

is a certain amount of satisfaction in regard to the proposal to introduce legislation in connection with forestry, but here again I say that whatever legislation is introduced, it should be wisely considered before being presented to Parliament. Restrictions may be imposed upon the industry which will have a serious effect, not only on the industry itself but on the companies operating, restrictions which may also affect other departments of the State. I refer particularly to the Railway Department which in past years has derived, probably, the greater part of its revenue from the traffic supplied by the timber industry. If too great restrictions are placed upon it, the effect must be reactionary on the railways as well as other departments of the State. Then, in view of the large amount of capital which has been invested in the industry, every consideration should be extended to the companies which have suffered, owing to the depression, a most serious loss in capital and revenue. With regard to gold mining, I am pleased to observe that the Government have been seeking to do all that was possible for it, but I am more pleased to notice that the principle of self-help, to a certain extent, has made itself evident amongst the men who are engaged in it. The Mining Association, I noticed the other day, have made representations to the Imperial Government for the payment of a bonus of £1 per ounce. No industry has probably done more for Western Australia than gold mining, and the Government have done no more than they should have done, in the way of rendering help, and the application which has been made by the mining community for a bonus is nothing more than the industry is entitled to receive. It is desirable that the Government should support the mining industry in every way in that request. The fact is sometimes overlooked that gold is one of those metals the purchase price of which has never varied. For currency reasons, it has a standard value and the purchase price is £3 17s. 10½d. per ounce. I have often thought that the members of our arbitration court, when deciding on questions of wages, etc., have overlooked the important fact that it is impossible for the mining companies to get more than £3 17s. 10½d. per ounce for the gold. They are not like other businesses which can pass on the extra cost of production. The result has been that many of our low grade mines have closed down because of the extra expense and cost of working. The payment of the bonus of £1 per ounce may enable those mines which we here look upon as low grade to again start operations, and it will be a welcome thing to the mining community if the Imperial authorities can see their way to accede to the request for the payment of the bonus. With regard to agriculture, our farmers, amongst others, have suffered, and apparently they are experiencing additional hard times on account of the incursion of rabbits. It is for the Government to see that the pest is exterminated without further delay, and that every assistance is given to the farmers. I do not intend to enter on a discussion in connection with the question of wheat marketing, or with regard to the Grain Elevator Bill, which I see is to be reintroduced to Parliament. A Royal Commission is at pre-

sent investigating the question of wheat marketing and when their report is presented to Parliament, hon. members will be able to form a better idea as to the course that should be adopted. I still say, however, that whatever assistance can be given to the farmers should be given. I think I have dealt with most of the matters of importance referred to in the Speech and I will conclude by expressing the hope that before another year has passed we shall have attained a crowning victory and that there will be a speedy restoration to normal and successful conditions.

On motion by Hon. W. Kingsmill, debate adjourned.

House adjourned at 4.12 p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Thursday, 22nd August, 1918.

MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY.

The Legislative Assembly, met at 3 p.m., pursuant to proclamation by His Excellency the Governor, which proclamation was read by the Clerk (Mr. A. R. Grant).

The Speaker took the Chair.

SUMMONS FROM THE GOVERNOR.

The Speaker and hon. members, in response to summons, proceeded to the Legislative Council Chamber, and, having heard His Excellency deliver the opening Speech (vide Council report ante), they returned to the Assembly Chamber. The Speaker resumed the Chair.

MILITARY — VICTORIA CROSS RECIPIENTS.

The PREMIER (Hon. H. B. Lefroy—Moore) [3.35]: I have a motion which I will ask the House to agree to. In the early stages of the war the House placed on record an expression of its pleasure at the honour of the Victoria Cross having been conferred on Lieut. Hugo Throssell. Nearly two years ago the House again expressed its pleasure at the fact that Private O'Meara, of Collie, had also been awarded the Victoria Cross. Since we last met two other Soldiers of Western Australia who went forth to fight the battles of Empire have been awarded this distinguished recognition. There is, perhaps, nothing a Briton more covets than the Victoria Cross. Its simplicity appeals to us in the fact that it has no great intrinsic value; it is merely a little copper cross bearing the words "For valour." What greater honour could a man have than the honour attached to this award? I feel that

the House will desire to recognise the distinction accorded to these men in the same way as it recognised the distinction accorded to those other distinguished soldiers I have alluded to. The soldiers who more recently were awarded the Victoria Cross were Lieut. C. W. K. Sadlier and Lance-corporal Leslie Thomas Axford.

