales.
92. MR. ROSE to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The amount paid for valuing lands up to date for purposes of land taxation.
 (2.) Whether all the expenses incurred during the financial year 1896-97, in administering the Land and Income Taxes, have been duly debited to the said year.
93. MR. HURLEY to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the several homestead leases the subject matter of the recent equity suit, Hill v. Perrott.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Hayes, Mr. Cann, Mr. Moore, Mr. Schey, Mr. Crick, Mr. Affleck, and the Mover.
94. MR. LONSDALE to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of Alfred J. Hack, in connection with the refusal of the Mines Department to grant him a special lease under the Mining on Private Lands Act.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Bull, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Chapman, and the Mover.
95. MR. DICK to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the conditional purchase of Mrs. Ann Rouse, of 80 acres, in the parish of Kahibah, and the forfeiture of the same.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. O'Reilly, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Pyers, and the Mover.
 (3.) That the Reports, Minutes of Proceedings, and Evidence of the Select Committees of Sessions 1887-8 and 1891-2 respectively, together with all papers referred thereto, be referred to such Committee.
96. MR. MCGOWEN to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing all cases where drivers, firemen, guards, and acting guards have been on duty for twelve hours and over, from 1st July, 1895, to 30th June, 1896.
97. MR. HAWTHORNE to move, That, in the opinion of this House, in order to put a stop to the cattle and sheep driving nuisance through the suburbs of Burwood, Ashfield, Leichhardt, Petersham, Fivedock, Drummoyne, and Balmain, a line of railway should be constructed as speedily as possible from some point on the main line between Stanmore and Strathfield on to Glebe Island, so that all sheep and cattle intended for slaughter may be conveyed by rail from the sale-yards to the Abattoirs.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:—

1. Barristers and Solicitors Fees Bill; second reading.
2. Agricultural Holdings Bill; second reading.
3. Art Unions Amendment Bill; second reading.
4. Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Schey, "That this Bill be now read a second time."
5. City and North Sydney Railway Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
6. City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
7. Coal Mines Regulation (Amendment) Bill; second reading.
8. Women's Franchise Bill; second reading.
9. Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill; to be considered in Committee.
10. Small Debts Recovery Act Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
11. Lithgow Co-operative Coal Company Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
12. Sugar Industry in the North Coast Districts; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. McFarlane, "That, in the opinion of this House,—
 " (1.) It is expedient that a Royal Commission be appointed to inquire into and report upon the following:—(a) As to the possibilities of continuing the sugar industry in the North Coast Districts, and, if so, under what conditions; (b) as to the most satisfactory arrangements to be made for mutual advantage between the cane-planters and the manufacturers, with the view to continuing the industry; (c) as to the best methods of cultivating land for sugar crops, and the selection of suitable varieties of cane for producing the best and most reliable crops; (d) as to the terms upon which the cane-growers might, with the assistance of the Government, acquire the Colonial Sugar Refining Company's mills and plant; (e) as to whether it would be practicable or politic to introduce into these districts the system in practice in Queensland under the Sugar Works

