

Legislative Assembly,*Wednesday, 3rd March, 1915.*

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The SPEAKER took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

ASSENT TO BILLS.

Message from the Governor received and read notifying assent to the following Bills:—

- 1, Industries Assistance.
- 2, Lunacy Act Amendment.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the Honorary Minister: 1, Bunbury Harbour Board, report for year ended 30th June, 1914. 2, Aborigines Department, report for year ended 30th June, 1914.

QUESTION—SEED WHEAT FOR MIDLAND SETTLERS.

Mr. ALLEN asked the Premier: 1, Is it the intention of the Government to supply seed wheat to the settlers on the Midland Railway Concession? 2, Is it also their intention to supply the same to the owners of freehold land?

The PREMIER replied: The Industries Assistance Act applies to all parts of the State without the distinctions mentioned in the questions.

QUESTION—INCOME TAX AND BUILDING SOCIETIES.

Mr. ALLEN asked the Premier: In order to expedite the erection of Workers'

Homes, will the Government place the various building societies in the State on a level with the Workers' Homes Board, by exempting them from the payment of income tax?

The PREMIER replied: No.

QUESTION—MATERNITY BONUSES UNCLAIMED.

Mr. ALLEN asked the Premier: 1, Is he aware that some maternity bonuses are not claimed by those entitled to same in this State? 2, Will he apply to the Federal Treasurer for payment of any unclaimed maternity bonuses? 3, Will he undertake to apply any such money, if received, towards the erection of a Maternity and Women's Hospital, separate from the Public Hospital? 4, Is he of the opinion that if such an undertaking were given a large number of those entitled to such bonuses would allow same to be applied to the erection and maintenance of such a hospital?

The PREMIER replied: 1, Yes. 2, No. 3, and 4, Answered by No. 2.

QUESTION—STATE SAWMILLS AND TIMBER SALES.

Mr. GRIFFITHS (for Mr. Willmott) asked the Minister for Works: 1, Is it a fact that the attempt to confine the sale of timber to State mills at Jarnadup and Big Brook has failed, and that the State is losing revenue that the owners are prepared to pay? 2, Will he raise his embargo *re* carrying this timber within a radius of eight miles of Jarnadup?

The MINISTER FOR WORKS replied: 1, No. 2, No.

QUESTION—RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION, BROOKTON-KUNJINN, COST.

Mr. HICKMOTT asked the Minister for Works: 1, What has been the cost per mile for the construction of the Brookton-Kunjinn railway to date? 2, What was the cost of construction of the

railway dam at the 27-Mile on the same railway?

The MINISTER FOR WORKS replied: 1, The cost to date, exclusive of water supply but inclusive of rails and fastenings, amounts to £1,837 per mile. 2, £3,777.

QUESTION—WINDOW LOCK.

Mr. B. J. STUBBS asked the Minister for Works: 1, Was a locally invented patent window-lock, suitable for the windows of hospitals, asylums, and such like buildings, submitted to the Public Works Department about September, 1910? 2, Was one of the said window-locks shortly afterwards placed on a window at the Claremont Asylum for the purpose of a practical test? 3, Have reports been made as to the satisfactory nature of the said window-lock? 4, After the said window-lock had been installed at Claremont, were a number of locks which had been in stock for some years altered in such a way as could only have been suggested by a comparison with the said patent window-lock which had been installed? 5, Was the inventor of the said window-lock informed by the Under Secretary for Public Works on the 26th April, 1911, that the question of their adoption by the department was receiving full attention, and that he would receive a final answer at the earliest opportunity? 6, Was the inventor informed on the 9th November, 1914, by the Chief Architect that the matter was still under discussion? 7, Have window-locks of an inferior design, and more expensive than the locally invented lock, been imported during the time that this matter has been under consideration, and up till quite recently?

The MINISTER FOR WORKS replied: 1, Three locally invented window-locks were submitted for consideration and have been submitted to experiment. One such lock was submitted about September, 1910. 2, All such locks were fixed on windows for testing purposes. 3, Reports have been made as to the qualities of the locks and their suitability or

otherwise. 4, A number of locks in stock were altered for use, but not on account of any suggested comparison with other locks. 5, Yes. 6, Yes. 7, No.

SELECT COMMITTEE—WHALING LICENSE.

