

more anxiety than I have. I am not in favour of purchasing at the price mentioned, but I desire to protest against the innuendos and insinuations cast upon the Government of the day by their alleged supporters.

Question put, and negatived on the voices; no call for a division.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at nine minutes past 11 o'clock, until the next Tuesday.

### Legislative Assembly, Tuesday, 22nd August, 1905.

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THE SPEAKER took the Chair at 3-30 o'clock p.m.

#### PRAYERS.

#### PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the MINISTER FOR JUSTICE: Papers relating to the conviction at Geraldton of prisoners McGilvery, Linthorne, and Willis, for disorderly conduct.

By the PREMIER: 1, Half-yearly Report and Statement of Accounts of the Fremantle Harbour Trust to 30th June, 1905. 2, By-laws passed by the municipalities of Broome and North Perth. 3, Papers relating to the withdrawal from public schools of Volume III. of "The Story of the World," ordered on motion by Mr. Scaddan.

By the MINISTER FOR WORKS: Return of cost of cast-iron pipes made by Government employees, ordered on motion of Mr. Rason.

#### QUESTION—JANDAKOT RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

MR. BOLTON asked the Minister for Railways: 1, At what date does the Government intend to receive goods for transit by rail to Fremantle from Jandakot? 2, Is he aware that a number of persons are waiting to forward goods over that line?

THE MINISTER replied: 1, Arrangements have been made to run traffic from the 1st September. 2, Yes.

#### QUESTION—LIQUOR INSPECTION AND ANALYSES.

MR. DIAMOND asked the Premier: In view of the startling reports from the Government Analyst and the Chief Inspector of Liquors appearing in the daily Press, will instructions be immediately given to continue the series of analyses, to comprise all brands of spirituous liquors, especially whisky and brandy, for purposes of publication?

THE PREMIER replied: The Chief Inspector of Liquor is already dealing with this question, and another inspector will be appointed shortly to assist him. The duty of these officers will be to have the liquor retailed to the public analysed, so that the consumer may be protected from the harm liable to follow the use of an inferior or adulterated liquor.

#### PRIVILEGE—REMARKS BY A MINISTER AT KALGOORLIE.

##### COMPLAINTS BY MEMBERS.

MR. J. B. HOLMAN (Murchison): On a point of privilege I desire to make a few remarks. I noticed in yesterday's *West Australian* certain remarks made by the Minister for Mines and Railways at Kalgoorlie, in which it was said that I, amongst other members, had been "absolutely dishonest and corrupt." The Minister in making these remarks must have had absolute proof which he can produce to this House; otherwise he has gone beyond the bounds to which any honest or right-thinking man would go. If I am dishonest or corrupt, I have no

right to be in this Chamber amongst other members; and unless the Minister can prove those remarks he made, I maintain that he has no right to sit amongst hon. members in this Chamber. I maintain that when a man goes beyond his province and says that any member is dishonest or corrupt, either the man so accused must be proved as dishonest and corrupt and should go whence he came, or the man making the charge ought to be sent back to his constituents. Only last Thursday, we heard from the Minister in this House some very bitter remarks, charging members with innuendos and insinuations; and we find the same thing happening when the Minister went before a gathering of men outside this House: he made remarks that did not rebound either to the credit of himself or to the Legislature of this country.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member on a point of privilege must avoid making an attack on another member. If he wishes to call for an explanation or to make one, he has a right to do so; but he has no right to make any personal attack.

MR. HOLMAN: It is hard, in a matter like this, to call for an explanation unless certain things are placed fully before this Chamber regarding my reasons for seeking an explanation. I bow to the Speaker's ruling, and shall endeavour to keep as far as I possibly can within the rules of this House. Certain members and myself have been accused, amongst other things, of giving information to members of the Independent party and to members of the Opposition. I deny that I have ever spoken a dozen words in connection with any political matter with any member of the Independent party or of the Opposition. If such is not the case, I ask those members to get up and denounce me here, and I will be prepared to leave this Chamber and never look to come back to it again. I am sorry I cannot bring forward a few remarks and several other matters, in connection with the attitude of the hon. member in the past; so as to explain the position more fully to the House. Last Thursday in this House the Minister spoke of dirty insinuations and accusations of dishonesty and all sorts of personalities being cast against the Government, but I should like to know how the Minister can justify

his position—and I ask him now to rise in his place and justify it—in accusing me of being dishonest and corrupt. The Minister at Kalgoorlie had been speaking of the Pilbarra Railway and said:—

The Government had been criticised in regard to their action on the question of the Pilbarra Railway. He would like to point out that the question had been settled by Parliament, which had passed a resolution that in the interests of the country offers should be called for its construction. They were bound to carry out the instructions of Parliament, and they were instructed to call for offers, not tenders. The Labour Government were only carrying out the dictates of Parliament, and yet members rose from their places in the House and said that the Government should repudiate the instructions of Parliament and not call for offers.