- “ Works Guarantee Act; (*f*) as to the possibility, in the event of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company removing their mills and plant, of capitalists embarking in the erection of milling machinery in these districts; (*g*) as to the most profitable purpose to which lands in use for cane-growing may be put in the event of the sugar industry being abandoned, having in view a liberal employment of European labour and the securing of profitable markets for the productions raised; (*h*) and, generally, into all matters appertaining to the sugar industry, the relations of planter and manufacturer, and landlord and tenant, and to report, accompanied by recommendations, fully thereon.”
- “(2.) That the foregoing resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.”
13. Emu Gravel and Road-metal Company's Tramway Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.
 14. Native Flora Protection Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
 15. Reappraisal of Conditional Purchases and Conditional Leases; adjourned Debate on the motion of Mr. Waddell, “That, in the opinion of this House,—
 - “(1.) The right of reappraisal which has been given to conditional purchasers within special areas under clause 36 of the 1895 Land Act should be extended to all resident *bonâ fide* holders of ordinary conditional purchases.
 - “(2.) The provision contained in clause 35 of the 1895 Land Act for the redetermination of the rentals of conditional leases should be made immediately applicable.”
 16. Municipalities Franchise Extension Bill; second reading.
 17. Prisoners' Gaol Regulation Bill; second reading.
 18. Illegitimacy Disability Removal Bill; second reading.
 19. Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.
 20. Borough of Lithgow Validating Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
 21. Medical Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.
 22. Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; second reading.
 23. Municipalities Act of 1867 Amending Bill; second reading.
 24. Attachment of Wages Abolition Bill; second reading.
 25. Mudgee Show Ground Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
 26. Constitution Act Amendment Bill; second reading.
 27. Australasian Federation Enabling Act Amendment Bill (No. 2); second reading
 28. Amended Life Assurance Encouragement Bill; second reading.
 29. Government Contracts; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Griffith, “That, in the opinion of this House, the Government being now in a position to ascertain, ‘through its Factory Inspectors,’ the wages paid by the various local manufacturers, no future Government contract should be given to any firm which does not pay full union wages,”—
Upon which Mr. Rose had moved, that the Question be amended by leaving out the words “through its Factory Inspectors.”
 30. Claim of Mr. Theophilus Stephens; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Howarth, “That the Report from the Select Committee on the ‘Claim of Mr. Theophilus Stephens,’ brought up on 11th November, 1896, be now adopted.”
 31. Liens on Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill; second reading.
 32. Mining Laws Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
 33. Alienation of Crown Lands; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Ball, “That, in the opinion of this House, it is not desirable to encourage any further alienation of the Crown lands of this ‘Colony’; and, in view of the advantages and benefits likely to accrue to the settlers and the people generally from the liberal and equitable provisions of the 1895 Act, the Minister for Lands should make all Crown lands in future available only on the perpetual leasehold system, or settlement and improvement leases, as provided for in the 1895 Land Bill”—Upon which Mr. Affleck had moved, that the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word “Colony.”