On motion by Mr. HOLMAN ordered that the time for bringing up the committee's report be extended until the following day, and that a Message be transmitted to the Council requesting it to authorise the Hon. J. M. Drew to attend before the committee for the purpose of giving evidence.

BILL—ROAD CLOSURE.

All Stages.

Introduced by the Minister for Lands, and read a first time.

Second Reading.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS (Hon. W. D. Johnson—Guildford) [4.45] in moving the second reading said: Practically the same Bill was introduced last session, but was not proceeded with, because members were not quite satisfied with certain portions of it and, as the session was drawing to a close, the measure was postponed. One or two matters included are urgent, and consequently I now submit the Bill for consideration. It provides for the closing of certain streets, but Clause 3 requires some explanation, inasmuch as the right-of-way referred to therein is in a roads board area. Under the Roads Act it is possible for the Minister to close a road in a roads board area, but unfortunately there is a doubt as to whether the Minister has power to close a right-of-way, and consequently the Crown Law Department advised that it would be better to include it in the Bill, so as to remove any doubt. The Roman Catholic community purchased certain blocks of land at Osborne Park which had a frontage on three streets. Leading from one of the streets was a right-of-way running through those blocks and a number of

others. In order to get a block large enough for their purpose, the purchasers desired the closing of that right-of-way. They approached the Town Properties, who were the vendors, and the Town Properties agreed to the right-of-way being closed, and agreed further to open another right-of-way to serve the blocks, provided that the roads board had no objection. The proposal met with the approval of the roads board and, later, the Minister agreed, and introduced a clause into the Bill which was not proceeded with last session. The Roman Catholic people, feeling that they are justified in proceeding with their work, are busily erecting a building, part of which will be over this right-of-way which it is proposed to close. The local community have raised no objection; the vendors have agreed to the proposal, and have provided an alternative right-of-way. The local authorities have agreed, and consequently there can be no objection to meeting the wishes of these people. The next matter is the closing of a road in the municipality of Collie. The local council has applied for the closure of Lefroy-street, in order that the land comprised therein may be included in the adjoining park reserve. There is no objection by the Lands and Surveys Department; the street is not used, and therefore there is no reason why this request should not be granted. The next point is in regard to the municipality of Fremantle, the proposal being to close a portion of High street. Some objection was raised last session by the members representing the district, because they thought a right-of-way should be provided. This provision has since been made. The portion of the street proposed to be closed has been included in the land surveyed for railway purposes and, the road having been fenced off, it is necessary that it should be closed, as it now forms part of the railway lands. The municipal council agrees, provided a 12-foot way be left open, which is accordingly prescribed in the Bill. The next point is in connection with the municipality of Perth. The city council is desirous that a portion of Kens-

ington-street should be closed to enable the council to run a siding into the proposed new site for the gas works, subject, however, to the provision of a 10-foot pathway down to the river. There is no objection by the Lands and Surveys Department, and the closure has been agreed to by the Minister for Lands. That was arranged in the previous Bill. The next point to consider is in connection with Victoria Park. The Military Department has requested the Victoria Park council to close Jarrah-road as this road crosses the firing line of the proposed South Perth rifle range. If Parliament gives the Government power to close the road, we can afterwards arrange with the military authorities and the local council as to what shall be done with the closed road.

Mr. Robinson: It is to be used as part of the rifle range?

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: It is just a question whether it should go to the Military Department or be included in the endowment lands. But this is a matter that can be considered later. The next point is the closure of a right-of-way near Beenup. The Public Works Department has purchased the land for a school site, and as it is intersected by a 25-link right-of-way it will be necessary to close the latter. But as this is a private right-of-way, granted to the purchasers of land in the subdivision, the easement can only be removed by Parliamentary authority. On the advice of the Solicitor General, this right-of-way has therefore been included in the Bill. There is no objection from the local authority or the local community. I have already submitted all these details to the leader of the Opposition. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. FRANK WILSON (Sussex) [4.53]: It is true the Minister submitted the Bill to me the other day. I have gone through it and examined the plans, and I see no objection whatever to passing the Bill. The Minister assures me that all the local authorities have been consulted, and that everybody interested is

quite agreeable to the closing of the roads. I am not sure whether these rifle ranges are vested in the Commonwealth authorities. I do not think they are.