I deny I ever said a word in connection with that railway. The only two members in this House, to my recollection, who mentioned the Pilbarra Railway were the members for North Perth (Mr. F. F. Wilson) and Forrest (Mr. A. J. Wilson). Yet in this speech we are criticised, and it is said we rose in this House to harass the Government in connection with the Pilbarra Railway. The Minister also said:—

After taking part in proceedings in caucus, they gave information to Mr. Moran, in order that a case could be worked up and made out against the Government. Mr. Moran got all the information he liked out of these men. The Labour movement would never prosper while the party had enemies in their own camp, who made use of their position in their party to secretly give away important information.

I deny that any information was ever given by myself to Mr. Moran. I repeat that never in the history of my political life in Western Australia have I had a dozen words with Mr. Moran in connection with any political matter dealt with in caucus. The member for Kalgoorlie also said:—

He was sure that if Mr. Moran went to Mr. A. J. Wilson and asked for caucus secrets, that gentleman would tell the leader of the Independents to mind his own business. This, however, was not the case with Mr. Taylor, Dr. Ellis, Mr. Holman, and another. He was not sure about those three gentlemen.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member must bear in mind that if he wishes to bring a matter forward under privilege, he must do so in connection with an accusation made against him as a member of this House. I do not know if the hon.

member is in order in bringing before the House any matter that may have occurred in caucus. The hon. member is justified in bringing forward any suggestion in regard to his conduct made against him as a member of the House; but matters dealt with in caucus are not fit matters to be brought before the House on a question of privilege.

**MR. HOLMAN:** The accusations were made by the Minister for Railways, speaking at a social and he referred to myself as a member of this House. The hon. member also said:—

They should not act in the disloyal, dishonest, and corrupt manner they had done.

That was an absolute charge of dishonesty and corruption; and if these charges are true, or if there is one atom of truth in the charges, I am not fit to be a member of this Chamber. If the remarks are not true, and the member who made those remarks cannot produce proof of his statement, he stands in the same position. I am sorry, indeed, in looking over the remarks of the member for Kalgoorlie (Mr. Johnson) which he made last Thursday, referring to the insinuations of members, that he should since have seen fit to lay a charge of dishonesty and corruption against any member of the Chamber.

**THE MINISTER FOR MINES AND RAILWAYS (Hon. W. D. Johnson):** In reply to the remarks of the hon. member, I rise to say that I am not proud of the speech I made in Kalgoorlie on Saturday evening; and I must say that I deeply regret that my feelings, and the encouragement I received from my audience, should have carried me away so far as to make the charge I made against members. But it must be realised that a man can receive sufficient kicks; and I have been, with members on the Treasury bench, accused of all sorts of things, and my speech in this House on Thursday was perfectly justified. I was replying to the remarks which the member for Coolgardie had made in this House; and as I knew those remarks had received the applause of the member for Mount Margaret (Mr. Taylor) and the member for North Murchison (Mr. Holman), consequently when I rose to reply I said I was replying to the member for Coolgardie, and at the same time I implicated certain other members, owing to the fact

that they had applauded the remarks of the member for Coolgardie. When I afterwards went to Kalgoorlie, I was determined to place before my electors the true position; and I say I was on that occasion heated, and I did make a very impassioned speech. As I have stated, I felt severely the kicks I had received during the last few months; and encouraged as I was by my audience at Kalgoorlie and by those members of this House who then listened to me, I made those remarks which do not redound to my credit. At a meeting of the Labour party in caucus this afternoon, I got up without being called upon and said I was very sorry for the remarks I had made at Kalgoorlie, that I regretted my feelings should have carried me so far. I desire to say now to this House and to the country that I deeply regret the remarks which I made; but I must distinctly let it be understood that I am dissatisfied with the support we have received from those members, and on every occasion when I speak during the next few months I shall let the people know exactly how the Government have been treated. But I shall take care never to let my feelings carry me away as I was carried away in speaking to my electors at Kalgoorlie last Saturday night.

