

**BILL—WHEAT BAGS.***Second Reading.*

**THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE** (Hon. H. Millington-Leederville) [5.32] in moving the second reading, said: The proposal to insist upon the branding of wheat bags is not a new one. It was in operation during the part of the time that the compulsory wheat pool was in existence.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell. I have not heard of it.

**THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE:** I know from my own experience.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: Was it an Act or a regulation?

**THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE:** I think it was embodied in an Act; if not, it was done by regulation. Anyhow, the branding of wheat bags was made compulsory on that occasion.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: It was never the law of the land.

**THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE:** It was, to the extent that it was obligatory on the part of wheat producers to brand their bags.

Hon. Sir James Mitchell: Only if they put their wheat in the pool.

**THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE:** I am referring to the time when all wheat had to go into the pool. I was farming at the time, and I know we had to brand our bags. Wool bales have to be branded and there is a distinct advantage in having them branded. Fruit cases have to be branded, and under our modern trading methods it is the practice to brand the packages of almost all merchandise. Before a measure of this kind was introduced, there would have to be an urgent request for it from the people particularly concerned. This Bill has the backing of the producers. Persistent and urgent requests for it have been made by producers and agents, and the principle has been affirmed by the Royal Agricultural Society and a conference of agricultural societies.

*[Debate Interrupted.]*

**ADJOURNMENT.**

*Death of Mr. T. J. Heron, M.L.A.*

**MR. SPEAKER:** I have just been informed that the member for Leonora (Mr. T. J. Heron) has suddenly passed away.

[40]

**THE PREMIER** (Hon. P. Collier - Boulder) [5.40]: I move—

That the House do now adjourn.

Question put and passed.

*House adjourned at 5.40 p.m.*

**Legislative Council,**

*Thursday, 4th October, 1928.*

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

**OBITUARY—MR. T. J. HERON, M.L.A.**

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY** (Hon. J. M. Drew—Central) [4.32]: I have to submit a motion. The necessity for doing so occasions me very deep regret. We were all shocked yesterday by the sudden and unexpected death of Mr. Thomas John Heron, the member for Mount Leonora in the Legislative Assembly. Some of us, myself included, had been in his company only an hour before, when he appeared to be in perfect health. I was acquainted with the late Mr. Heron for only about 4½ years, but I saw sufficient of him in that time to enable me to form a very high estimate of his character. He was an honourable man and in his conversations he seemed to be one of those who strove to find virtues rather than faults in his fellow men. While true to his own political principles, he had full respect for the political opinions of those who thought differently from him. In other words, he was one of those who could appreciate an opponent's viewpoint. He was of kindly, forbearing disposition, and malice or vindictiveness never entered his soul. The circumstances of his death have impressed us with a feeling of sadness. He passed away while discharging his Parliamentary

duties and while both Houses were sitting. Probably it was the first instance of the kind that has occurred in the history of Western Australia. I intend to move the adjournment of the House to-day out of respect to his memory. But before doing so I propose to submit a motion of condolence with his widow and family. I move—

That this House desires to express its deep sympathy and condolence with the widow and family of the late Thomas John Heron, a member of the Legislative Assembly, whose sudden death in the precincts of the House yesterday caused profound regret to the members of both Houses.

**HON. J. EWING** (South-West) [4.35]: With very great regret I second the motion. I had a high appreciation of the late hon. member, having travelled with him on many occasions. I found him a most genial and happy companion. I remember being in the South-West with him a few years ago, when it was very pleasing to note the interest he took in the development of the South-West. Every portion of the State had his earnest attention, and as a representative of the people, he could not be excelled. He discharged his duty in an excellent way. It is very agreeable to be able to say these things about any man. The late Mr. Heron was a man without guile. He always had a full appreciation of the views of others. He was a man whom everybody could admire and respect.

**HON. J. NICHOLSON** (Metropolitan) [4.36]: I should like to join with the Leader of the House and Mr. Ewing regarding the motion before us, and say how deeply I personally regret the tragic happening of yesterday. It came with a suddenness that must have been a very great and severe shock to the widow and relatives of the deceased. We realise that we all have a destiny to fulfil in this life. That destiny has been fulfilled by the late member. The only thing that is now left for us to recall regarding him are those things that we admired so much in him during his life. He fulfilled his duties faithfully and well, and he was a man in whom everyone had the fullest confidence. We admired him for his uprightness and his honourable character. The loss that the House of which he was a member will sustain will be a very great one. I join most sympathetically in the motion before us.