The Minister for Lands: No, they pay £1 per annum.

Hon. FRANK WILSON: Then if at any time it is found desirable to terminate the arrangement, it can be done. I have no objection to the Bill.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee, etcetera.

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment and the report adopted.

Read a third time and transmitted to the Legislative Council.

BILL—PERMANENT RESERVES.

All Stages.

Introduced by the Minister for Lands and read a first time.

Second Reading.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS (Hon. W. D. Johnson—Guildford) [4.57] in moving the second reading said: The Bill is to confirm an understanding arrived at between the Subiaco Municipal Council and the Children's Hospital Committee. Facing on Hay-street is a small strip of land on which is erected a church belonging to the Seventh Day Adventists. The Children's Hospital Committee own practically the whole of the land surrounding it, and they desire to secure this block on which the church is erected. They have come to an understanding with the Seventh Day Adventists conditionally on the latter getting another block. To secure this other block, it is necessary to give the Subiaco municipality the right to extend Hamilton-street in that municipality through a Class A reserve under the control of the council. The extension of Hamilton-street will leave a strip of land on the east side, adjoining the educational lands on which the Modern School stands. The understanding arrived at provides that

the Seventh Day Adventists will give to the Children's Hospital the desired piece of land, and in order to compensate them the sum of £500 has been agreed to between the hospital committee and the municipal council. The situation is a little complex, inasmuch as the Children's Hospital, in return for the block of land on which the church is erected, proposed to give to the Seventh Day Adventists £500; but the Seventh Day Adventists say they do not want the £500, provided they get another block of land.

Hon. Frank Wilson: What about the building?

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: It is to be arranged for afterwards. At all events, we are not concerned with the building, provided we get a proper understanding as to how the land is to be disposed of. The Seventh Day Adventists say they do not want the £500, that they would prefer another block of land, and the Subiaco council agrees to make a block of land available, provided the Children's Hospital committee pay the £500 to the Subiaco council, who will then extend Hamilton-street. The Bill is introduced to make that arrangement possible. We must have power under the Bill to take portion of the Class A reserve now under the control of the Subiaco council, in order to extend Hamilton-street, and this extension will leave the other strip of land, which it is proposed to hand over to the Seventh Day Adventists under the agreement arrived at between them and the Children's Hospital. The council have been trying for some time to arrive at an understanding so as to continue Hamilton-street. They approached the Government and asked the Government to give them £500 towards the work, but the Government replied that they had not £500 for the purpose. The matter has remained in abeyance until this arrangement came along. The Subiaco council say that if they get the £500 they will be able to make other streets, and thus £1,200 will be made available at the present time which will help to relieve the unemployed trouble. The purposes of the Bill is to give the

Government power to allow portion of the A reserve to be used for a road, and to allow the other portion to be handed over to the Seventh Day Adventists.

Mr. HUDSON: Who gets £500?

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: The Subiaco council. I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. FRANK WILSON (Sussex) I have looked through the measure and examined the plans, and, although the transaction on the Minister's explanation seems to be somewhat unusual and complicated, I have concluded that we will be justified in accepting the Bill. The object of the measure is clearly to advantage the Children's Hospital, and every member, I am sure, desires to do his utmost to advance the interests of that institution. It was always the intention of the Administration of the day to gradually acquire the whole block of land—a good portion of which is now occupied by the Children's Hospital—between Hay-street and Mueller-road, and bounded by Thomas-street. The small block occupied by the Seventh Day Adventists is one of the obstacles in the way of attaining that end. If any satisfactory arrangement can be arrived at, without in any way intruding upon what is fair treatment of a Class A reserve and which will enable the management of the Children's Hospital to acquire the small block of land now occupied by the Seventh Day Adventists, we will be justified in adopting means to that end. There is an advantage in the arrangement as it carries with it the construction of Hamilton-street, which runs right through the reserve, a portion of which the Subiaco Council wish to have the power to give up. Hamilton-street not only runs right through that reserve, but opens a way directly to the over-head railway bridge; so that it seems to me the passing of this measure will be advantageous not only to the Children's Hospital but also to the public generally in the neighbourhood.

Hon. J. D. Connolly: Who is going to make the street?