**MR. HOLMAN:** Again I rise on a question of privilege. I am sorry that any remarks which an hon. member makes cannot be applauded by another member.

**MR. SPEAKER:** I think the hon. member should be satisfied with the withdrawal by the member for Kalgoorlie, and under the circumstances let the matter drop.

**MR. HOLMAN:** I quite agree with Mr. Speaker; but I desire to make my position as clear as I possibly can, because it is stated that those remarks were made on account of my having applauded the member for Kalgoorlie when he was speaking on Thursday night; and I maintain that his withdrawal is only a qualification of the remarks made and not a complete withdrawal. I desire to say I did not arrive in the Chamber until late on last Thursday evening. I was in the office of the Colonial Secretary when I was rung up by Mr. Gill, and told to come to the Chamber as there was something important on. I came here, and I applauded the remarks made

by the member for Coolgardie (Dr. Ellis) when I thought they should be applauded. I say that I am not a fit member to sit in this Chamber if I can be accused—

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot in justice allow the hon. member to proceed. The hon. member made his statement, which has been replied to, and any continuation by the member objecting to remarks which have been withdrawn is not in order. The hon. member should be satisfied with the withdrawal.

MR. C. J. MORAN (West Perth): I am sure, so far as I am concerned, that the matter of privilege is not ended. My name has been drawn into the discussion by, I do not know whether I am correct in saying the late Minister for Railways or not, at any rate by remarks made by the member for Kalgoorlie in his own electorate. I want, on behalf of the gentlemen whose names have been mentioned with mine, to inform the House and the country that the statement that I would receive, or ask for, any of what are called "secrets"—I repeat the word "secrets," caucus secrets, a nice word when dealing with the business of the country, so there were "secrets" in dealing with public business—I say the statement is not correct so far as I am concerned. I am accused of having received information concerning the "secrets" of caucus. I suppose on that occasion the principal "tyler" was not on the door. I may tell the hon. member that I would scorn to interfere with any party squabbles whatever, except to try, as I have all along, to heal them. I tell the House and the country that I have had confidential relations with the caucus, as it is called, or the Labour Government, through one gentleman, and that gentleman is the Premier of the State. Any official information that came to me, or any information about the business of the country concerning the two parties sitting on the Government side of the House, who have worked with the utmost harmony until the unfortunate Midland Railway episode took place, was of such a nature that it came from the Premier of the State. There were any number of communications between the Premier and this party (Independents), and naturally there would be. It was one part of the arrangement by which we agreed to put the present Government in

in power, that the utmost confidence and interchange of confidences should exist between the Government majority on this side; and what has wrecked, what is going to wreck, the happy feelings which caused the cessation of confidence which might have gone on for the next two years? I regret that it is found impossible for the 26 democrats in this House to be able to conduct the business of the country. Our object for the last 12 months has been to make it possible for members to work together. But to say I would be a party to encourage anyone to bring secrets from his own little caucus is altogether unworthy. Nothing in my past history or my life justifies such an assertion. I have never been one to work underground; I have always been one to work above-ground in this House, on the floor of the House, and in the country. I guarantee that if I had been at the meeting attended by the hon. member, I would, in vindicating the men whom he slandered on that occasion, have obtained as much applause as he got. I want to say on behalf of the gentlemen mentioned—it is only fair to them, to Dr. Ellis, whose name was mentioned in the paper, to Mr. Taylor, and to Mr. Holman—that I do not know there has been anything between us except that friendship which naturally one expects from men working on the same side of the House and on the same benches. That, and nothing more. The member for Mount Margaret (Mr. Taylor) is an old member of this House who was in the last Parliament. It is perhaps unfortunate for him and for me that we have been friends. But as far as he is concerned the world knows, and this party knows, that I appreciated him as one who had gained his spurs as a Labour man long before he came to Western Australia; and I did all I could to help him in the official capacity he lately held here. I am sure the Premier of this State at least will acquit me of undermining any party, or of trying to dig out caucus secrets. I have never heard mentioned what those secrets were. The Minister for Mines shall have an opportunity, I will give him a chance, of telling the country what those secrets were which he says were given to me.

MR. SPEAKER: I think the hon. member is trespassing a little too far in a matter of privilege. If the hon. member

wishes to deal with any accusation, he can ask for a withdrawal.

MR. MORAN: I am going to do that. I am coming to this so-called rupture of the last few days—

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member should say what is the exact matter of privilege he wishes to bring before the House. I wish to have an explanation from the hon. member before I can allow him to proceed.