**HON. G. FRASER** (West) [4.38]: I should like to join the previous speakers who have addressed themselves to this motion. The shock to me yesterday was a very great one, as right up to the time the bells were ringing for the sitting I was in conversation with our late comrade. Although I have not been a great length of time in this Chamber, I had been associated with the late Mr. Heron in our movement for a great number of years, and so I can appreciate, perhaps more than some other members of this Chamber, the lovable nature that he had. I feel very deeply indeed for his relatives, more particularly as Mr. Heron was an ideal family man. He took his duties very seriously. He did all that was possible, in the first place for his constituents, and in the second place for the State as a whole. I think Mr. Heron met the death he would have chosen, in that he died in harness. I deeply regret the occasion, and I join with the previous speakers in supporting the motion.

**HON. H. SEDDON** (North-East) [4.40]: I should like to support the motion because of my associations with Mr. Heron who, as the Chief Secretary has said, was a lovable man in all respects. He was a quiet, but diligent worker on behalf of his constituency, and a man who had sympathetic toleration for the opinions of others. He was prepared to work in conjunction with all for the development of the State. The unfortunate experiences which had been his during the past 12 months have now fallen with still heavier force on those he has left behind. We all feel very deeply for the widow and family.

**THE HONORARY MINISTER** (Hon. W. H. Kitson—West) [4.41]: It is with the deepest feelings of regret that I rise to join in the remarks already made by the Leader of the House and other members. Everybody who knew the late member must have had the utmost regard for him. He led a very strenuous life, in the interests of himself and family, and also of his country. His loss is a severe one to the public life of the State, but more particularly to those whom he has left behind. Knowing as I did, the nature of the man, and the trials and tribulations he had to suffer during the last year or two, I feel that the least we can do for his family is to

express our deep sympathy with them, and trust that while their loss may be a very severe one, the knowledge that Mr. Heron was always looked upon as a loyal and true man will be some solace to the family in their severe trial.

**THE PRESIDENT** [4.42]: In putting the motion, I should like to say we were all too shocked yesterday at the sudden demise of Mr. Heron to express our appreciation of his many high qualities. In the lobbies he was well liked, and deservedly so. I, as a goldfields member with him, knew him for a great many years. I can say he was a man whom it was ever pleasant to meet; a man whom the more one knew of him, the more one appreciated him. He was possessed of many fine attributes, was one of nature's gentlemen, a man who never harboured animosity and who always saw only what was best in those with whom he came into contact. To his constituency of Mt. Leonora his death will be a severe loss. Just now, the mining industry, especially at Gwalia, needs all the attention its representatives can give it. In Mr. Heron it had an able and vigilant champion during the eight years he was in Parliament. His name was not always prominently before the public, but nevertheless whilst preferring to work unostentatiously, he rendered valuable service as a legislator and in helping to meet the requirements of an outback mining electorate, and the goldfields generally of the State. In submitting this motion, I ask hon. members to carry it in the usual way by rising in their places.

Question passed; members standing.

*House adjourned at 4.45 p.m.*

## Legislative Assembly.

Thursday, 4th October, 1928.

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The **SPEAKER** took the Chair at 4.30 p.m. and read prayers.

### OBITUARY—MR. T. J. HERON, M.L.A.

**THE PREMIER** (Hon. P. Collier—Boulder) [4.32]: It came, I am sure, as a great shock to every member of the House when it was learned last evening that our friend and colleague, Mr. Heron, had passed suddenly away within the precincts of the House. His passing, I think, was in a manner in keeping with his whole life, for he was a man that lived at peace with everybody. I am sure that during the eight years he was in this House, no member ever heard him give expression to a wrong or offensive word to any other member. We know, too, that he was a man that never entertained an ill thought of anybody. He was a big, genial, good-hearted, generous man. He had given much of his time to the service of the country, and was most conscientious in the discharge of his duties, not only in this House but in carrying out the work and responsibilities that he felt he owed to his constituents. He was a most loyal colleague and a friend of everybody. If he could have wished it, I believe it would have been his manner of passing. He died working in the service of the country and for the people that he loved so well. His death will be a very great blow to his family, and we can only offer at this stage our sincere sympathy and respect to those who are left to mourn his loss. I am sure his burly, manly form will be remembered by members of this House for many years to come. I move—

That this House places on record its deep regret at the death of Mr. Thomas John Heron, M.L.A., and tenders to his widow and the members of his family its sincerest sympathy in the loss they have sustained, and desires the terms of this resolution to be communicated to them by Mr. Speaker.

**HON. SIR JAMES MITCHELL** (Northam) [4.35]: I join with the Premier in expressing to the widow and family of the late Mr. Heron the sympathy we feel for them in the tremendous loss they have sustained. The Premier has rightly said that