

member has any particular case in view, the Commissioner of Railways will do what he can to meet his wishes, but this motion is rather too wide for us to agree to off-hand. The motion states, railways through settled districts should be fenced, but what is a settled district? All the line from here to Bunbury and the Vasse, and up to Donnybrook and Beverley would have to be fenced. [Mr. COOKWORTHY: A great deal is fenced.] Then, too, we would have to fence from Geraldton out nearly to the Greenough, and from Walkaway to Geraldton. It will be a great expense, and it will be better to have particular cases given. The Government recognise it would be better to have the lines fenced, but it will cost a great deal to do it, and I do not think it necessary.

MR. COOKWORTHY: The Premier asks me to name a particular place, and the place I more especially refer to is between Boyanup and Ludlow.

MR. HASSELL: It has been found that in my district there is more danger where the line is fenced, as the only places where cattle and horses are killed are on the fenced portions of the line. It seems to me to be safer if the line is unfenced, as the feed is much better on the fenced portions, and attracts the stock on to the line. I quite agree with what the hon. member behind me said, that it is useless to fence in some country. In the district I have the honor to represent, where cattle have been killed is on the fenced portions, and I am sorry I cannot support the motion, but I cannot.

Motion put, and negatived on the voices.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 8:50, p.m., until the next Tuesday.

## Legislative Assembly,

Tuesday, 11th August, 1896.

Question: Fremantle North Mole Jetty Contract—Bills of Sale Bill; first reading—Federal Council reference Bill; first reading—Streets and Roads (Greenmount and Marble Bar) Closure Bill; first reading—Municipal Institutions Act Amendment Bill; third reading—Companies Act Amendment Bill; second reading; in Committee—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the chair at 4:30 o'clock, p.m.

#### PRAYERS.

#### QUESTION—FREMANTLE NORTH MOLE JETTY CONTRACT.

MR. MOSS, in accordance with notice, asked the Director of Public Works,—(1.) What was the date of the signing of the contract for the construction of the Jetty at the North Mole of the Swan River. (2.) Whether the Department were aware that the work had not yet been commenced. (3.) If so, what was the reason for the delay.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS (Hon. F. H. Piessé) replied:—(1.) 14th April, 1896. The tender was accepted on 10th April, 1896, and it is from this date that the contract commences. (2.) The piles are commenced to be driven. (3.) When allowance is made for the necessary time for arranging for timber and procuring it, there has not been so much delay as might at first sight appear, and there is no reason, at any rate, why the work, which is now commenced, could not be completed by the due date, namely, 10th January next. The contractor has frequently been urged to get his timber on to the ground quicker, but his reply has always been that, for a variety of reasons, it is impossible to do so. If the work is not completed by contract date, he will, of course, have to pay the penalty, which is £25 per week.

#### BILLS OF SALE BILL.

Introduced by MR. JAMES, and read a first time.

#### FEDERAL COUNCIL REFERENCE BILL.

Introduced by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, and read a first time.

**STREETS AND ROADS (GREENMOUNT AND MARBLE BAR) CLOSURE BILL.**

Introduced by the ATTORNEY GENERAL, and read a first time.

**MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.**

THIRD READING.

Bill read a third time, and transmitted to the Legislative Council.

**COMPANIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.**

SECOND READING.

MR. MOSS, in moving the second reading, said: This measure to amend the Companies Act has been introduced into the Legislative Council, and passed there; the object of the measure being to simplify the method of proving incorporation, or I may more correctly say the registration, of foreign companies in this colony. Hon. members are no doubt aware that, under the Companies Act, all companies registered outside of this colony are obliged to go through the formality of registration here by depositing a power of attorney, as described in section 198 of the Companies Act, together with certain other formalities therein set forth. It has been found necessary in the case of foreign companies doing business in the colony, and particularly when taking proceedings in courts of law in this colony, in order to prove that the formalities required by the Act have been duly complied with, that an officer of the Supreme Court shall be in attendance, and shall produce the whole of the documents showing that the requirements of the section I have referred to have been duly complied with. The inconvenience and expense of that procedure may not be very seriously felt in and around Perth; but in other portions of the colony, such as the goldfields, these requirements of the Act have been productive of very great inconvenience and expense; therefore, with the object of removing this inconvenience, it is proposed in the Bill that, on the various formalities being complied with, the Registrar of Companies shall issue a certificate to any person applying for it, such certificate being set forth in the schedule of this Bill; the effect of which certificate is to show that the formalities of the Act have been duly complied with.