MR. MORAN: Very well, sir, let it rip. It doesn't matter, anyhow. If we cannot have our own say in a matter of this kind, what is the good?

MR. G. TAYLOR (Mt. Margaret): On a point of privilege, I desire to read an extract from the *West Australian* of Monday—

MR. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member explain whether this is on the same matter as has already been dealt with?

MR. TAYLOR: It is a matter dealing with myself, my personal honour and the honour of this Chamber.

MR. SPEAKER: The member for Kalgoorlie has withdrawn certain statements which were made against the member for Mt. Margaret and other members. Is the hon. member addressing the House with regard to these particular statements at the present time? If so, I do not think I can allow him to proceed, because the hon. member for Kalgoorlie has withdrawn those statements, and the member for Mt. Margaret should be satisfied with the withdrawal.

MR. MORAN: If I understand the Minister to withdraw the accusation against me, I am perfectly satisfied.

MR. TAYLOR: I desire on my own behalf to have a withdrawal of the accusations against myself by the Minister for Mines, the member for Kalgoorlie.—a withdrawal in this Chamber. Members will remember the hon. member stated that he withdrew in caucus. I do not want any caucus withdrawal. My honour as a member of this House—

MR. SPEAKER: The member for Kalgoorlie has distinctly withdrawn the statements in this Chamber, and the hon. member should be satisfied with that. [To the Clerk]: Read the Orders of the Day.

Orders read.

#### RESIGNATION OF THE MINISTRY.

THE PREMIER (Hon. H. Daglish): Before the Orders of the Day are dealt with, I desire to make a short statement. I have realised of late that it is impossible for the Government to carry on the affairs of the country with advantage to the State or with credit to its members, owing to the fact that we cannot expect a united support from our own party. Realising this, my colleagues and myself have felt it our duty to submit our resignations to His Excellency the Governor. (Applause from some Labour members.) These resignations have been handed in, with a recommendation that the Leader of the Opposition, the member for Guildford (Mr. Rason) should be sent for by His Excellency. Before this House rises, therefore, I desire to move in the direction of securing Supply, in order to enable that hon. gentleman, should he form a Ministry, to carry on pending the conduct of Ministerial elections and the acquirement by his Ministry of a knowledge of the departments. I have a Message from His Excellency the Governor, which I desire to submit.

#### SUPPLY MESSAGE AND BILL.

Message from the Governor received and read, recommending the Appropriation out of Consolidated Revenue of £491,375 for the services of the year ending 30th June, 1906.

THE PREMIER AND TREASURER: I now move by leave, without notice:

That this House do now resolve itself into a Committee of Supply, and also of Ways and Means, for the purpose of considering His Excellency the Governor's Message No. 5, recommending that an Appropriation be made out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the purposes of a Bill intituled "An Act to apply out of Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of Four hundred ninety-one thousand three hundred seventy-five pounds to the service of the year ending 30th June, 1906"; and that the Standing Orders be suspended so far as to admit of the reporting and adopting of resolutions therefrom on the same day on which they shall have passed those Committees, and also the passing of the Bill through all its stages in one day.

MR. SPEAKER: I have counted the House, and find there is a sufficient number of members present to put a motion involving a suspension of the Standing Orders.

Question passed; the Standing Orders suspended.

IN COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

MR. QUINLAN in the Chair.

THE PREMIER AND TREASURER moved—

That towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty for the Services of the year 1905-6, a sum not exceeding Four hundred and ninety-one thousand three hundred and seventy-five pounds be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of Western Australia.

MR. MORAN: Of course we all recognise that in times of political crises these extraordinary actions have to take place; but none the less I should feel that I was personally neglecting the business of the country if I did not ask the Premier in what state the supplies are, and how long he expects this amount will carry on. It is an important matter to know this. It may take some time before this House finds itself in a working condition again, probably; and I am sure the country wants to know what money is in hand, and how much of the previous supply has been expended. What was the amount of the first Supply Bill? This is the old story again. The previous Bill, I am reminded, was for £648,000; that amount we have already voted; so that although the session is young and nothing has been done, we have voted away £648,000, and now propose to vote another £500,000. That is a fairly good job for a Government which is giving up to-day because it cannot carry on the business of the country—£1,150,000! A Parliament without a Ministry, it is said—that is a thing I have never had the honour of taking part in. We shall have voted £1,150,000—that is over a million of money which this Parliament will have voted away without one word of criticism. I say again, as I have said on previous occasions, I hope we shall in the not distant future be able to have brought in the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure in time to discuss them before the money is spent. The state of affairs in that respect is getting worse every year. I shall be glad if the Premier will tell us how long the money the Government are now asking for will carry on the ordinary services of the country, and how much of the £648,000 already voted is yet to credit.

