

congratulation to the Prince and Princess of Wales had been forwarded to the Secretary of State, for presentation to their Royal Highnesses.

#### PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the COLONIAL SECRETARY: By-laws of municipalities of Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie.

By the PREMIER: 1, Report of Board (in print) appointed to inquire into charges against Mr. John Davies, General Manager of Railways, with notes of evidence. 2, Amended Regulation No. 49, under Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1900.

Ordered to lie on the table.

#### RESIGNATION OF MINISTERS.

##### STATEMENT BY HON. F. H. PIESSE.

HON. F. H. PIESSE (Williams), rose and said: Sir,—After the last meeting of the House, His Excellency the Governor sent for me and informed me that he had received from the Ministers of the Crown their resignations, and he placed in my hands a commission for the purpose of forming a new Ministry. I requested that His Excellency should give me until Saturday to enable me to submit the names to His Excellency. Having made all effort to do this, I found on Saturday that I had been unable to form a Ministry satisfactory to me, and I then waited again upon His Excellency and informed him of this, stating that as I had not been able to form a Ministry, and that as Mr. Morgans, a gentleman who was a member sitting on the Opposition side of the House, had been frequently mentioned as a probable leader of that party, I would suggest that Mr. Morgans should be sent for, for the purpose of forming a Ministry. I may say I took this course in preference to urging upon His Excellency a dissolution, preferring at this stage to do so rather than to plunge the country into the vortex of a general election; and I hope that the course which I have taken will meet with the satisfaction of the House.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

THE PREMIER (Hon. G. Leake): At the request of the member for Coolgardie (Mr. Morgans), I move that the House

at its rising do adjourn until Thursday next.

Put and passed.

The House accordingly adjourned until the next Thursday afternoon.

### Legislative Council,

Thursday, 21st November, 1901.

Papers presented—Message: Prince of Wales, Acknowledgment—Supply Bill (£2600,000), all stages—Minister (new): Seat Vacated—Leave of Absence—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4.30 o'clock, p.m.

#### PRAYERS.

#### PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the MINISTER FOR LANDS: 1, Railways Report (annual), 1901. 2, Evidence taken by Board of Inquiry into Charges against Mr. John Davies, on Management of Railways.

Ordered to lie on the table.

#### MESSAGE—PRINCE OF WALES, ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Message received from the Governor and read, stating that a reply had been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, conveying the thanks of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales for the address of congratulation.

#### SUSPENSION.

The PRESIDENT left the Chair for a short time, awaiting receipt of Supply Bill expected from the Legislative Assembly; and at 5.5 o'clock resumed the Chair.

#### SUPPLY BILL (£2600,000).

##### ALL STAGES.

Received from the Legislative Assembly, and on motion by the MINISTER FOR

LANDS (Hon. C. Sommers) read a first time.

The Standing Orders having been suspended, the Bill was passed through the remaining stages without debate, and returned to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

#### SUSPENSION.

THE MINISTER FOR LANDS: As I understand the Hon. M. L. Moss will accept office in the new Ministry, and as I believe he is now absent from the House for the purpose of being sworn-in by His Excellency the Governor, I would suggest that, in order that we may be able during this sitting to declare the seat vacant and have the necessary writ issued, the President do leave the Chair for a short time.

The PRESIDENT again left the Chair, and resumed it at 6:25 o'clock.

#### MINISTER (NEW)—SEAT VACATED.

THE PRESIDENT: I have received the following communication:—

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,  
21st November, 1901.

Sir,—In compliance with Section 30, Sub-section 3, of "The Constitution Act Amendment Act 1899," I beg to notify you that His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint the Hon. Matthew Lewis Moss, M.L.C., to be Colonial Secretary.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

M. L. Moss, Colonial Secretary.

The Hon. the President  
of the Legislative Council, Perth.

HON. C. SOMMERS (ex-Minister): The Hon. M. L. Moss, one of the members for the West Province, having accepted one of the principal executive offices of the Government, I beg to move:

That the seat of the Hon. M. L. Moss be declared vacant, he having accepted an office of profit under the Crown.

HON. G. RANDELL: I second the motion.

Question put and passed.

HON. C. SOMMERS: I beg to farther move:

That the President cause a writ to be issued for the election of one member for the West Province, to supply the vacancy so caused.

Question put and passed.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

HON. R. S. HAYNES (Central), by leave without notice, moved:

That seven days' farther leave of absence be granted to the Hon. J. M. Drew, on the ground of urgent private business.

The Standing Orders provided that a member absenting himself for more than 14 days without leave should be liable to a penalty for contempt. Mr. Drew was in Geraldton; and there had been no necessity for his attendance this week, the business having been purely formal.

HON. C. SOMMERS (North-East) seconded the motion.

Question put and passed.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

On motion by HON. C. SOMMERS, the House adjourned at half past six o'clock until Tuesday, the 17th December.

### Legislative Assembly,

Thursday, 21st November, 1901.

Paper presented—Message: Prince of Wales, Acknowledgment—Leave of Absence—Supply (temporary): Statement by Retiring Premier, Ministers-elect—Select Committees, Farther Extension—Supply Bill, all stages—Ministers Sworn-in; Seats Vacated—Adjournment (re-elections).

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 4:30 o'clock, p.m.

#### PRAYERS.

#### PAPER PRESENTED.

By the COMMISSIONER OF RAILWAYS: Railways Report (annual), 1901.

Ordered to lie on the table.

#### MESSAGE—PRINCE OF WALES, ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

THE SPEAKER read the following Message from the Governor:—

ARTHUR LAWLEY,  
Governor.

The Governor has the honour to inform the Legislative Assembly that, on the 19th instant,