

past will continue during the period of the present Parliament. For some few years we have been living under the system of Responsible Government, and perhaps some notice may be taken of the position which some of us have taken up this evening, on this side of the House. I may assure the Government and this House that it is from no sordid or personal motives that we take up that position here, but we consider the time has come when we should show the country that there are a body of members who are capable of some cohesion, and able to place themselves in the position of Her Majesty's Opposition, as distinguished from Her Majesty's Ministers, in this House. It is not that we intend in any way to thwart the Government, but rather to unitedly assist the Government. I can assure the Government and the House that we on this side have quite as patriotic motives as hon. members on the other side. We have retained the hon. member on my right (Mr. Leake), I may say, for the defence, and I am sure he performed his part this evening most ably. And I trust that, in dealing with the measures which come before us this session, all hon. members in this House may be animated with the same feelings and the same desire for promoting the welfare and benefit of the colony, as I am sure that I, as a West Australian, have.

MR. RANDELL moved that the debate be adjourned until the next day.

Question put and passed.

Debate adjourned accordingly until Tuesday, 31st July.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 11 o'clock, p.m.

## Legislative Council,

Tuesday, 31st July, 1894.

New Member—Completion and working of Geraldton-Mullewa Railway—Sale of Great Southern Railway to Government—Library Committee, Appointment of—Standing Orders Committee, Appointment of—House Committee, Appointment of—Printing Committee, Appointment of—Supply Bill: first reading; Suspension of Standing Orders; second reading; third reading—Address-in-Reply, Presentation of—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton) took the chair at 3 o'clock, p.m.

#### PRAYERS.

#### NEW MEMBER.

The Hon. H. J. SAUNDERS, having taken the oath required by law, and signed the members' roll, took his seat.

#### COMPLETION AND WORKING OF GERALDTON-MULLEWA RAILWAY.

THE HON. H. MCKERNAN asked the Colonial Secretary:—

1. The time stated in the contract for completing the Mullewa Railway.
2. If any extension of time has been granted to the contractor for this line; and, if so, upon what grounds.
3. What extent of the line is now made, and, if used by the public, what is the rate of charges.
4. Has the Government any intention of taking over the part of the line constructed, and utilising it as other Government lines in the colony.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) replied as follows:—

1. The time for completing this railway, 19th July, 1894.
2. No extension of time has as yet been granted.
3. The permanent way is laid to 54 miles 30 chains. The contractor conveys the traffic, I believe, over the line on his own responsibility and at his own charges.
4. Government has no intention of taking over this line until fully completed.

#### SALE OF GREAT SOUTHERN RAILWAY TO THE GOVERNMENT.

THE HON. F. T. CROWDER, on behalf of the Hon. C. A. PIESSE, asked the Colonial Secretary whether the West Australian Land Company have ever

offered to sell to the Government their railway, known as the Great Southern; and, if so, upon what terms.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) replied: The West Australian Land Company has never communicated with the Government on this subject.

#### LIBRARY COMMITTEE—APPOINTMENT OF.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) moved: That the Library Committee of the Council for the present session consist of the following members, viz.:—The President, Hon. J. W. Hackett, and the Mover; with leave to sit during any adjournment and during the recess, and authority to act jointly with the Library Committee of the Legislative Assembly. He said: As many hon. members are new to Parliament, I may be permitted to inform them that there is a Parliamentary Library, kept at the Legislative Assembly, which is a joint library belonging to both Houses, which members can use whenever they desire. At present the library is small, but at the same time it is a very good one. I beg to move the motion.

THE HON. D. K. CONGDON: I should like to ask why three members only are selected. Is it necessary only to have three members?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): The reason is that three members only have been appointed by the Legislative Assembly. Where the committees are joint ones, it is usual to have an equal number of members from both Houses. Where the committees are not joint ones this House will, of course, be able to appoint as many members as it thinks fit.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton): If the hon. member looks at page 362 of the Standing Orders, he will see the procedure, there.

Question put and passed.

#### STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE—APPOINTMENT OF.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) moved: That the Standing Orders Committee for the present session consist of the following members, viz.:—The President, Hon. J. W. Hackett, and

the Mover; with leave to sit during any adjournment, and authority to confer on matters of mutual concernment with any Committee appointed for similar purposes by the Legislative Assembly. He said: This is a committee appointed at the commencement of each session, but, as a matter of fact, since the Standing Orders have been printed, this committee has had no work to do. Still, the committee is appointed to act if the necessity arises. Question put and passed.

#### HOUSE COMMITTEE—APPOINTMENT OF.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): The following motion stands in my name:—That the House Committee for the present session consist of the following members, viz.: The President, Hon. E. G. Henty, and the Mover; with power to act during the recess, and to confer with any similar committee of the Legislative Assembly. I propose to substitute the name of the Hon. F. T. Crowder instead of my own. I believe the Legislative Assembly have four members, and I do not see why we should not also have four. I therefore propose to add the name of the Hon. D. K. Congdon to the committee.

THE HON. D. K. CONGDON: As I am rarely in town, except to attend this House, I would prefer that some other hon. member acted.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): If the hon. member does not desire it, I will not propose his name.

THE HON. D. K. CONGDON: I would rather you did not.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): Then I will propose the name of the Hon. H. J. Saunders instead.

Motion agreed to, as follows:—That the House Committee for the present session consist of the following members, viz.:—The President, the Honourables E. G. Henty, F. T. Crowder, and H. J. Saunders; with power to act during the recess, and to confer with any similar committee of the Legislative Assembly.

#### PRINTING COMMITTEE—APPOINTMENT OF.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) moved:—That the Printing Committee for the present session

consist of the following members, viz. :—  
The President, Hon. J. C. G. Foulkes,  
and the Mover. The object of this com-  
mittee is to advise the President at the  
end of the session as to what papers  
should be printed.

Question put and passed.

#### SUPPLY BILL.

This Bill was received from the Legis-  
lative Assembly, and was read a first  
time.

The Standing Orders were suspended.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon.  
S. H. Parker): This Bill is simply to  
give the Government funds with which  
to pay the salaries which fall due to-  
morrow, until the Estimates for the year  
are passed. The amount provided is  
£150,000, which is estimated will be  
sufficient for two months' requirements,  
and the money will only be available for  
services voted by Parliament this session.  
I move the second reading.

Question put and passed.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon.  
S. H. Parker): Since the establishment  
of Responsible Government, and we have  
had a Legislative Council and a Legisla-  
tive Assembly, the President of the Upper  
House has kindly performed the duties  
of Chairman of Committees, which has  
saved a considerable expense to the  
public funds. As you, sir, have been  
good enough to fill the position before,  
I beg to move that during the present  
session the duties of Chairman of Com-  
mittees be performed by the President  
(the Hon. Sir G. Shenton), and I am glad  
that I am able to move it with your  
leave.

THE HON. E. G. HENTY seconded the  
motion.

Question put and passed.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G.  
Shenton): I may say that I shall  
have much pleasure in carrying out the  
duties, as I did during the last Parlia-  
ment.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon.  
S. H. Parker): I now move that you do  
now leave the chair.

Question put and passed.

#### IN COMMITTEE.

The Bill was then considered in com-  
mittee, and agreed to without amendment

#### THIRD READING.

The Bill was then read a third time,  
and passed.

#### ADDRESS-IN-REPLY—PRESENTATION OF.

The business of the Council was sus-  
pended to permit of the President and hon.  
members presenting the Address-in-Reply  
to His Excellency. On returning, the  
President read the following reply, which  
His Excellency had been pleased to  
make :—

“ MR. PRESIDENT AND HONOURABLE  
“ GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE  
“ COUNCIL,—

“ I thank you for your Address-in-  
“ Reply to my opening Speech, and for  
“ the assurance of your desire to deal  
“ with all the questions that come before  
“ you in such a manner as to promote the  
“ advancement and welfare of the colony.  
“ Government House, Perth, 31st July,  
“ 1894.”

#### ADJOURNMENT.

The Council, at 3.45 o'clock, p.m., ad-  
journed until Wednesday, 8th August,  
at 4.30 o'clock, p.m.