Clause 4 in the Bill provides that the certificate shall be conclusive evidence against the company, and shall be presumptive evidence on behalf of the company, after the company has been duly incorporated in this colony. The measure will be seen to be a useful one, and a great saving of expense in the case of persons dealing with foreign companies; and I feel sure the Bill will recommend itself to the members of this Assembly. I therefore have pleasure in moving the second reading.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

IN COMMITTEE.

THE CHAIRMAN asked if the hon. member in charge of the Bill desired to have marginal notes inserted.

MR. MOSS said he had not had anything to do with the Bill before it came down to this House, but he would suggest marginal notes to the several clauses.

Clauses 1 to 4 (inclusive) agreed to, with marginal notes added.

Schedule:

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt) suggested that progress be reported at this stage, as he had further provisions relating to companies in a Bill which had been in preparation, and he had not been able to look sufficiently into this Bill to see whether it would clash with the provisions he had in view. If not, it might be advisable to incorporate those provisions in this Bill, instead of having another amending measure. The provisions he particularly referred to were for enabling companies to have a foreign register elsewhere, and also to issue what were known as share warrants. By Imperial legislation, any company registered in England had power to open a register in a colony; and the Government desired to give the power to companies registered here to have a foreign register also. The proposal was that fully paid-up shareholders might get their names taken off the list, and obtain share warrants in lieu thereof. This would be very useful to people travelling. The Government had been considering these proposals, but would like progress to be reported now, so that the matter could be looked into more fully.

MR. JAMES said progress might be reported, and leave be obtained to sit

again on Thursday week. The Act needed amendment; and he pointed out that South Australia, from whose Act the present Act in this colony had been taken, had since passed an amending measure, which showed the need for further amendment in this colony.

On the motion of Mr. Moss, progress was reported, and leave given to sit again on Thursday, 20th August.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at three minutes past 5 o'clock, p.m., until next day.

## Legislative Council,

Wednesday, 12th August, 1896.

New Member—West Australian Turf Club Bill: Report of Select Committee—Pilbarra Goldfields: Survey and Construction of—Coolgardie Railway: Additional Payments to Contractors—High School: Particulars concerning—Savings Bank Funds: Advances on Agricultural Lands from—Transfer of Land Act Amendment Bill: second reading; committee—Married Women's Property Act Amendment Bill: third reading—Streets Closure Bill: third reading—Municipal Institutions Act Amendment Bill: first reading—Coolgardie Water Supply Loan Bill: first reading—Agricultural Lands Purchase Bill: second reading—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton) took the chair at 4:30 o'clock, p.m.

#### PILBARRA GOLDFIELDS RAILWAY— SURVEY AND CONSTRUCTION OF.

THE HON. F. M. STONE asked the Minister of Mines:—

1. When the report on the survey of the proposed railway to Pilbarra Goldfield would be furnished to the House.

2. If it was the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill for the construction of the said railway; and, if so, when.

3. If it was not the intention of the Government to introduce such a Bill, for what reasons.

THE MINISTER FOR MINES (Hon. E. H. Wittenoom) replied, as follows:—

1. A report will be furnished in about a month's time.

2 & 3. The question of introducing a Bill is under consideration, but it is not probable that a decision will be arrived at in time to allow of it being dealt with this Session.

#### COOLGARDIE RAILWAY—ADDITIONAL PAYMENTS TO CONTRACTORS.

THE HON. A. B. KIDSON asked the Minister of Mines, Whether the Government paid, or agreed to pay, to Messrs. Wilkie Brothers any moneys in excess of contract moneys on taking over the Boorabbin section of the Southern Cross-Coolgardie Railway; and, if so, what sum.

THE MINISTER FOR MINES (Hon. E. H. Wittenoom) replied, That the Government had neither paid nor agreed to pay any moneys in excess of contract moneys.

#### HIGH SCHOOL—PARTICULARS CONCERNING.

THE HON. R. G. BURGESS asked the Minister of Mines:—

1. What amount was paid, by way of subsidy, to the High School annually.

2. What amount was paid in Scholarships annually.

3. If the Government were in possession of School Building, etc.

4. If the Government looked upon the High School as part of the Educational System of the Colony.

5. If it was true that the Government took away the Recreation Ground used by the High School Boys, without providing another suitable site.

THE MINISTER FOR MINES (Hon. E. H. Wittenoom) replied, as follows:—

1. £500, under Act 40 Vic., No. 8.

2. The amount varies; last year £250 was paid.

3. Yes.

4. Yes; but it is not under the Education Department, being controlled by a Board of Governors, under Statute.

5. The Government required the reserve used by the High School for a site for the Observatory, but it is intended to prepare another Recreation Ground for the High School.