Mr. O'Loughlin: There was also Private Carroll.

The PREMIER: I think that was last year. Lieut. Sadlier enlisted from Subiaco, and Lance-corporal Axford, I believe, from Kalgoorlie. These distinguished soldiers were awarded the Victoria Cross for conspicuous gallantry. During an attack on a strong enemy position Lieut. Sadlier's platoon, which was on the left of the battalion, had to advance through a wood where there was a strong enemy machine-gun post, which caused casualties and prevented the platoon from making progress. Although Lieut. Sadlier was wounded, he collected his bombing section and led it against the machine gun post. It succeeded in killing the gun crews and capturing two guns. By this time all the members of Lieut. Sadlier's party had sustained casualties, and he attacked alone a third enemy machine-gun post. Using his revolver, he killed the crew of four, taking the gun. In doing so he was wounded again. The very gallant conduct of Lieut. Sadlier was the means of clearing the flank and allowing the battalion to move forward, saving thereby a very critical situation. The coolness of Lieut. Sadlier and his utter disregard of danger were inspiring to all. In the case of Lance-corporal Axford the War Office records that during the advance of a platoon which adjoined his, it was held up by uncut wires and machine guns, which inflicted many casualties. Lance-corporal Axford dashed to the flank, threw bombs among the machine gunners, and charged along the trench with the bayonet, killing ten and taking six prisoners. He threw the machine guns over the parapet and then rejoined his platoon. He continued to fight during the remainder of the operation. I am sure the House desires to express its pleasure at learning that this distinguished honour has been conferred on these men. Those who receive this honour are thereby singled out from their comrades, but I am sure we all feel there are many others who have performed similar acts of bravery which perhaps have not been recognised. The Australian soldier has shown during this great war that he is second to none where initiative is required and where dash is necessary for the repulsing of the enemy. At the same time we all recognise that the British soldier is still the great soldier he always was. I saw it handsomely recorded by a returned Australian soldier that in a rearguard action no soldier in the world could beat the British Tommy. I move—

(1) That the House desires to express its pleasure on learning that Lieut. C. W. K. Sadlier and Lance-corporal L. T. Axford have been awarded the high distinction of the Victoria Cross, and at the same time place upon record its great appreciation of their merit and gallantry. (2) That the foregoing resolution be forwarded by His

Honour the Speaker to Lieut. Sadlier and Lance-Corporal Axford and to the Colonels of their regiments.

Hon. P. COLLIER (Boulder) [3.43]: I have pleasure in seconding the motion. I join with the Premier in his expressions of pleasure and satisfaction that this distinction has been conferred on two more of the sons of Western Australia. Amid the gloom and tragedy of the war which has spread over the face of the globe during the last four years, there have continually flashed out deeds of sacrifice and heroism which have made the blood of the Britisher run a little warmer in his veins because of those magnificent deeds. As the Premier has said, undoubtedly it is true that innumerable acts of heroism and devotion have been enacted on the field without recognition, but when distinction is conferred on our men we are pleased to recognise it. I join with the Premier and other members in congratulating the soldiers mentioned in the motion, and I hope that they will live long to enjoy the esteem and admiration of the people of this State.

Question put and passed.

BILL—INTERPRETATION.

The PREMIER (Hon. H. B. Lefroy—Moore), by leave, without notice, by way of asserting privilege, introduced a Bill relating to the interpretation of Acts of Parliament, and for further shortening and interpreting the language used in Acts of Parliament.

Bill read a first time.

GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH.

Mr. SPEAKER: In company with hon. members of this Chamber, I attended His Excellency the Governor in the Legislative Council Chamber, where His Excellency was pleased to deliver a speech to both Houses of Parliament, copies of which speech I have had distributed amongst hon. members of this Chamber.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY.

First Day.

Mr. THOMSON (Katanning) [3.59]: I move the following Address-in-reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor:—

May it please Your Excellency, We, the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of the State of Western Australia in Parliament assembled, beg to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech you have been pleased to deliver to Parliament.

