

should be extended so as to embrace all the denser parts of the city, and that there should be duplicate buckets for every closet. It was also suggested that instead of emptying the buckets of their contents, as at present, in the yard or in the street, into the receptacle for it, and creating a very unpleasant odour, the bucket and its contents should be taken away in an air-tight cart or waggon, suitably constructed for the purpose, and that a clean and deodorised bucket should be left in place of the one taken away. Members would agree that this would be a vast improvement on the plan that obtained at present. It was also considered essential by the committee that the nightsoil of the city should be removed, in the manner indicated, to some place distant from the more densely populated parts of the town—preferably outside the town altogether—and buried in shallow trenches, and the ground used for growing plants of some kind. It would be seen at once that more money than could be raised by a 3d. rate would be required to carry out this proposed new system of dealing with nightsoil. It was estimated that to furnish the necessary plant, including duplicate buckets, horses, carts, harness, &c., would require about £2,500, and that after the original outlay there would be the expense of working the system, estimated at about £1,500 annually; and, in order to enable the board to raise the necessary funds for this purpose, he proposed this new clause.

THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES: I think the hon. member will not be able, under our new Standing Orders, to move this clause, inasmuch as the effect of it is to impose an additional tax upon the community. It is not competent for a private member to do so; it must be done by the Government, and I believe it should come before the House as a Message from the Governor.

MR. TRAYLEN: Do you rule against it then?

THE CHAIRMAN: I do. I think it is only within the province of the Government to introduce such a clause. The hon. member had better consult the Government in the matter.

Preamble and title agreed to.

Bill reported.

PRIVATE BILLS—JOINT STANDING ORDERS.

On the Order of the Day for the consideration of the Joint Standing Rules and Orders of the Houses of Parliament relating to Private Bills.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt) moved, without comment, that the rules be adopted.

The House adjourned at forty minutes past 5 o'clock.

Legislative Council,

Wednesday, 25th February, 1891.

Message from the Governor; approval of Joint Standing Rules and Orders—Printing Committee; appointment of—Appropriation Bill; first reading; Suspension of Standing Orders; second reading; committee; third reading—Public Health Act, 1886, Amendment Bill; first reading; second reading; Bill thrown out—Tobacco (unmanufactured) Duty Bill; first reading; Suspension of Standing Orders; second reading; committee; third reading—Railway Construction and Timber Concession, Darling Range; Contract with Mr. E. V. H. Keane—Scab Bill; Message from the Legislative Assembly disagreeing with Council's amendments; committee; Message to Legislative Assembly; reasons for insisting on amendments; Message from Legislative Assembly consenting to same—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT (Sir T. C. Campbell, Bart.) took the chair at 8 o'clock.

PRAYERS.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR—APPROVAL OF JOINT STANDING RULES AND ORDERS.

THE PRESIDENT announced the receipt of a Message from His Excellency the Governor, approving of the Joint Standing Rules and Orders relating to Private Bills.

PRINTING COMMITTEE.

The following members were appointed a Printing Committee:—The President, the Hon. G. W. Leake, and the Colonial Secretary (Hon. G. Shenton).

APPROPRIATION BILL.

This bill was received from the Legislative Assembly, and read a first time.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) moved that the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the bill to pass through its remaining stages without delay.

THE PRESIDENT: Before this question is put, it is my duty to make a few remarks as to the course of business during this session, especially having regard to the frequent suspension of the Standing Orders. This course has been necessitated owing to the peculiar circumstances of the case. Hon. members are aware of the fact of an important Convention being about to meet in Sydney, which may have an important bearing on the political future of these colonies, and at which it is generally wished that Western Australia should be represented. Had it not been for this, I feel I should not have been doing my duty in permitting the suspension of the Standing Orders in the way they have been during the course of the session. I have felt strongly on the point, and I am not sure that I have not exceeded my duty in permitting it. Hon. members who have read the Standing Orders are probably aware that the suspension of them is only justifiable in cases of emergency. I am the sole judge of emergency so long as I have the confidence of the House, and I must say that I do not think a single case of emergency has been shown during the course of the session. I hope the hon. the Colonial Secretary will not take it that I am blaming him, for he cannot help himself; and, in fact, he has only done his duty. It is most unfortunate that this House has been treated—I do not say it has been wilfully done—so unfairly, because it is utterly impossible for hon. members to deal with measures which they have never seen before, and pass them at a moment's notice. As I have said, the peculiar circumstances which have existed have rendered any other course almost impossible; but I wish the House to understand that, in future, all my influence will be exercised in an opposite direction, so as to give hon. members the fullest possible time to consider the measures brought before them. The hon. the Colonial Secretary

