

other motions, as they are debatable matters, and I hope members will not press any of them.

Motions postponed.

At 2.43, the SPEAKER left the Chair until 4 o'clock.

At 4 o'clock, Chair resumed.

ADJOURNMENT.

THE PREMIER moved "That the House at its rising do adjourn until Tuesday, the 27th August."

Question put and passed.

The House accordingly adjourned at three minutes past 4 o'clock until Tuesday, 27th August, 1901.

Legislative Council,

Tuesday, 27th August, 1901.

Obituary: W. Spencer; New Member—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4.30 o'clock, p.m.

PRAYERS.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the MINISTER FOR LANDS: 1, By-laws, Municipality of Coolgardie; 2, Minerals Lands Acts, Amendment of Regulation 12, Exemption on Prospecting Areas; 3, Land Act, Regulations for Residential Leases, By-laws for Protection of Caves; Annual Reports—4, Victoria Public Library; 5, Department of Agriculture; 6, Under Secretary for Lands; 7, Surveyor General; 8, Department of Public Works; 9, Department of Mines.

Ordered to lie on the table.

OBITUARY—W. SPENCER.

NEW MEMBER, SWEARING IN.

THE PRESIDENT: It is with great regret I have to inform hon. members

that during the adjournment of the Council I received a certificate from two members of this House, formally notifying to me the death of one of its members. I refer to the Hon. William Spencer, a member for the South-West Province. Mr. Spencer was a gentleman who was always held in the highest esteem by every member of this House; he was one who had been nearly the whole of his life in Western Australia, and who had proved not only a good citizen, but one of those who did much to build up the prosperity of the district in which he resided. Unfortunately, he was seized with illness; and, after a very few days, his death ensued. The last day before the adjournment, I received a letter from him in which he stated he had an attack of influenza, that he hoped it would last for a short time only, and that he should again be able to take his seat in this House. Unfortunately, that hope has not been realised, and he is dead. I am sure we shall be only following out what has been the custom in the past, if we show our appreciation of the services rendered to this Council by the late Mr. Spencer. On receipt of the notification of his death, according to the regulations under the Constitution Act I issued a new writ. By that writ, it appears that Mr. Ephraim Mayo Clarke has been elected as a member for the South-West Province in place of the late Mr. Spencer.

HON. E. M. CLARKE, having been introduced, took the oath required by law, and signed the roll.

THE MINISTER FOR LANDS (Hon. C. Sommers): I desire to supplement the President's remarks with regard to the respect in which the late Mr. Spencer was held by members of this House. In losing him we have lost a very old settler of this State; and I am sure every member deeply regrets his death. I think we should be wanting in respect to his memory were we to proceed farther with the business of the day; and I have much pleasure in moving that this House do now adjourn.

HON. J. W. HACKETT (South-West): I have more than pleasure in seconding this motion. Mr. Spencer, who we hoped would continue to give us his service for some years, has been unexpectedly snatched away in the midst of a career of great usefulness to the district in which

he lived. He was a worthy son of Australia, who devoted all his life to pushing forward that part of the continent in which he had his residence, and where he worked for a very long lifetime, laying up a store of universal esteem and regard from all who knew him.

Question put and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned accordingly at 4:50 o'clock, until the next day.

Legislative Assembly,

Tuesday, 27th August, 1901.

Election Writ, West Kimberley—Royal Visit, Reply to Address—Papers Presented—Railway Administration: Charges against Officers, Suspensions, Inquiry; Questions asked; Motion of urgency, debate—Adjournment.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 4:30 o'clock, p.m.

PRAYERS.

ELECTION WRIT, WEST KIMBERLEY.

The SPEAKER announced the return of writ issued for election to the seat for West Kimberley, vacant by the death of Mr. A. Forrest; and that Mr. S. C. Piggott had been duly elected.

Mr. PIGGOTT, having been introduced, took the oath and subscribed the roll.

THE ROYAL VISIT—REPLY TO ADDRESS.

The SPEAKER announced that he had received the following reply from the Duke of Cornwall and York, to the Address of welcome from Parliament:—

MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

I have received with deep appreciation the Address which has been presented to me on behalf of the Parliament of this State, according to the Duchess and myself a hearty welcome to Western Australia.

We have already had an earnest of the deep feeling of loyalty to the Throne expressed in the greetings with which we have been received since our arrival here; and we shall leave the shores of this great Continent with a gratifying sense of the great pleasure that we have received in having become acquainted with its inhabitants and its varied interests on which the welfare of your country so greatly depends.

GEORGE.

Government House, Perth,
26th July, 1901.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the PREMIER: 1, Lands and Surveys—Report by the Under Secretary for Lands for 1900; 2, Lands and Surveys—Report by the Surveyor General for 1900; 3, Department of Agriculture—Report by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture for 1900; 4, "The Lands Act, 1898"—Regulations for Residential Leases, and By-Laws relating to the Protection of Caves; 5, Revenue derived from Lands and Railway Departments—Return to Order of the House dated 11th July, 1901; 6, Expenditure in certain Government Departments—Return to Order of the House, dated 11th July, 1901; 7, Agreements with Midland Railway Company—Return to Order of the House, dated 18th July, 1901.

By the COLONIAL TREASURER: 1, Victoria Public Library—Report of Committee, 1900-1; 2, By-Laws of the Municipality of Coolgardie.

By the MINISTER FOR WORKS: 1, Department of Public Works, Report for the half-year ending 31st December, 1900.

By the MINISTER FOR MINES: 1, Department of Mines, Report for 1900; 2, Amended Regulations relating to Exemption of Prospecting Areas.

Ordered to lie on the table.

RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION—CHARGES AGAINST OFFICERS, SUSPENSIONS, AND INQUIRY.

QUESTIONS ASKED.

HON. F. H. PIESSE (Williams): Before the business of the day is proceeded with, I wish to ask the leader of the Government, by leave and without notice—

MR. J. GARDINER: Mr. Speaker, as I am about to make a motion with refer-