 34. Ministerial Portfolios Reduction Bill; second reading.
 35. Supreme Court Appeals Practice Bill; second reading.
 36. Attorneys Costs Act of 1847 Amendment Bill; second reading.
 37. Homes Protection Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
 38. Eight Hours Bill; second reading.
 39. Public Service Act Amendment Bill; second reading.
 40. Grand Jury Bill; second reading.
 41. Educational Facilities Bill; second reading.

Legislative Assembly Office,
Sydney, 10th December, 1897.

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

1897.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

ATTENDANCES OF MEMBERS IN DIVISIONS AND COUNTS-OUT
DURING THE SESSION OF 1897.

	Divisions in the House.	Divisions in Committee.	Counts-out.	Total.
Abbott, The Hon. Sir Joseph Palmer, K.C.M.G. (<i>Speaker</i>)	.....	1	.....	1
Afleck, William, Esq.	101	72	8	181
Anderson, George, Esq.	91	83	1	178
Ashton, James, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>)	56	52	.....	108
Ball, Richard Thomas, Esq.	73	56	2	131
Barnes, John Frederick, Esq.	43	36	2	81
Bavister, Thomas, Esq.	86	71	1	158
Black, George, Esq.	69	56	.....	125
Brown, Herbert Harrington, Esq.	10	12	.....	22
Brown, Thomas, Esq.	70	73	5	148
Brunker, The Hon. James Nixon, Esq.	111	102	10	223
Bull, Charles, Esq.	39	18	.....	57
Campbell, Alexander, Esq.	58	45	1	104
Campbell, Archibald, Esq.	64	44	.....	108
Cann, John Henry, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>)	81	61	2	144
Carroll, James George, Esq.	93	64	2	159
Carruthers, The Hon. Joseph Hector, Esq.	42	46	.....	88
Chantor, John Moore, Esq.	54	50	.....	104
Chapman, Austin, Esq.	31	26	1	58
Clark, Edward Mann, Esq.	46	26	2	74
Clarke, Francis, Esq.	48	54	1	103
Clarke, Henry, Esq.	56	18	.....	74
Collins, Charles, Esq.	11	7	1	19
Cook, The Hon. Joseph, Esq.	94	91	5	190
Copeland, The Hon. Henry, Esq.	40	26	1	67
Cotton, Francis, Esq.	66	51	2	119
Crick, William Patrick, Esq.	21	9	1	31
Cruickshank, George Alexander, Esq.	44	34	.....	78
Dacey, John Rowland, Esq.	82	85	6	173
Davis, Thomas Martin, Esq.	18	21	1	40
Dick, William Thomas, Esq.	65	77	1	143
Edden, Alfred, Esq.	79	70	6	155
Ewing, Thomas Thomson, Esq.	28	26	.....	54
Farnell, Frank, Esq.	50	14	.....	64
Fegan, John Lionel, Esq.	76	69	3	148
Ferguson, William John, Esq.	74	75	2	151
FitzGerald, Robert George Dundas, Esq.	7	3	.....	10
Fitzpatrick, John Charles Lucas, Esq.	92	91	1	184
Fitzpatrick, Thomas, Esq.	41	41	3	85
Garrard, The Hon. Jacob, Esq.	95	65	7	167
Gillies, John, Esq.	25	35	1	61
Goodwin, Thomas Henry Hall, Esq.	11	21	.....	32
Gormly, James, Esq.	55	47	2	104
Gould, The Hon. Albert John, Esq.	98	79	4	181
Graham, James, Esq., M.D.	41	25	.....	66
Greene, George Henry, Esq.	19	20	2	41
Griffith, Arthur Hill, Esq.	56	78	7	141
Harris, Matthew, Esq.	59	29	1	89
Harvey, James Frederick, Esq.	15	18	.....	33
Hassall, Thomas Henry, Esq.	38	28	.....	66
Hawthorne, John Stuart, Esq.	115	95	1	211
Hayes, James, Esq.	27	30	.....	57
Haynes, John, Esq.	47	41	1	89
Hogue, James Alexander, Esq.	63	39	3	105
Hollis, Leslie Thomas, Esq., M.B., Ch.M.	5	.....	.....	5
Howarth, George, Esq.	60	32	.....	92
Hughes, William Morris, Esq.	61	42	2	105
Hurley, William Fergus, Esq.	81	70	.....	151
Jessep, Thomas	92	87	2	181
Jones, Llewellyn Charles Russell, Esq.	21	8	.....	29
Jones, Robert, Esq.	74	70	.....	144

