

ADJOURNMENT.

THE MINISTER FOR LANDS: The Legislative Assembly having, as he understood, adjourned till 4:30 on Monday next, he moved that the House at its rising do adjourn till the same day and hour.

Question put and passed.

The House accordingly adjourned at 12 minutes past 6 o'clock, until the next Monday afternoon.

Legislative Assembly,

Tuesday, 12th November, 1901.

Papers presented—Assent to Bill—No-confidence Resolution: Statement by the Premier—Prince of Wales: Address of Congratulation—Select Committees: Extension of Time—Adjournment.

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

PRAYERS.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the **COLONIAL TREASURER:** By-laws, Municipalities of Kalgoorlie and Boulder.

By the **MINISTER FOR MINES:** 1, Amendment of Regulation 26 (Code of Signals), Mines Acts. 2, Regulations, Prospecting Areas for Coal and Oil, Mineral Lands Acts.

By the **PREMIER:** Return, Perth Park Board, particulars (on motion by Mr. Daglish).

ASSENT TO BILL.

Message from the Governor received and read, assenting to the Presbyterian Church of Australia Bill.

NO-CONFIDENCE RESOLUTION.

STATEMENT BY THE PREMIER.

THE PREMIER (Hon. G. Leake): On Saturday morning I informed the

House that, in consequence of the vote which had been carried against the Government, I should consider the position in which I found the Ministry and make an announcement to the House this afternoon. Due consideration has been given to all the circumstances; and Ministers have in the meantime advised His Excellency the Governor that Parliament should, in the circumstances, be dissolved. His Excellency, in the exercise of that constitutional discretion which is vested in him, does not see his way to follow the advice of Ministers on this occasion. It follows, therefore, that the only course for Ministers to pursue is to tender their resignations to His Excellency the Governor; and that will be done without any unnecessary delay. Indeed, it would have been done before now, had I not realised the fact that my immediate resignation would place my successor in the position of being without supplies, and consequently unable to carry on the business of the country constitutionally. It was my privilege to ask the House to grant supplies for a month; and the Supply Bill, introduced for that purpose, has passed its second reading in this House. The introduction of the no-confidence motion, however, prevented the passage of the Supply Bill, which is now on the Orders of the Day for its third reading. I propose, therefore, to ask the House, before we adjourn, to pass the third reading of the Supply Bill and immediately transmit the Bill by Message, in the ordinary way, to the Legislative Council, which body now awaits its arrival and will, I believe, suspend its Standing Orders for the purpose of carrying the Bill through all its stages this afternoon. The only duty then left to us will be to await a Message from the Legislative Council announcing the passage of the measure. His Excellency's assent will, of course, be given to the Bill in due course, and the incoming Ministry will find they have means at their disposal to administer the affairs of the State. I think this is the proper course for me to pursue; and I make the announcement that, should the Bill be passed this afternoon, my resignation will be in the hands of His Excellency to-morrow; and in the exercise of his discretion, he will no doubt seek the advice of another leader and other Minis-

ters. Before I close, I desire to tender my very hearty thanks to members who sit on this side, for the loyal support which has been given to me during this session; a short session, it is true, but one fraught with very much interest to myself, and I think to the country also. That our efforts have not met with the success the Government think they demanded at the hands of members and of the country, we can only say we regret; but should it be our province to take up the reins of Government at any future time, I can only hope we shall not have quite so many sitting in Opposition as we have had during this session. Again I thank members on this side of the House for the honest, cordial, and loyal support which has been given to this Government; and I trust I have not succeeded in making more personal enemies than the circumstances of the case demand or justify. I shall leave my position with no feelings of unpleasantness, or I hope bitterness, towards members who have opposed me, merely because I have found in them political opponents. (General applause.)

SUPPLY BILL (£500,000).

Read a third time, and transmitted to the Legislative Council.

SUSPENSION.

THE PREMIER: I think I should ask you, Mr. Speaker, to leave the Chair for a short time, in order that the Supply Bill may be considered by the Council.

THE SPEAKER: For how long?

THE PREMIER: Half-an-hour?

THE SPEAKER: I think so.

THE PREMIER: In the meantime I would ask the member for the Williams (Hon. F. H. Piessé) to consider what length of adjournment he would like to have, in order that I may move that the House, at its rising, do adjourn to a certain date.

At 4:45, the SPEAKER left the Chair.

At 5:45, Chair resumed.

PRINCE OF WALES—ADDRESS OF CONGRATULATION.

Message received from the Legislative Council, requesting concurrence in an Address of congratulation to the Duke of Cornwall and York, on his being

invested with the title and dignity of "Prince of Wales."

Message read. [See Legislative Council proceedings, ante.]

THE PREMIER (Hon. G. Leake): I move that the blank in the Message from the Council be filled by the insertion of the words "Legislative Assembly."

Put and passed.

THE PREMIER: I move the adoption of the resolution (embodying the Message of congratulation), in token of the loyalty and respect which we bear to the person and rank of their Royal Highnesses (the Duke and Duchess).

HON. F. H. PIESSE (Williams): I beg to second the adoption of the resolution.

Question put and passed.

Message in reply ordered to be transmitted to the Legislative Council.

SELECT COMMITTEES--EXTENSION OF TIME.

THE PREMIER: In view of the possibly lengthy adjournment of the House, I move, at the request of hon. members, that the time for bringing up the reports of the several select committees be extended until the 15th December.

Question put and passed.

THE SPEAKER: If any reports are ready to be brought up before we adjourn for the election of Ministers, the reports can be received.

SUPPLY BILL.

Message in reply received from the Legislative Council, notifying that the Supply Bill had been agreed to without amendment.

ADJOURNMENT.

THE PREMIER: At the request of the member for the Williams (Hon. F. H. Piessé), I move that the House at its rising do adjourn until 4:30 p.m. on Monday next.

Question put and passed.

The House accordingly adjourned at 5 minutes to 6 o'clock, until the next Monday afternoon.