It affords me great pleasure to move a motion of this description, because the fact of our passing a resolution of loyalty to His Majesty the King gives assurance to the world that the Union Jack is still flying on top. During the four years I have been a member of this House, the black cloud of war has hung over it most depressingly; but, thank God! the noble qualities of men such as those mentioned in the

resolution passed at the instance of the Premier, men like Lieutenant Sadlier and Lance-corporal Axford, and others who fought, in the earlier stages of this war, against overwhelming odds and against the fiendish and hellish instruments of war which unfortunately the Germans have seen fit to introduce into this struggle, those noble qualities, I say, have kept the old flag flying. Our men to-day are putting up splendid records on the battle-fields of Europe, and with the assistance of Britain's Ally, the great American Republic, we can at last see a little ray of hope and can honestly believe that a change for the better is coming, and, indeed, we can look forward to ultimate victory. I have often wondered what it must have felt like to be a member of Parliament before the war, in those days when the State Treasurer was happy in the possession of an overflowing Treasury.

Hon. J. Mitchell: That was a long time ago.

Mr. THOMSON: True; but it must have been very pleasant for members of Parliament in pre-war times to ask the Treasurer and find it a case of "Ask and ye shall receive." I am sure the gentleman who holds the Treasury portfolio to-day must often envy that Treasurer his happy position, because the latter would have had a much easier task, especially when members came along with requests for little railways, and for special surveys such as notice has been given of to-day. When the member for Esperance, as I may christen the member for Kanowna, who is so keen on getting that railway for his district—

Hon. T. Walker: It has been so long promised and neglected.

Mr. THOMSON: The same is the case in my district, and my electors feel just as neglected as do those of the member for Esperance.

Mr. Pickering: And there are others.

Mr. THOMSON: As the member for Sussex interjects, there are others. Therefore, I say the Treasurer of to-day must envy that Treasurer who had the good fortune to administer the affairs of this State prior to Federation. In my opinion the financial set-back of Western Australia can be traced to the inauguration of Federation. Federation was brought in with great promises, such as cheap living, one people one destiny—

Hon. W. C. Angwin: Was not the financial set-back entirely due to the Labour party?

Mr. THOMSON: In view of that interjection, I may say I believe that the Labour party did have a little to do with the set-back.

Hon. W. C. Angwin: I thought the whole lot was due to the Labour party.

Mr. THOMSON: Unfortunately, as an effect of Federation, the few manufacturers we had in our State folded their tents and stole away in the night to the Eastern States. To-day Western Australia is practically the dumping ground of the Eastern States manufacturers. Let me take this opportunity of congratulating the Minister for Industries on the endeavours he has made to foster local industries. True, a few comments have been passed on his having introduced a new industry such as—

Member: Grindstones.

Mr. THOMSON: Grindstones have their use, if we are to judge by reports.

Hon. T. Walker: You ought to know the use of grindstones over there. You have plenty of axes to grind.

Mr. THOMSON: If one may judge by the Press, there is a certain section of this House, a section not yet discovered by us, that is very desirous of laying the axe to the root of the present Government and bringing it down. But it seems that the grindstones were not in good enough order, and that the axes were too blunt, because the felling of the tree has not come about. Let me specially congratulate the Minister for Industries on having initiated a ship-building scheme. Some have laughed at the hon. gentleman, but I hold that he is to be praised for the energy he has displayed in this connection; and I trust the ship-building industry will not be a temporary one here, but a permanent one. I also desire to congratulate the hon. gentleman on having assisted in getting use made of the despised clay which we have here. Tiles are now being manufactured in this State which compare favourably with those coming from across the sea, and that means of necessity more local employment. I am glad also that a laboratory is to be established in Western Australia in the interests of science. Such an institution will be of great assistance towards the utilisation of our natural resources. It is deplorable that in this State we have so few avenues for the employment of our rising generation. In the "West Australian" of only the day before yesterday there appeared a letter from Mr. Clydesdale, of South Perth, informing the people of Western Australia that for a minor position in the employ of the South Perth Municipal Council 112 youths made application. In yesterday's newspaper, over the signature of Mr. Angus McLeod, appears a letter pointing out that for a position in the service of the Fremantle Roads Board 130 girls applied. These facts speak for themselves, showing that it is time that we in Western Australia fostered our primary and secondary industries not only in our own immediate interests, but also in the interests of the rising generation. I appeal to all employers to try and foster local industries. I also wish to appeal to hon. members opposite to use their influence with the unions in the interests of our children to encourage every local industry, and with that end in view to relax some of the present hard and past rules regarding apprenticeship.

Mr. Munzie: The trouble is that we cannot get employers to take on apprentices in Western Australia.

Mr. THOMSON: The hon. member knows there are restrictions upon which the unions absolutely insist. I appeal to him in the interests of the sons of his fellow unionists at least to use his influence with a view to having the present restrictions made somewhat less hard.

