

my business may prevent me from being back in time for the opening. I have looked through the records, and I find that as a rule there are not more than four or five sittings during the first month, and I hope that my absence will not in any way inconvenience the House. I should have felt some diffidence in asking this if I had occupied this position for only a short time; but I have presided here for four years, and I think I may now trespass on the kindness of the House to grant me this short leave.

THE MINISTER FOR MINES (Hon. E. H. Wittenoom): Hon. members will have heard what has fallen from the President, and I think I may fairly say that we all fully appreciate his punctual habits and his efforts to carry on the work of this House in a proper manner. I move, therefore, without notice, that the leave requested by the hon. the President be granted to him.

THE HON. S. H. PARKER: I have great pleasure in seconding this motion; and I trust that you, sir, will enjoy a well-deserved holiday.

Question put and passed.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton): I thank hon. members for the kindness they have extended towards me.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House, at 10:30 o'clock, p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, 27th October, 1896, at 4:30 o'clock, p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Monday, 26th October, 1896.

Welcome to Mr. Leake, M.L.A. — Abolition of Aborigines Protection Board; Legislative Council's amendment of resolution—Messages: Concurrence in Bills—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the chair at 7:30 o'clock, p.m.

PRAYERS.

WELCOME TO MR. LEAKE, M.L.A.

The member for Albany (Mr. G. Leake) having been absent on a visit to England, and appearing in the House on this occasion for the first time during the session,

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) said: Hon. members would notice that the hon. member for Albany had returned to his place this evening; and the House would no doubt concur in extending to him a welcome on his return from England, and would join him (the Premier) in saying how glad they all were at seeing him back in his place in this House. The hon. member had, it was hoped, enjoyed himself during his absence. He (the Premier) felt sure that the hon. member, during his visit to England, had also availed himself of opportunities for promoting the interests of Western Australia. Speaking for the whole House, he (the Premier) felt sure they were glad to see the hon. member back in his place again.

MR. LEAKE, in reply, said he desired to thank the Premier for the kind words of welcome extended to him, and to say he was glad to return to Western Australia and to his place in this House. He regretted that it had not been, to a certain extent, in his power to have returned earlier, and assisted the hon. the Premier in the conduct of business and the administration of affairs generally; but he hoped that, during his absence, he had been able to say a good word for the colony, and he certainly had not said a bad word for the Government. He might tell the House that, in London, the affairs of this colony were regarded with very

great interest and favour, and its prosperity, as far as he could see from impressions gathered while in England, was in every way assured. He again thanked the Premier and hon. members for the welcome extended to him.

ABOLITION OF ABORIGINES PROTECTION BOARD.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL'S AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION.

The Council having amended the resolution passed by the Assembly (again affirming that the Aborigines Protection Board should be abolished), by striking out of the resolution the words "is subversive of the rights of the people of this colony and," the amendment was now taken into consideration.

IN COMMITTEE.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) moved that the amendment made by the Legislative Council, in the resolution passed by the Assembly, be agreed to. He said that, speaking for a moment from the point of view of the member for Geraldton, as the original mover in the matter, the resolution, as now amended by the Council, would be quite strong enough in its terms to give effect to the hon. member's view.

MR. SIMPSON said that, as mover of the original resolution in this House, he was inclined to fall in with the view expressed by the Premier, in order to secure the object aimed at. He still regarded the bargain as a sordid one; but the most expedient course, in present circumstances, would be to accept the amendment which the Council had made in the resolution as passed by this House.

Question put and passed.

Resolution reported to the House, and report adopted.

Ordered—that a message be sent to the Legislative Council, informing them that the Assembly had agreed to the amendment made by the Council in the resolution.

THE PREMIER (acting on the suggestion of the Speaker) further moved "That an address be presented to his Excellency the Governor, requesting his Excellency to forward the resolution of Parliament to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies."

Put and passed.

MESSAGES—CONCURRENCE IN BILLS.

Several messages from the Legislative Council, formally intimating concurrence in Bills, were received at this sitting.

At 7:55 p.m., the SPEAKER left the chair, awaiting further messages expected from the Council.

At four minutes past 11 p.m., the SPEAKER resumed the chair.

The only other messages received from the Council, after this interval, were formal intimations of concurrence in Bills; particularly the Council's concurrence in the Menzies Railway Bill, as to which there had previously been a difference of opinion.

ADJOURNMENT.

On the motion of the PREMIER, the House agreed to adjourn, at its rising, until the next day, at 4 p.m., for the prorogation at 4:30 p.m.

The House adjourned accordingly at eight minutes past 11 p.m.

Legislative Council.

Tuesday, 27th October, 1896.

Vote of Thanks to President and Officials—Prorogation.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton) took the chair at 4:30 o'clock, p.m.

VOTE OF THANKS TO PRESIDENT AND OFFICIALS.

THE MINISTER FOR MINES (Hon. E. H. Wittenoom): Before the session terminates, I desire to propose a vote of thanks to you, sir, as President, and to the