

Legislative Assembly,

Thursday, 11th August, 1904.

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THE SPEAKER took the Chair at 8:30 o'clock, p.m.

PRAYERS.

NEW MINISTRY.

THE SPEAKER announced that he had received the following letter:—

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Perth, 11th August, 1904.

SIR,—In accordance with section 30, subsection 3, of the Constitution Act Amendment Act, 63 Vict., No. 19, I have the honour to forward herewith, for your information, a copy of the *Government Gazette*, notifying the appointment of Henry Daglish, M.L.A., to be Colonial Treasurer and Minister for Education; Robert Hastie, M.L.A., to be Minister for Mines and Justice; William Dartnell Johnson, M.L.A., to be Minister for Works; George Taylor, M.L.A., to be Colonial Secretary; John Barkell Holman, M.L.A., to be Minister for Railways and Labour; and William Charles Angwin, M.L.A., to be Minister without portfolio.

I have, etc.,

GEORGE TAYLOR,
Colonial Secretary.

The Honourable the Speaker,
Legislative Assembly, Perth.

The SPEAKER farther announced the receipt of a copy of the *Gazette* notifying the appointments referred to in the foregoing letter.

HON. W. C. ANGWIN (East Fremantle), honorary Minister speaking from the Treasury bench, said: I beg to move that the seats of Mr. Daglish for the district of Subiaco, Mr. Hastie for the district of Kanowna, Mr. Johnson for the district of Kalgoorlie, Mr. Taylor for the district of Mt. Margaret, and Mr. Holman for the district of Murchison, be declared vacant.

THE SPEAKER: It will be necessary to mention the cause of the vacancies.

MEMBER: Accepted office of profit.

MR. ANGWIN: Having accepted offices of profit.

MR. F. GILL (Balkatta), speaking from Ministerial side: I second the motion.

Question put and passed.

ADJOURNMENT FOR MINISTERIAL ELECTIONS.

HON. W. C. ANGWIN (Minister):

I beg to move "That the House at its rising do adjourn until 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, the 13th September." In doing so, hon. members will recognise that the adjournment is necessary to enable Ministers to carry out their various elections, and to enable them to prepare their Estimates and the various measures they intend to submit to members for their consideration. I may also point out, what hon. members are well aware of, that it is proposed to make various alterations in respect to this Chamber, and that the time required for carrying out these alterations will take one month. I feel certain hon. members will agree to this motion.

MR. TROY (Mt. Magnet), speaking from Ministerial side: I second the motion.

MR. WALTER JAMES (East Perth), speaking from Opposition front bench: I think the Government will need the time that the hon. member for East Fremantle asks on their behalf; and I think it will shorten the labours of Parliament if that time be granted, for the Government will thereby be enabled, when the House does meet, to come down with all the material ready that they propose to place before us in the course of this session. In agreeing to the motion, and in endorsing the observations of the member for East Fremantle, may I express my surprise at that portion of the information which you, sir, read from the *Government Gazette* intimating that the new Ministry have appointed an honorary Minister. I can of course understand the reason. If we look at the six gentlemen who hold office, the Ministers with portfolios, the men who actually control the government of the State, subject always to caucus

THE SPEAKER: I think the hon. member is not in order in going outside the motion to adjourn.

MR. JAMES: I think I am in order in discussing this.

MR. MORAN: It is usual on occasions of this kind to allow liberty to the leaders on each side.

MR. JAMES: I think so. I do not want to say anything unfair. While

emphasising my desire to assist my friends opposite as far as possible to complete their policy in order to meet the House, I want to point out that I think the member for East Fremantle has been appointed for geographical reasons, for the same reasons which actuated the Ministry in appointing the member for Murchison. I do not disapprove of the appointment of hon. Ministers, but what I approve of does not always meet with the approval of my friends opposite. I have a distinct recollection of an observation being made by the present Premier, in July, 1901, who then said:—

While congratulating the Government on obtaining the services of the hon. member for East Perth (Hon. W. H. James), I think the principle of appointing honorary Ministers is bad, and I am sorry it is being introduced in this State even for the first time. There may be some justification or reason why it should be adopted in the Upper House, so as to give some degree of assistance to the Minister for Lands as being the only Minister representing the Government in that House, and that must be a difficult task when it devolves on only one Minister.

I merely desire to point this out. The hon. member who is now the Premier was then of the opinion that the principle of appointing honorary Ministers was bad; and we see on the very threshold of our friends' accepting office how they depart in practice from the principles they preach. I desire to support the motion.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly at 3.45 o'clock, until the 13th September.

Legislative Assembly,

Tuesday, 13th September, 1904.

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THE SPEAKER took the Chair at 3.30 o'clock, p.m.

PRAYERS.

MINISTERIAL RE-ELECTIONS, SWEARING-IN.

MR. SPEAKER (Hon. M. H. Jacoby) reported the following election returns received since the change of Ministry, namely: Subiaco, the Hon. Henry Duglish, re-elected on acceptance of office as Premier, Treasurer, and Minister for Education; Kanowna, the Hon. Robert Hastie, re-elected on acceptance of office as Minister for Mines and Justice; Kalgoorlie, the Hon. William Dartnell Johnson, re-elected on acceptance of office as Minister for Works; Mount Margaret, the Hon. George Taylor, re-elected on acceptance of office as Colonial Secretary; Murchison, the Hon. John Barkell Holman, re-elected on acceptance of office as Minister for Railways and Labour. These members being duly sworn took the oath and their seats.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the MINISTER FOR MINES AND JUSTICE: Amended Regulations under Mining Act, Statement of Expenditure under Mining Development Act, Regulations under Explosives Act.

By the MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND LABOUR: Amendment of By-law No. 13, Government Railways.

By the PREMIER: Report by Surveyor General, Regulations respecting Public Moneys under Audit Act, Final Report of Royal Commission on Forestry, Annual Reports of Education Department, Woods and Forests Department, Lands Department, General Descriptive Report as to Transcontinental Railway Boring, August 1902 to December 1903.

QUESTION—HARBOUR TRUST FOR BUNBURY.

Mr. GORDON, for Mr. N. J. Moore, asked the Premier: Whether it is in-