Mr. Lutey: Where there are no unions, the employers pay girls 12s. per week.

Mr. Munzie: Where are the apprentices on the Perth General Post Office, the biggest building in the State? There is not one.

Mr. THOMSON: Hon. members interjecting know very well there are restrictions.

Mr. Holman: Tell us what objectionable restrictions there are. You do not know yourself. You do not know what you are talking about.

Mr. THOMSON: That is the kind of interjection which may always be looked for from the member for Murchison. As regards repatriation, I am indeed pleased to learn from His Excellency's Speech that—

The State Government are in hearty co-operation with the Repatriation Board, and are rendering every assistance in the provision of facilities for the vocational training of men incapacitated from following their previous callings.

Mr. Munsie: You should thank the Trades Hall for that. The Trades Hall initiated the scheme for the Government.

Mr. THOMSON: I am prepared to give every credit to the Trades Hall for having brought into existence anything that will assist our returned soldiers to become tradesmen. I am always prepared to give credit when it is due, even to the Trades Hall.

Hon. T. Walker: Even to the Trades Hall!

Mr. Jones: That is hard.

Mr. THOMSON: I reserve to myself the right, when the repatriation measure is before the House, to criticise. It is the right of a nationalist to criticise any Bill which the Government may bring forward and to vote according to his conscience.

Hon. P. Collier: I thought you were a Country party member. Nationalism does not stand for conscience. It is no use for a Nationalist to talk about conscience after last week.

Mr. THOMSON: In my opinion the leader of the Opposition should be absolutely the last man in the House to make a remark of that description. Were I desirous of retaliating—I am not—I could make the hon. member feel rather sorry that he interjected.

Hon. P. Collier: You cannot do anything of the kind. Go ahead.

Mr. THOMSON: As regards the question of land settlement, it must be extremely gratifying to the Country party and to members of the Ministry, and indeed to the entire country, that transactions in land settlement during the past year have been so flourishing. We have heard a great deal about land settlement, and it is gratifying to the department that over half a million acres have been taken up under conditional purchase during the last year, which is over 300,000 acres more than in the previous year. I take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the Premier, Mr. Lefoy, and the Honorary Minister, Mr. Willmott, in having taken upon themselves the responsibility of going down to the poison areas and seeing the conditions under which the people there are living. I have stated frequently, ever since I have been a member, that in my opinion it was criminal that some of the unfortunate settlers should be placed on the land under the conditions they are, particularly in the poison areas. As high as 17s. and even 25s. an acre has been charged for this land, and I personally feel we are under a deep debt of gratitude to the two gentlemen I have named for having inspected the land and seen the conditions under

which the people are living, and having decided to do justice to the people, justice that should have been done years ago. There is another matter I am rather sorry is not included in the Speech, and that is dealing with workers' homes.

Hon. P. Collier: Surely you do not want to lengthen that Speech.

Mr. THOMSON: We had brought into the House a Bill which gave those who had acquired leasehold land the right to convert into freehold if they desired. I contend those who have workers' homes are entitled to the same privilege of converting workers' homes into freehold if they so desire. I trust the Government will give that matter serious consideration. Ever since I have been a member of the House I have endeavoured to give constructive criticism, but I find it is somewhat difficult under present conditions to give criticism which is of a constructive character, to assist the Government. We have a section in the House very keenly desirous of bringing in violent and drastic retrenchment, who are desirous of bringing about actions which will create drastic retrenchment. As far as I am concerned no vote of mine will ever bring in any party which has for their policy violent and drastic retrenchment. I was unfortunate in having to live in Victoria when a policy of drastic and violent retrenchment was brought into existence, and some of the best citizens had to leave that country and go elsewhere so as to make a decent living.

Hon. W. C. Angwin: There will be no need to bring it in here, it will come in itself.

Mr. THOMSON: Let me say this, the gentleman and his party when in power to a great extent are responsible for the present unhappy financial position the State is in today.

Hon. T. Walker: You said Federation was responsible just now; use that common sense of yours.

Hon. P. Collier: I thought it was Federation you said.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. THOMSON: If members will interject I must give a reply, and I think the hon. member will admit when members opposite left the Treasury bench that they did not leave it overflowing. They certainly left a few P.Ns. which the present Government have got to meet.

Hon. P. Collier: A most incorrect statement. Name some of the P.Ns.

Hon. T. Walker: If we left P.Ns., there are peacocks over there.

Mr. THOMSON: I am sorry members of the other side are not prepared to take their just portion of the blame.