is a member of the Government as well as a member of this House, and I have no doubt he will assist us, so that in future due consideration may be given to the various measures, which has not been possible during the present session.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): I certainly take exception to your remarks, sir, when you infer that the business of this House has been unduly rushed. I have always consulted the wishes of hon. members as to adjourning, and I have endeavored to study their convenience in every way.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE: I do not think the hon. the Colonial Secretary need have taken any exception to what has fallen from you, sir, for I do not think any hon. member of this House will say that any of the bills could have been made better, even had they been more fully discussed. All the measures which have come up to us have been most fully discussed in the Lower House, and any lengthy debate upon them here would have simply been so much waste of time. For my own part I honestly think that as much discussion has been bestowed upon the bills brought before us as they merited. Take the case of the Scab Act. Have not the details of that measure been most thoroughly discussed? And so it has been with the other matters brought before us. It is said that England is mostly governed by rhetoric; but I think the less we have of it here and the more common sense we have, the better.

THE HON. J. MORRISON: I must say, sir, that the remarks which have fallen from you coincide with the opinion I myself formed, for no doubt had not the Standing Orders been suspended so frequently, hon. members would have had a better chance of examining the bills sent up for their consideration. It has been said that it is always possible to find out what has taken place in another House on any particular bill. That may certainly be the case where members reside in town and are able to attend and hear the debates; but with members who live in the country it is very different, for they have only the newspaper reports to depend upon, which are not sufficiently full to guide any hon. member in arriving at a conclusion. I do not think, however, that the House has

been treated with any discourtesy; but I hope that next session further time will be given to us to examine the bills which are brought before us.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): As far as the Government is concerned there has been no wish to rush any business through, and I ask hon. members whether there has been, in any one case, any objection to postpone any matter for the purpose of allowing further consideration. The Audit Bill we deferred for two sittings, and when the Scab Bill came before us the Hon. Mr. Burges thought more time should be given in which to consider it, and I immediately consented to adjourn. Most of the other bills have been almost formal ones, the provisions of which hon. members were thoroughly conversant with. There was no attempt to rush the Loan Bill through, and there was never any wish on my part to rush anything. If there had been any desire whatever on the part of hon. members that they should have more time, we could have sat oftener; and I may point out that the sittings of the House were arranged at hon. members' own wishes, and because there was no necessity to meet more frequently. As soon as the state of business warranted it, I myself moved that the House should sit oftener. I, therefore, object to the statement that there has been any attempt whatever to rush business.

THE HON. J. MORRISON: For my part I do not impute that there has been any attempt to rush business, and I may say that the hon. the Colonial Secretary has in every case consulted hon. members. At the same time I think that had it not been for the impending Convention, we should not have had the Standing Orders suspended so often.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE: Supposing all the bills which have been sent up to us had been discussed with all the gravity, all the solemnity, and all the prolixity that hon. members seem to contend for, it is impossible to consider that we should have arrived at any better conclusions than we have. All I hope is that more bills will in future be initiated in this Chamber.

THE PRESIDENT: I am sorry the hon. the Colonial Secretary should have taken the slightest umbrage at what I said, for I can assure him that I did not

intend to impute to him any blame whatever. I am sure, however, the majority of hon. members will agree with me that it is highly irregular to suspend the Standing Orders in the way we have been doing. We have made several mistakes, and we have done things we otherwise should not have done owing to this irregularity.