	Divisions in the House.	Divisions in Committees.	Counts-out.	Total.
Jones, Travers, Esq.	56	45	2	103
Keily, Joseph Bede, Esq.	69	61	1	131
Knox, Adrian, Esq.	10	3	.....	13
Law, Sydney James, Esq.	84	50	2	136
Lee, Charles Alfred, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>)... ..	54	23	.....	77
Levien, Robert Henry, Esq.	17	6	.....	23
Lonsdale, Edmund, Esq.	54	90	1	145
Lyne, William John, Esq.	60	50	1	111
Macdonald, Hugh, Esq.	71	62	.....	133
Mackay, James Alexander Kenneth, Esq.	45	46	.....	91
Mahony, William Henry, Esq.	53	39	.....	92
McCourt, William, Esq. (<i>Chairman of Committees</i>)	59	.....	2	61
McElhone, John, Esq.	18	4	1	23
McFarlane, John, Esq.	53	50	1	104
McGowen, James Sinclair Taylor, Esq.	95	93	6	194
McLaughlin, John, Esq.	54	47	1	102
McLean, Francis Edward, Esq.	59	43	1	103
McMillan, William, Esq.	9	3	.....	12
Millard, William, Esq.	78	67	2	147
Millen, Edward Davis, Esq.	53	52	.....	105
Miller, Gustave Thomas Carlisle, Esq.	33	56	.....	89
Molesworth, Edmund William, Esq.	53	43	3	99
Moore, Samuel Wilkinson, Esq.	66	34	1	101
Morgan, William, Esq.	75	38	1	114
Morton, Philip Henry, Esq.	13	19	.....	32
Neild, John Cash, Esq.	60	63	3	126
Nelson, Arthur David, Esq.	60	21	2	83
Newman, Henry William, Esq.	37	25	.....	62
Nicholson, John Barnes, Esq.	77	69	1	147
O'Reilly, Dowell Phillip, Esq.	60	32	.....	92
O'Sullivan, Edward William, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>)	40	31	1	72
Parke, Varney, Esq.	33	13	.....	46
Perry, John, Esq.	80	64	1	145
Phillips, Michael Thomas, Esq.	17	4	1	22
Phillips, Simeon, Esq.	54	41	1	96
Piddington, Albert Bathurst, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>)	25	18	1	44
Piddington, William Henry Burgess, Esq.	28	31	1	60
Price, Richard Atkinson, Esq.	43	34	2	79
Pyers, Robert, Esq.	79	57	2	138
Reid, The Right Hon. George Houstoun, Esq.	60	50	.....	110
Reymond, Joseph Bernard, Esq.	24	11	1	36
Rigg, William, Esq.	73	55	.....	128
Rose, Thomas, Esq.	46	32	1	79
Ross, Andrew, Esq., M.D.	58	21	3	82
Schev, William Francis, Esq.	69	48	5	122
See, John, Esq.	37	22	.....	59
Steach, Richard, Esq.	75	70	3	148
Smailes, George Wells, Esq.	13	30	.....	43
Smith, The Hon. Sydney, Esq.	79	56	.....	135
Smith, Thomas Richard, Esq.	35	10	1	46
Storey, David, Esq.	10	11	.....	21
Thomas, Josiah, Esq.	87	84	3	174
Thomson, Dugald, Esq.	51	49	.....	100
Thomson, James, Esq.	51	51	.....	102
Waddell, Thomas, Esq.	53	43	1	97
Watkins, David, Esq.	58	67	4	129
Watson, John Christian, Esq.	104	77	5	186
Wheeler, Henry Charles, Esq.	87	80	2	169
Whiddon, Samuel Thomas, Esq.	39	29	.....	68
Wilks, William Henry, Esq.	83	66	4	153
Willis, William Nicholas, Esq.	40	41	3	84
Wood, William Herbert, Esq.	45	54	2	101
Wright, Francis Augustus, Esq.	39	29	.....	68
Young, The Hon. James Henry, Esq.	103	85	2	196

