

WESTERN AUSTRALIA,

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES.

FIRST SESSION OF THE FIRST PARLIAMENT.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The First Parliament under Responsible Government was convened for the despatch of business on 30th December, 1890; and the first Session commenced on that day.

Parliament was opened by Commission.

Legislative Council,

Tuesday, 30th December, 1890.

Opening of Council—Governor's Commissioners—Swearing in Members—President of Council: appointment of—Issue of Writs—Commission to President to swear in Members—Standing Orders—Standing Orders: Select Committee—House Committee—Adjournment.

MEETING OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The Council met at noon, pursuant to a Proclamation, which was read by the Clerk of the Parliaments.

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSIONERS.

Sir H. T. Wrenfordsley and Mr. E. A. Stone, the Commissioners appointed by the Governor to open Parliament, attended the Chamber and desired the Clerk to request the attendance of the Members of the Legislative Assembly, who being come, the Senior Commissioner (Sir H. T. Wrenfordsley) read the Commission empowering them to open Parliament.

THE SENIOR COMMISSIONER then said:

"HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

"We have it in command from His Excellency the Governor to inform you that as soon as the Members of both

"Houses shall be sworn, the causes of His Excellency's calling this Parliament will be declared to you; and it being necessary that a Speaker of the Legislative Assembly should be first chosen, it is His Excellency's pleasure that you, Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly, repair to the place where you are to sit, and having been duly sworn by the Commissioner appointed by His Excellency, you do elect your Speaker, and notify the same to His Excellency."

SWEARING IN MEMBERS.

The Senior Commissioner then administered the Oath of Allegiance to the members present.

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.

The Senior Commissioner informed the House that His Excellency, under the ninth section of "The Constitution Act, 1889," had appointed the Honorable Sir Thomas Cockburn-Campbell, Bart., to be President of the Council.

ISSUE OF WRITS.

His Excellency's Senior Commissioner, the members of the Legislative Assembly being present, read the following speech

declaring the reasons for calling Parliament together:—

“HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,—

“We have it in command from His Excellency to acquaint you that since the time when he deemed it right to call you together for the despatch of business, several vacancies have occurred in the House of Assembly, owing to the acceptance of office from the Crown by Members of that House.

“It is therefore His Excellency’s pleasure that an opportunity may now be given to issue Writs for supplying the vacancies so occasioned, and that after a suitable recess you may proceed to the consideration of such matters as will then be laid before you.”

The Commissioners and the Members of the House of Assembly then withdrew from the Council Chamber.

COMMISSION TO SWEAR IN MEMBERS.

THE PRESIDENT (Sir T. C. Campbell, Bart.) informed the House that he had received a Commission from the Governor, appointing him a Commissioner to administer the oath of allegiance to Members of the Legislative Council.

STANDING ORDERS.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) moved, That until such time as the Legislative Council shall adopt Standing Rules and Orders as provided by section 34 of the Constitution Act, 1889, resort shall be had to the rules, forms and usages of the Imperial Parliament, so far as the same are applicable to the proceedings of this Council.

Question—put and passed.

STANDING ORDERS—SELECT COMMITTEE.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) moved, That a Select Committee be appointed to draw up Standing Orders for the guidance of the business of this House; that such Committee consist of the President, the Honorable G. W. Leake, J. W. Hackett, and the Mover, and that leave be given to the Committee to sit during the adjournment of the House.

Question—put and passed.

HOUSE COMMITTEE.

The following members were appointed a House Committee:—The President, Hon. J. G. H. Amherst, and the Colonial Secretary (Hon. G. Shenton).

ADJOURNMENT.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) moved, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, the 20th January, 1891, at three o’clock, p.m.

Question—put and passed.

The Council adjourned at a quarter to three o’clock, p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Tuesday, 30th December, 1890.

Meeting of Assembly—Message from Commissioners—Members sworn—Election of Speaker—Presentation of the Speaker—Adjournment—Communication from His Excellency’s Commissioners—Standing Orders—Re-election of Ministry—Resignation of Member—Adjournment.

MEETING OF ASSEMBLY.

The House met at noon, pursuant to Proclamation of His Excellency the Governor convening Parliament.

THE CLERK read the Proclamation.

MESSAGE FROM COMMISSIONERS.

A Message from the Commissioners appointed by His Excellency the Governor was delivered by the Usher of the Black Rod, requesting the attendance of the Members of the Legislative Assembly in the Legislative Council Chamber to hear the Commission read. Accordingly hon. members repaired to the Legislative Council, where the Commissioners being seated, His Honor the Acting Chief Justice (Sir Henry Wrenfordsley) said:

“HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

“We have it in command from His Excellency the Governor to inform you that as soon as the Members of both Houses shall be sworn, the causes of