Question—That the Standing Orders be suspended—put and passed.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): I now beg to move the second reading of the Appropriation Bill. Hon. members will notice that the whole of the Estimates for the year are placed before them in detail in the Schedule. This is following the plan adopted in the other colonies, so that the Act may contain the whole of the information in connection with the expenditure of the colony. Hon. members will remember that, at the beginning of the session, a lump sum of £60,000 was voted, and this has been included in the present Estimate. I may mention that the Civil List and the amounts required for loan interest do not appear, as they are provided for by separate statute. I move the second reading of the bill.

The bill was then considered in committee, and agreed to without amendment.

The bill was read a third time and passed, and ordered to be returned to the Legislative Assembly.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1886, AMENDMENT BILL.

This bill was received from the Legislative Assembly, and read a first time.

The Standing Orders were suspended.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): I have now, sir, to move the second reading of this bill which is to repeal section 12 of "The Public Health Act, 1886," and it gives power to abolish Local Boards of Health and transfer their duties to the Municipal Councils.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE: We have not been favored by any information from the Minister having charge of the bill of the facts which have led to its introduction. My memory is, I think, accurate on the point. We must recollect that a number of small tenements, which are a mass of the vilest filth, were, before

the Act of 1886 was passed, owned by members of the Municipalities. It was not likely, therefore, that they would carry out measures for the benefit of the health of the people generally, if such were adverse to their own interests. Therefore, it was thought necessary that there should be an independent Board to look after the sanitation of the towns. Since its establishment there has not been that I know of a single instance of the Central Board either violating or omitting its duties. The principle sought to be repealed is an admirable one, and should not be allowed to be swept away without very much stronger reasons being given for it than we have yet heard. To pass this bill means that we are to hand over to the landlord of small tenements the enforcing of laws which may entail expense to him. Supposing, for instance, a member of the Perth Municipality owns a number of small tenements, is it likely that that gentleman will bring before his Municipality matters involving absolute cleanliness, if they entail any cost to himself? This is a very important matter therefore, and it comes before us at the last moment. I will not say it has been sprung upon us, but, at any rate, I think it is a matter than can well stand over till another session. I, therefore, move, That the bill be read a second time this day three months.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH: I beg to second the amendment solely on the ground that on such an important matter we should be supplied with further information. We have not yet been told whether the present Act is working well or not, nor have we been given the reasons why this amendment is desirable.

THE HON. T. BURGESS: I have much pleasure in supporting the amendment. I have observed that there is a great deal of friction between the Local Boards and the Municipalities, and, therefore, before we pass this bill we should be in possession of very much more information than there is now before us. The health of the towns is of great consequence to the inhabitants, and we should be very careful before we sweep away an Act which, I understand, has proved to be a very beneficial one.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I shall support my hon. friend Mr. Leake in

opposing the second reading of this bill. The objections to it can be put in a nutshell. No arguments, in the first place, have been adduced to show that the present system has worked badly, or that the proposed system would work better. It may be that when we obtain further information on this subject we may find a better scheme than handing sanitary matters over to the Municipal authorities. We are aware that the Municipal authorities in the past have not done this work well, and I shall be sorry to give them any increased powers without having a better assurance that the work, if left in their hands, will be more satisfactorily done in the future.

Amendment—put and passed.

Bill thrown out.

TOBACCO (UNMANUFACTURED) DUTY BILL.

This Bill was received from the Legislative Assembly, and read a first time.