Legislative Assembly Office,
Sydney, 10 December, 1897.

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

15. **Sittings of the House:—**

Return of the number of days on which the House sat in the Session of 1897, stating, for each day, the date of the month and the day of the week, the hour of the meeting and the hour of adjournment, and the total number of hours occupied in the sittings of the House, and the average time; and showing the total number of hours on which the House sat each day, and the number of hours after midnight, and the number of entries in each day's Votes and Proceedings.

No.	Month.	Day.	House Met.	House Adjourned.	Hours of Sitting.		Entries in Votes.
					h. m.	h. m.	
1	27 April	Tuesday	12 noon	12.20 o'clock p.m.	0 20	...	6
			4 o'clock p.m.	10.29	6 29	...	
2	28 "	Wednesday	4 "	12.4 "	8 4	0 4	26
3	29 "	Thursday	4 "	10.28 "	6 28	...	15
4	4 May	Tuesday	4 "	10.33 "	6 33	...	18
5	5 "	Wednesday	4 "	10.49 "	6 49	...	8
6	6 "	Thursday	4 "	4.10 "	12 10	4 10	18
7	11 "	Tuesday	4 "	12.26 "	8 26	0 26	9
8	12 "	Wednesday	4 "	11.13 "	7 13	...	39
9	13 "	Thursday	4 "	10.41 "	6 41	...	23
10	18 "	Tuesday	4 "	7.9 "	3 9	...	8
11	19 "	Wednesday	4 "	11.3 "	7 3	...	12
12	20 "	Thursday	4 "	11.5 "	7 5	...	9
13	25 "	Tuesday	4 "	4.30 "	0 30	...	1
14	26 "	Wednesday	4 "	11.6 "	7 6	...	11
15	27 "	Thursday	4 "	12.15 "	8 15	0 15	13
16	1 June	Tuesday	4 "	12.15 "	8 15	0 15	8
17	2 "	Wednesday	4 "	11.11 "	7 11	...	12
18	3 "	Thursday	4 "	10.53 "	6 53	...	13
19	8 "	Tuesday	4 "	11.14 "	7 14	...	16
20	9 "	Wednesday	4 "	12.2 "	8 2	0 2	23
21	10 "	Thursday	4 "	11.15 "	7 15	...	15
22	15 "	Tuesday	4 "	1.6 "	9 6	1 6	6
23	16 "	Wednesday	4 "	12.5 "	8 5	0 5	10
24	17 "	Thursday	4 "	2.9 "	10 9	2 9	13
25	23 "	Wednesday	4 "	12.22 "	8 22	0 22	13
26	24 "	Thursday	4 "	8.40 "	16 40	8 40	16
27	29 "	Tuesday	4 "	1.54 "	9 54	1 54	6
28	30 "	Wednesday	4 "	2.31 "	10 31	2 31	14
29	1 July	Thursday	4 "	11.25 "	7 25	...	18
30	6 "	Tuesday	4 "	10.34 "	6 34	...	7
31	7 "	Wednesday	4 "	11.23 "	7 23	...	10
32	8 "	Thursday	4 "	1.36 "	9 36	1 36	17
33	13 "	Tuesday	4 "	11.20 "	7 20	...	15
34	14 "	Wednesday	4 "	5.50 "	13 50	5 50	9
35	15 "	Thursday	4 "	11.52 "	7 52	...	11
36	20 "	Tuesday	4 "	12 midnight	8 0	...	11
37	21 "	Wednesday	4 "	11.40 o'clock p.m.	7 40	...	16
38	22 "	Thursday	4 "	1.23 "	9 23	1 23	8
39	27 "	Tuesday	4 "	10 "	6 0	...	10
40	28 "	Wednesday	4 "	12.2 "	8 2	0 2	14
41	29 "	Thursday	4 "	3.45 "	11 45	3 45	16
42	3 August	Tuesday	4 "	10.31 "	6 31	...	8
43	4 "	Wednesday	4 "	11.6 "	7 6	...	11
44	5 "	Thursday	4 "	1.57 "	9 57	1 57	12
45	10 "	Tuesday	4 "	12.3 "	8 3	0 3	13
46	11 "	Wednesday	4 "	12.39 "	8 39	0 39	10
47	12 "	Thursday	4 "	12.55 "	8 55	0 55	10
48	17 "	Tuesday	4 "	12.55 "	8 55	0 55	8
49	18 "	Wednesday	4 "	3.32 "	11 32	3 32	14
50	19 "	Thursday	4 "	12.9 "	8 9	0 9	14
51	24 "	Tuesday	4 "	10.51 "	6 51	...	13
52	25 "	Wednesday	4 "	1.50 "	9 50	1 50	9
53	26 "	Thursday	4 "	1.22 "	9 22	1 22	14
54	5 October	Tuesday	4 "	10.48 "	6 48	...	6
55	6 "	Wednesday	4 "	10.43 "	6 43	...	13
56	7 "	Thursday	4 "	12.8 "	8 8	0 8	7
57	12 "	Tuesday	4 "	11.30 "	7 30	...	10
58	13 "	Wednesday	4 "	11.5 "	7 5	...	13
59	14 "	Thursday	4 "	1 "	9 0	1 0	16
60	19 "	Tuesday	4 "	11.24 "	7 24	...	11
61	20 "	Wednesday	4 "	11.40 "	7 40	...	12
62	21 "	Thursday	4 "	1.29 "	9 29	1 29	6
63	26 "	Tuesday	4 "	11.6 "	7 6	...	13
64	27 "	Wednesday	4 "	1.54 "	9 54	1 54	15
65	28 "	Thursday	4 "	4.31 "	0 31	...	1
66	2 November	Tuesday	4 "	10.49 "	6 49	...	4
67	3 "	Wednesday	4 "	3.41 "	11 41	3 41	3
68	4 "	Thursday	4 "	3.47 "	11 47	3 47	8
69	10 "	Wednesday	4 "	10.43 "	30 43	22 43	21
70	16 "	Tuesday	4 "	10.54 "	6 54	...	10
71	17 "	Wednesday	4 "	4.25 "	12 25	4 25	16
72	18 "	Thursday	4 "	11.4 "	31 4	23 4	12
73	23 "	Tuesday	4 "	11.10 "	7 10	...	14
74	24 "	Wednesday	4 "	1.40 "	9 40	1 40	16
75	25 "	Thursday	4 "	6.35 "	14 35	6 35	42
76	30 "	Tuesday	4 "	7.18 "	15 18	7 18	29
77	1 December	Wednesday	4 "	1.38 "	9 38	1 38	18
78	2 "	Thursday	4 "	10.8 "	18 8	10 8	22
79	7 "	Tuesday	4 "	10.4 "	6 40	...	20
80	8 "	Wednesday	4 "	8.8 "	11 8	3 8	18
81	9 "	Thursday	4 "	6.0 "	14 0	6 0	11
Total					740 36	144 35	1,066
Average length of sitting, daily, 9 hours 8½ minutes.							

Legislative Assembly Office,
Sydney, 10th December, 1897.

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