THE PREMIER AND TREASURER: When the first Supply Bill of this session was introduced, I pointed out that it was intended to serve the purposes of two months of the financial year, which two months have almost expired. The sum then voted from Consolidated Revenue was £496,000. The extra amount, £152,000, represented Loan Funds. The present Bill provides for an expenditure of £491,000, and is intended for a farther two months' supply. The Committee will recognise that I feel it my duty to see that my successors are not hampered at the outset of their existence by the want of supply; therefore I ask the House to grant two months' supply, rather than one month, which might not prove sufficient for the purposes of Government until the new Ministry was fairly established. The sum, I think, may be expected to carry us on until the 31st October.

MR. RASON: I hope the Committee will agree to the motion. Personally, I should like briefly to say that I appreciate the Premier's action in moving for supplies. It will be absolutely necessary for any new Government to have supplies voted in order to carry on. I presume it will be possible for the incoming Government to bring down the Estimates when the House next meets for the transaction of business; but some considerable interim—an adjournment of at least a month—will be absolutely necessary before Ministers can go to their constituents and be returned. Probably, therefore, the House will not meet for the transaction of business until October. By that time I hope the Government will be able to bring down their Estimates and have them dealt with straight away. But until then, unless there is to be an entire cessation of the ordinary routine of Government, it is absolutely necessary that supplies should be granted; and in taking his present action the Premier has acted in a perfectly straightforward and honest manner, which deserves the appreciation of this House.

Question put and passed.

Resolution reported, and the report adopted.

IN COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS.

Formal resolution passed, preliminary to a Bill.

## SUPPLY BILL.

Consequent on the foregoing resolutions:

Bill introduced; the first and second readings agreed to without remark.

## IN COMMITTEE, ETC.

Clause 1—Issue and application of £491,375:

MR. MORAN: I am sure the country is now most anxious to know what is being done in the matter of public works. I wish to ask, how much of this money is in hand, or is there sufficient to keep going the works now in hand, while the political turmoil is unsettled.

THE PREMIER AND TREASURER: The hon. member will recognise that the question of the works to be carried on is governed by the authorisations of Parliament. Necessarily we have not authority to proceed with that number of works which perhaps we should like to proceed with; but there is no way of getting Parliament to authorise works until the Loan Estimates and the Public Works Estimates are brought forward. Therefore I cannot see any possibility of proceeding at a more rapid rate than the present, until a new Government has been established.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 2—agreed to.

Schedule, Preamble, Title—agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

Read a third time, and ordered to be transmitted to the Legislative Council for concurrence.

## ADJOURNMENT.

The PREMIER moved:

That the House at its rising do adjourn until this day week.

Question passed.

The House adjourned accordingly at 12 minutes past 4 o'clock, until the next Tuesday.

## Legislative Council,

Tuesday, 29th August, 1905.

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THE ACTING PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4:30 o'clock p.m.

## PRAYERS.

## NEW MINISTRY.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT read a communication announcing the appointment of new Ministers, including the Hon. W. Kingsmill (Metropolitan-Suburban) as Colonial Secretary, and the Hon. M. L. Moss as Honorary Minister without portfolio.

HON. M. L. MOSS moved that the seat of the member for the Metropolitan-Suburban Province, the Hon. Walter Kingsmill, be declared vacant. It was doubtful whether, under Section 30 of the Constitution Act, this motion was absolutely necessary at the present time, in consequence of the House having adjourned since its last sitting for more than seven days; but to remove any doubt he submitted the motion.

Question passed; the seat declared vacant.

## SUPPLY BILL (No. 2).

## ALL STAGES.

Message from the Legislative Assembly received and read, with a Supply Bill amounting to £491,375 for the services of the year ending 30th June, 1906.

Bill read a first time.

Standing Orders suspended so far as related to the passing of a Supply Bill through all stages at one sitting.

Second reading agreed to without debate, and the Bill passed through Committee.

Third reading moved.

HON. R. F. SHOLL: Owing to the exigencies of the public service and the present position of politics, it is necessary that the new Government should have an amount of funds on trust. The amount already voted, together with the