The Standing Orders were suspended.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): Sir, the whole gist of this bill will be found in the first clause which provides that, in lieu of the duty of 1s. per pound payable on unmanufactured tobacco under the Act of 1888, there shall be levied a duty of 2s. per pound. I may say that this bill is necessary for the protection of the revenue of the colony. Hon. members are, no doubt, aware that there is now a tobacco factory in the colony, and under the present tariff they pay 1s. per pound on the tobacco they import. The duty on manufactured tobacco is 3s. per pound, so that the factory has an advantage of 2s. per pound. The existence of this factory will entail a loss of £7,000 or £8,000 a year to the revenue, and the Government feel, having in view the large scheme of Public Works it is proposed to carry out, that they cannot afford to lose so large an amount from one source only. If this bill had not been brought in, it would have been necessary for the Government, when the House next meets, to levy a tax upon something else to bring up the revenue to its proper state. As it is, the factory will not have much cause of complaint, for they will have a margin of a shilling per pound, besides the difference in weight of the manufactured over the unmanu-

factured tobacco. There has been a great outcry against this bill on the ground that we are not protecting local industry; but I think, we can hardly call this a local industry, because no article produced in the colony is used. If the leaf were grown in the colony it might be another matter, but to leave the duty as it is now would simply be giving one firm a very handsome bonus, one which we are not at present in a position to give. In Victoria, there is an excise duty of 6d. per pound besides an annual fee of £150; and in New South Wales the margin is not so large as is claimed here. I may add that this bill will not affect the duty on sheep-wash tobacco, for that is distinctly provided for by the Tariff Act. I move the second reading of the bill.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH: Although I have not the slightest intention of opposing this bill I do feel that the Government, when it gets this power, should, if possible, treat the present firm, which is the cause of this Act, with some consideration, because it would be a very serious thing if it became mooted abroad among people who did not know the facts that we were trying to stifle a local industry. I maintain it is a local industry, and one we all wish to see encouraged. The reason why they do not use local tobacco is that there is none to be had. But such factories as these will, in time, lead to the cultivation of tobacco, and, therefore, I trust, if the Government can see its way to meet this firm without seriously affecting the public interests, they will do so.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE: When gentlemen come here and indulge in schemes for their own aggrandisement, they must look after themselves. When the sugar duties were reduced by Sir Robert Peel on his last accession to power, there were many cargoes of sugar on their way from the West Indies, and it was urged on the Ministry that the coming into operation of the measure might be deferred so that the sugar crop then in transit from the West Indies and Mauritius might enjoy the benefit of the former high duty in its favor. It was held that so important was it that the doctrine of free-trade should be carried out in the interests of the consumer that the duty should be abolished at once. I may say that at that time there was a

heavy duty on slave grown sugar, and none on free grown sugar. I can see no reason whatever why we should assist this monopoly by deferring the operation of the bill, or by any other means, especially after we have heard from the Colonial Secretary that the stuff they manufacture increases in weight which, with the shilling margin they have, gives them quite enough advantage.

THE HON. J. MORRISON: I think the Government, by this bill, has looked after the interests of the colony in a proper manner; for, having gone in for a loan, we cannot do anything that will reduce our revenue. If this firm had come to the colony and had said, as many others have done,—the smelting works for instance—“If we start a factory will you give us a bonus,” I doubt very little but that they would have got it. It is our duty to encourage industries of this kind, and we must take care that it does not go abroad that we are crushing them out. I shall be glad, therefore, to see something done, and what I think would be very reasonable is, the suggestion that this firm should be allowed to pass in so many thousand pounds of tobacco at the original duty—say not exceeding £500 in revenue. I see by one of the papers that this firm has 100,000 lbs. of tobacco in bond. I do not know whether that is so, but, if it is, it shows the confidence they have in the colony, and that they have not come here merely to start a business and then clear out.

THE HON. T. BURGESS: The remarks of the hon. member are those I was about to suggest. All such establishments as these do good to the colony. They bring capital here and employ a large amount of labor. This firm has probably based its operations on the fixed tariff, and if this extra duty is imposed some slight concession may fairly be granted to them. I would suggest that they be allowed, before this bill comes into operation, to clear a certain amount of tobacco—such a quantity, for instance, as the Government might deem sufficient to be equivalent to giving them a small bonus. I do not know what quantity they have in bond, but I think they should be allowed to take out a small quantity under the old duty. It is the wish of this House that the firm should be met with a liberal hand, and I hope the Gov-

ernment will see that this wish is given effect to.

Question—put and passed.

The bill was then considered in committee, and agreed to without amendment, and reported.