Mr. Munsie: Give us something new; let there be a limit to this kind of thing.

Mr. THOMSON: I wish the late Government had put a limit to the expenditure. I want to say I am not in favour of violent and drastic retrenchment. The present Administration are working on sound business lines eliminating waste as far as possible, and dispensing with surplus employees, and if the Government do that in a quiet way they are doing good.

Mr. Holman: Is that the reason the expenditure is increasing?

Mr. THOMSON: I am not going to deal with the whole of His Excellency's Speech; I shall have an opportunity of dealing with the various subjects mentioned in the Speech when they come before the House in proper form, but in conclusion I want to quote Mr. Lloyd George's message, when at the end of the fourth anniversary of the war he sent a message throughout the British Empire, and it consisted of the two words "Hold fast."

Hon. P. Collier: That was "Dryblower."

Mr. THOMSON: I appeal in all earnestness to the House and to the people of Western Australia to hold fast in the firm belief and in the confidence of Western Australia; I have every confidence in it. In yesterday's newspaper we had a reply from the Australian Navy to Mr. Lloyd George's message and it was in these terms—

We are holding fast—keeping cheery, and looking forward to a glorious return home after settling with the world-wide enemy. If the members of the House on both sides are prepared to do their duty and show they have firm confidence in the prosperity of Western Australia, rest assured that when our boys come home again they will come to a place which has wonderful possibilities and glorious opportunities. I have much pleasure in moving the motion.

Hon. W. C. Angwin: You should add a few words to that.

Mr. DAVIES (Guildford) [4.8]: I beg to second the motion, and in doing so I wish to make some reference to the remarks which have fallen from the Premier and the leader of the Opposition regarding the bestowal of Victoria Crosses on Western Australian soldiers. We are all watching the work of our boys at the front, and there is not the slightest doubt about it that it affects our every-day life. I am one of those who would like to see that intense feeling existing right throughout the session. Personally I do not understand the feeling that has often been exhibited in the House when one recollects the sacrifices made by the lads away at the front. If they influence us in all our dealings, after all, our differences should fade into insignificance when compared with those who are fighting on the fields of western Europe. President Wilson made this remark to the Senate, that the American nation was about to throw the whole of her resources into what he termed the "supreme tragedy." If we only take our minds back, I think, after all, the feeling shown in the House should be regarded by the men and the House as mean and bad in the extreme.

Hon. P. Collier: What feeling has been shown?

Hon. T. Walker: What sort of feeling; to preach to us like that?

Hon. P. Collier: What are you complaining about?

Mr. DAVIES: I want to say that I do not single out any individual. I do not refer to the Opposition or to any particular member on this side.

Hon. W. C. Angwin: Your party are dissatisfied over there; we are unanimous over here.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. DAVIES: Why take exception to my remarks, I ask the member for Knownna; let members on this side look after themselves.

Hon. P. Collier: They are too modest.

Mr. Munsie: Speak the truth when you go to other people's electorates and when you are outside.

Hon. P. Collier: You indulge in vile insinuations when you get on the platform.

Mr. SPEAKER: The member for Boulder must keep order.

Mr. DAVIES: I am not going to keep the House very long in making my references. If the hon. member is desirous of issuing a challenge—

Hon. P. Collier: Challenge to what?

Mr. DAVIES: Anything you like.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. DAVIES: In touching on a few of the matters mentioned in the Speech of His Excellency the Governor, I am going to appeal to those representing the workers in this Chamber, not only on one side, but on both sides, to ask the electors of the State to work in hearty co-operation in this forthcoming scheme for shipbuilding. It is absolutely necessary not only to the existence of Australia, but to the existence of the British Empire, to have ships built, and while there has been some delay in bringing the scheme to fruition I hope now any delay will be slight.

Mr. Holman: The directors of the company are in accord with those on this side.

Mr. DAVIES: The members over here cannot know anything if you know everything.

Mr. Holman: You ought to try to learn something.

Mr. DAVIES: Then I would not go to the hon. member to be my tutor. I am proud of the class I come from, and I am standing to-day where I stood 20 years ago, that is, on behalf of the worker.

Mr. Jones: Midland railway workers.

Hon. P. Collier: You are surrounded by a mob who always stood by the workers.

Mr. DAVIES: I might remind the hon. member of what he said on one occasion. The hon. member stated that "on most public questions my friends sitting in opposition are opposed to the views of myself, but when it comes to a question of the existence of the Empire, we must think alike."