The bill was read a third time and passed, and ordered to be returned to the Legislative Assembly.

**RAILWAY AND TIMBER CONCESSION,
DARLING RANGE—CONTRACT WITH
MR. E. V. H. KEANE.**

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) by leave, without notice, moved, "That this Council approves of the proposed contract laid upon the table, between the Government and Mr. E. V. H. Keane, relative to the construction of a line of Railway on the Darling Range, and the working of a timber Concession thereon." He said: I propose to explain the provisions of the contract, and then, if it be required by hon. members, to postpone the further consideration of it until to-morrow. From the contract which is before hon. members, they will find that Mr. Keane is to build a railway, 20 miles in length, commencing at the Junction of the Midland and Eastern railways and running to Canning Location 165. Mr. Keane will get no land concession for building it, but by clause 36 he will not be bound to work it after 31st January, 1899. By clause 46, in consideration of the construction of the railway, the contractor will have the right to cut and remove timber during the term of the license on the 100,000 acres of land comprised in it; and by clause 47 the Government undertake not to dispose of any lands within the area of the license, except such of the lands upon which in the opinion of the Commissioner—and I lay stress upon the words, "opinion of the Commissioner,"—there is no marketable timber, and it further provides that on this point the decision of the Commissioner shall be final and conclusive. This is a most favorable contract to the Government. The license to cut timber already exists, and we get a line of railway constructed, which will help to encourage settlement along the route, at a cost of nothing to the country. We are not giving away 12,000 acres of land per mile as we did to the other companies

which have built railways; all we give is the right to cut timber on 100,000 acres—a right which already exists. At the end of 1899 the Government has the right to purchase the line at £1,000 per mile. There are a great many other clauses of the bill referring to the running of trains, and other matters; but I think I have referred to the principal ones. Having thus explained the matter to hon. members, I shall not object, as I have said, to the further consideration of it being postponed until to-morrow.

THE HON. T. BURGESS seconded the motion.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE: Let me point out to hon. members that this is not an enactment, but merely a contract which the Government propose to enter into with our sanction. It seems to me that it should rather be the subject of a bill. I shall, however, not discuss that matter now, but will move the adjournment of the debate.

THE HON. J. G. H. AMHERST: I shall second the motion for adjournment, and I hope that by the next sitting of the House the Hon. the Colonial Secretary will lay on the table the plans of the line.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): I shall be glad to do so.

THE PRESIDENT: I may state that it is necessary the House should approve of this contract before the bill can be introduced.

THE HON. M. GRANT: This appears to me to be a very unusual course. Railways are generally constructed under the authority of an Act. This appears to be a new order of things, and I think we should very seriously consider the question before agreeing to this contract.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): The very same course was adopted in regard to the Midland and Great Southern Railways. The agreements were adopted first, and the Acts introduced afterwards.

THE HON. M. GRANT: In my opinion we have been disposing of our lands too freely in the past. If we have a large population, we shall want all we have.

THE HON. J. G. H. AMHERST: We are not giving any land at all; we are merely parting with the timber, and when that is cleared from the land the Commissioner steps in and sells it.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH: Is the Hon. the Colonial Secretary prepared to tell us how much of the line has already been constructed; and, I should also like to know, whether we are getting an adequate return for what we are disposing of in the shape of timber?

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE: The line will only run to the timber concession. We do not dispose of a single acre of land; nor will the construction of the line in any way cost us one single shilling.

Question—that the debate be adjourned—put and passed.

SCAB ACT, 1885, AMENDMENT BILL.

THE PRESIDENT announced the receipt of the following Message from the Legislative Assembly:—

“The Legislative Assembly return, herewith, the Bill intituled ‘An Act to repeal the Scab Act, 1885, and to re-enact the same with Amendments,’ together with a Schedule of the amendments agreed to and of the amendments not agreed to, and a statement of the reasons therefor.

“Schedule of amendments agreed to by the Legislative Assembly, and of amendments not agreed to by the Legislative Assembly, in the Scab Bill:

“No. 1.—On page 5—Clause 8, line 1—Agreed to.

“No. 2.—On page 14—Clause 43, line 1—Not agreed to.

“No. 3.—On page 14—Clause 44, line 1—Not agreed to.

“No. 4.—On page 14—Clause 45, line 1—Not agreed to.

“No. 5.—On page 14—Clause 45, line 7—Not agreed to.

“No. 6.—On page 14—Clause 45, line 15—Not agreed to.

“No. 7.—New Clause to be numbered No. 52—Agreed to.

“The Legislative Assembly disagree to the amendments of the Legislative Council in Section 43, on the ground that the subject proposed to be dealt with, namely, regulating the introduction of sheep by sea, is already dealt with by Section 29 of the Bill.

“The Assembly for the same reason disagree with the amendments proposed in Section 44.

“The Assembly for the same reason disagree with the amendment proposed

“in the first line of Section 45, and with the other amendments, on the ground that such amendments would entirely remove the protection sought to be provided against the introduction of scab from an infected to a clean district, and place in the mere discretion of an inspector a matter of supreme importance.”

The Standing Orders were suspended.

IN COMMITTEE.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT said he thought it was an extreme pity that the Legislative Assembly had not seen fit to accept the amendments suggested by them; for any one reading clause 29 must see that it did not cover their objections in clauses 43 and 44. The real objection to clause 29 was that, instead of its being a severe clause, it introduced a system of laxity which they were taught to believe this Act was intended to undo. They would see that under clauses 43 and 44, where sheep travelled by land, they would have to be dipped and get a clean certificate; and if they travelled by sea, under clause 29 they need not be dipped at all. He hoped, therefore, that the Council would insist on its amendments in clauses 43 and 44, and for the reason that they tended to carry out the purposes of the Act more strictly and in accordance with the new system of stringency, as opposed to the old system of laxity. He moved that the Council insist on its amendments.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said that on behalf of the Government he must oppose the proposition of the Hon. Mr. Hackett.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH said he would strongly support the motion of the Hon. Mr. Hackett to insist on their amendments. There was no need to discuss them further, for they were thoroughly dealt with on the previous day, and the Legislative Assembly had sent back no satisfactory reasons whatever for rejecting them.

THE HON. T. BURGESS said he was somewhat disappointed at the course pursued by the Legislative Assembly in returning the amendments without a full explanation of the reasons for such, and he must, therefore, go with the Hon. Mr. Hackett in his argument that clause 29

makes it much more easy for an owner of sheep bringing his sheep by sea than by land; because if travelling by land there would have to be a clean certificate for the sheep, and they would have to be dipped; but under clause 29 they need not be dipped at all. He would rather see the bill thrown out than to adopt it without the amendments they had proposed.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE suggested that at the present stage of the bill it would be better to accede to the wishes of the Legislative Assembly. Before next session any blot in it would doubtless be discovered, and an amending bill to remedy it could then be brought in.

THE HON. T. BURGESS said that one of their amendments was that the Inspector might dispense with dipping in the case of fat sheep. The Assembly objected to this, but allowed dipping to be dispensed with under clause 29.

THE HON. J. G. H. AMHERST said he agreed with what had fallen from the Hon. Mr. Leake, that it would be better not to press the amendments after the message they had received, and to see by next session what alterations were necessary.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH said they had discovered several blots in the bill, and they had done their duty in amending them. If their efforts were to be treated in the way they had been in the present instance, he could not see the use of their sitting there at all, for it was simply waste of time. On a matter such as this he felt sure the members of that House were as well qualified to give an opinion as the members of the Lower House.