Hon. T. Walker: You begin to make me pity the Empire.

Mr. DAVIES: There is one thing in the Speech which I daresay will cause some controversy in the House, namely, the reference to the appointment of three railway commissioners. Seeing that the Government have now decided on the appointment of three commissioners, as an ex-railway man I hope the Government will see to it that one of the three commissioners is conversant with the industrial conditions. In my opinion that is essential to the smooth working of the railways. I trust also that one of the commissioners will be appointed from the clients of the Railway Department. The third, of course,

will look after the interests of the Government.

Hon. P. Collier: What about the farmers having a representative?

Mr. DAVIES: The farmers are prominent among the clients of the department. I do specially appeal to the Government to see to it that one of the commissioners is conversant with the needs of the workers. I wish to congratulate the Government, and particularly the Commissioner of Railways, on the spirit in which the members of the Railway Officers' Association have been met. Some people entertained the idea that there would be trouble on our railways, and in certain quarters this idea was fostered; but I can give an assurance that, providing a fair deal is handed out to the workers, the country need not fear that these men will do anything unreasonable.

Hon. P. Collier: You are very anxious about the workers; perhaps that is why you got in with the profiteers.

Mr. DAVIES: I am not in with the profiteers, although I can recollect when members of the House supported profiteers against the co-operative movement.

Hon. P. Collier: Who did?

Mr. DAVIES: If the cap fits you, put it on.

Hon. P. Collier: Does the hon. member say that I did?

Mr. DAVIES: No, you are saying it.

Hon. P. Collier: On a point of order, if the hon. member says that I supported the profiteers against the co-operative movement, I ask him to withdraw the statement.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member must withdraw, if he made the statement.

Mr. DAVIES: I never said it.

Hon. P. Collier: You were not game to say it.

Mr. DAVIES: I congratulate the Government also on their determination to extend education facilities, and the treatment and care of the sick. There is just now an opportunity for putting into practice a scheme which I have cherished for a long time, namely, that in every outback district there should be a medical man paid by the Government, and drawing no fees from his patients. If the opportunity does not present itself now, at all events it will at the close of the war, when many of our medical men now at the Front will be returning to the State. I trust that the Government will employ those medical men as Government officers to look after the sick in our outback districts. In regard to the visit of the French delegation, I do not think it is necessary to appeal to the Government to afford the visitors every opportunity of seeing what there is to be seen in Western Australia. As His Excellency has said, those visitors represent a very gallant nation, and the personnel of the delegation is a distinguished one. When those gentlemen come to Western Australia I know the Government will afford them every hospitality. I trust that throughout the session the best of feeling will prevail in the House. For myself I can give an assurance that I have no personal feeling against any member at all. If I express myself somewhat strongly at times, it

must be remembered that a man can be forceful without having any desire whatever to be quarrelsome.

Hon. T. Walker: You had better take up that glove you threw down.

Mr. DAVIES: If we are to indulge, I think the challenge was thrown out by the hon. member in the newspaper when he said he was entrenched and had his machine guns trained on us. It looks like it to-day. But, putting all that on one side, I thank members for the hearing they have accorded me.

On motion by Hon. P. Collier, debate adjourned.

House adjourned at 4.22 p.m.

Legislative Council,

Tuesday, 27th August, 1918.

The PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

[For "Papers Presented" see "Minutes of Proceedings."]

BILLS ASSENTED TO.

Assent to the following Bills of last session reported:

- 1, Supply, £310,000.
- 2, Postponement of Debts Act Continuation.
- 3, Sale of Liquor Regulation Act Continuation.
- 4, Roads Act Continuation.
- 5, Land Tax and Income Tax.
- 6, Transfer of Land Act Amendment.
- 7, Local Option Continuance.
- 8, Industries Assistance Act Continuation.
- 9, Wheat Marketing, 1917.
- 10, Sewerage Works Validation.
- 11, Electoral Act Amendment.
- 12, Curator of Intestate Estates.
- 13, Totalisator Duty Act Amendment.
- 14, Land Act Amendment.
- 15, Appropriation.
- 16, Employment Brokers Act Amendment.
- 17, Apprentices.
- 18, Friendly Societies Act Amendment.
- 19, Reappropriation of Loan Moneys.
- 20, Fremantle Endowment Lands.
- 21, Wyndham Freezing, Canning, and Meat Export Works.
- 22, Special Lease (Gypsum).
- 23, Health Act Amendment.
- 24, Insurance Companies.