THE HON. J. MORRISON said he thought that time would show that a sound judgment had been arrived at in regard to their amendments on clauses 43 and 44. At the same time, he did not altogether approve of the alterations suggested in clause 45—the addition of the words “or by sea.” Take the case of sheep going to Fremantle. They could not be allowed to go more than 3 miles until they had been twice dipped within 14 days. This was both impracticable and unreasonable. At Fremantle there was no feed to keep them for 14 days, or appliances to dip them. He would support the Government on this clause, and

also on clauses 43 and 44, unless the Hon. Mr. Hackett was prepared to exclude clause 45 from his resolution.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH said that the present discussion showed how objectionable it was that bills of so important a character as this should be received by them so late in the session. As matters now stood he thought perhaps it would be better if they could have a conference with the Lower House, so that the real public ends could be attained.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said the Government could not accept these amendments, and if they were pressed, he would divide the House on them. The Attorney General considered that they would interfere with the other clauses of the bill, and he had given it as his opinion that the objections raised were met by clause 29.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE said he would again impress upon hon. members the wisdom of passing the bill as it stood at the present stage, and prior to next session exercise all their faculty of observation with a view then to remedying any defects that might be discovered.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH said he agreed with the Hon. Mr. Burgess that it would be better to continue the old Act in force, than to pass a bad Act.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said the Government had had representations made to them that the present Act was altogether insufficient to lead to the eradication of scab. A meeting of leading pastoralists had been held, and this bill had been brought in on the lines suggested by them; if hon. members chose to throw it out, they must take the responsibility, and not the Government.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH said that at the meeting of pastoralists referred to the very amendment they were now contending for was agreed to unanimously, and, therefore, the suggestions of that meeting had not been followed out.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): Because we consider they are carried out by clause 29.

THE HON. M. GRANT said he would be sorry to see the coming into operation of the Act postponed, for he thought it was quite time they took some steps to stamp out the scab which existed. He was prepared, however, to stand on their

amendments in clauses 43 and 44, and he hoped they would send them back to the Legislative Assembly for reconsideration.

THE HON. T. BURGESS said that everyone was anxious to see scab stamped out, but he thought they must not go too far. Where he found fault with the Act was with regard to travelling sheep, the clauses relating to which were more severe than the persons who suggested them had any idea. Why, he would ask, should sheep be dipped whether it were necessary or not? All he asked for was that it should be left to the Inspector to say whether they should be dipped or not. That was not unreasonable, but the Legislative Assembly would not consent to it, although they agreed to the very same principle in clause 29.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT said he did not think the bill would be lost if they insisted on their amendments. He would call the attention of hon. members to the fact that in clause 29 the words used were "every owner," whereas in clauses 43 and 44, the words were "any person," which included both the consignee and consignor. He moved, That the Council do insist on its amendments in clauses 43 and 44.

The motion was then put, and declared carried.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) called for a division, with the following result:—

AYES—3.	NOES—3.
The Hon. T. Burgess	The Hon. J. G. H. Amherst
The Hon. R. E. Bush	The Hon. G. W. Leake
The Hon. M. Grant	The Hon. G. Shenton
The Hon. J. Morrison	(Teller.)
The Hon. J. W. Hackett	
(Teller.)	

Majority of 2 for the Ayes. Motion agreed to.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT moved, That the Council do not insist on its amendment in the first line of clause 45.

Question—put and passed.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH moved, That the Council do insist on its amendment in the seventh line of clause 45.

Question—put, and declared negative.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH called for a division, with the following result:—

AYES—3.	NOES—5.
The Hon. T. Burgess	The Hon. J. G. H. Amherst
The Hon. M. Grant	The Hon. J. W. Hackett
The Hon. R. E. Bush	The Hon. G. W. Leake
(Teller.)	The Hon. J. Morrison
	The Hon. G. Shenton
	(Teller.)

Majority of 2 for the Noes. Motion negative.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH moved, That the Council do insist on its amendment in the 15th line of clause 45. He said he thought at this stage they should report progress, in order to give hon. members an opportunity of further considering the matter.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said he must oppose the adjournment, especially as this was only a consequential amendment.

THE HON. M. GRANT: Then I move that progress be reported.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE said they were perfectly capable of deciding the question before them at once, and he would, therefore, oppose any adjournment. He had pointed out before, that the proper course to adopt was to accept the bill, and if any blot were subsequently found in it, to introduce an amending Act at an early period of the next session.

THE HON. M. GRANT said he wished to report progress owing to the absence of some hon. members who had gone away in anticipation that there would be no opposition by the Legislative Assembly to their amendments.

Question—That progress be reported—put, and declared negative.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH called for a division with the following result:—

AYES—3.	NOES—5.
The Hon. T. Burgess	The Hon. J. G. H. Amherst
The Hon. M. Grant	The Hon. J. W. Hackett
The Hon. R. E. Bush	The Hon. G. W. Leake
(Teller.)	The Hon. J. Morrison
	The Hon. G. Shenton
	(Teller.)

Majority of 2 for the Noes. Motion negative.

Question—That the amendment made by the Council, in line 15 of clause 45, be insisted on—put and negative.

The resolutions were then reported to the House and the report adopted.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT moved, That a committee, consisting of the Hons. J. W. Hackett, M. Grant, and R. E. Bush, be appointed to draw up reasons for insisting on the amendments made by the Council in clauses 43 and 44, with which the Legislative Assembly has disagreed. Subsequently the Hon. J. W. Hackett reported from the committee the following reasons: "Because clause

29 does not provide sufficient protection in the case of sheep imported from an infected district into a clean one; and clause 29 relaxes the proper stringency of the principle and provisions of the bill. Because the words 'any person' are larger and more comprehensive than the word 'owner' in clause 29, including, as it does, both consignor and consignee." He moved that the reasons be agreed to.

Question—put and passed, and it was ordered that a message be sent to the Legislative Assembly, acquainting them, that the Council insists on the amendments made in clauses 43 and 44 of the bill for the reasons agreed to, but does not insist on its amendments in clause 45.

Subsequently the following Message was received from the Legislative Assembly: "The Legislative Assembly acquaints the Legislative Council that they have agreed to the requirements of the Legislative Council as regards clauses 43 and 44 of the bill intituled 'An Act to repeal 'The Scab Act, 1885,' and to re-enact the same with amendments.'"

ADJOURNMENT.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) moved, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Thursday, 26th February, at 11:30 o'clock, a.m.

Question—put and passed.

The Council adjourned at twenty minutes to twelve o'clock, p.m., until Thursday, 26th February, at half-past eleven o'clock, a.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Wednesday, 25th February, 1891.

Motion for Adjournment: Housing and protection of Immigrant Girls upon their arrival in the colony—Appropriation Bill, 1891; second reading; in committee; third reading—Tobacco (Unmanufactured) Duty Bill: third reading—Public Health Act Amendment Bill: third reading—Darling Range Railway and Timber Concession (Mr. Keane's)—Scab Act Amendment Bill: Amendments of the Legislative Council—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the chair at 7:30 p.m.

PRAYERS.

HOUSING AND PROTECTION OF IMMIGRANT GIRLS UPON THEIR ARRIVAL IN THE COLONY.

MR. PARKER: There is a subject upon which I should like to ask some information from one of the hon. gentlemen opposite. I do not know exactly under which Minister the Immigration Department is placed,—I believe it is the Colonial Secretary; but no doubt the Premier can throw some light on the subject. To place myself in order I shall conclude by moving the adjournment of the House. I understand that on the last occasion, and on previous occasions also I believe, when female immigrants landed at Fremantle there were some disgraceful scenes. The girls on landing on the jetty were rushed and inveigled into public houses; and the ladies who went down to conduct them to the Immigrant's Home or barracks were quite shocked at the disgraceful scenes that took place. Even when they reached the Home, they were not safe from the attentions of drunken fellows who forced themselves in, and, as I am informed, scenes occurred which it is to be hoped will never be repeated again. I am only speaking from hearsay, but the facts have been represented to me by one of the ladies who was actually present on the occasion referred to. I believe, also, that representations on the subject were made at home, in England, by a lady who takes a great interest in selecting female emigrants,—the Hon. Mrs. Joyce. I understand that Mrs. Joyce has written out to the colony, stating that if these disgraceful proceedings are repeated there will be no prospect of obtaining decent girls to emigrate to Western Australia. I think it would