Hon. FRANK WILSON: The Subiaco Council. It is a condition of the agree-

ment that the Subiaco Council shall make this road through the reserve and also remake portions of Thomas-street between Hay-street and Mueller-road. The money to be spent amounts to about £1,200.

Hon. J. D. Connolly: Thomas-street is made already.

Hon. FRANK WILSON: But its construction has to be completed, and repairs have to be made, and footpaths put in. One phase of the understanding between the various authorities, which understanding, of course, is not mentioned in the Bill at all, is that the road shall be made, and that, in addition to £500 being provided by the Children's Hospital, a sum of about £700 is to be spent by the municipality of Subiaco in completing work; and the expenditure of the money in that manner is most desirable at the present time. On those grounds, also, I think we may stretch a point, and pass the measure. In any case, the Bill provides power for the Seventh Day Adventists to surrender to the Crown the lease they now hold, and provides further for power to alter the small portion of the A reserve which is in the municipality of Subiaco. The presumption is that the Seventh Day Adventists will surrender the lease they already hold, and that the Governor in Council will grant them a lease on similar conditions—I take it, for church purposes only—of a portion of the A reserve in respect of which this Bill proposes to grant power to alter the conditions. If the Seventh Day Adventists were to receive this land with full power to cut it up and speculate in it, something might be said in opposition to the proposal; but I understand the land will be granted to them purely for church purposes. Therefore, no exception whatever can be taken to the carrying out of the proposed arrangement.

Mr. HUDSON (Yilgarn) [6.4]: This measure, following so closely as it does on one closing roads, of which we had very little knowledge, causes me some concern. I have listened to the remarks of the leader of the Opposition, and I agree with him that the object to be attained may be a good one, and that possibly for that reason we might let the Bill go

through. But I certainly think that Bills of this nature require much closer scrutiny than is usually given to them.

Hon. Frank Wilson: I quite agree with that, as a rule.

Mr. HUDSON: The history of this matter is that in 1907 the land we are now dealing with belonged to the Crown and was reserved for public purposes. A Bill was introduced in 1907 to make the land a dedication and grant to a certain section of the community known as the Seventh Day Adventists. At the time that Bill was being put through the House—it was introduced by the then Premier, Sir Newton Moore—objections were taken to it by the member for Mt. Margaret (Mr. Taylor) and by the member for Pilbara (Hon. R. H. Underwood). The latter hon. member desired that the House should be assured that this land was being granted in a proper manner and for a proper purpose. The then Premier in the course of his reply stated—

As to what the member for Mt. Margaret (Mr. Taylor) has said regarding the title, a proviso will be inserted in the grant that the land shall be used for church buildings only, and that the denomination shall not be allowed to dispose of it. These people appear to be much in earnest, and only desirous of erecting a place of worship.

The debate, which is short, may be referred to by hon. members, and they will find that the whole tenor of it is to the effect that there was a special grant being made to a selected few of the community for the purpose of establishing a place of public worship. Public land was given to them for that purpose, and now we are told that they are to give up that land and get other land; but they are getting this other land for a consideration, I understand. That is the aspect which, to my mind, requires further investigation. I shall refrain from opposing the Bill, however, for the reason I have stated, that its object is a good one. At the same time I certainly consider the House is entitled to more information with regard to the transaction.

Mr. B. J. STUBBS (Subiaco) [6.6]: The member for Dundas (Mr. Hudson)

is certainly correct in saying that the House is entitled to full information, but I consider that the House has been given all the information that can be supplied with reference to this measure. The Minister for Lands in introducing the Bill fully explained its objects. The leader of the Opposition has gone carefully into the whole subject and he endorses what the Minister for Lands has said. The position is that the Seventh Day Adventists are not receiving any consideration whatever for the transfer of this land. They are handing their small block, which is a wedge cutting into the centre of the Children's Hospital land, over to the Children's Hospital, in return for another block which will suit them for their purposes.

Hon. Frank Wilson: Just as well.

Mr. B. J. STUBBS: Yes. It is quite close to the present site, and no inconvenience will be caused to the congregation by the exchange. In fact, I think the effect will be rather the reverse, because the building on the new site will be removed from the tram line, whereas the present building is immediately on the tram line. Then, the Subiaco Council, in whom the class A reserve is to-day vested, are asking that they be allowed to deal with this land for practically no consideration, except that they receive the cost of making the small piece of roadway and two footpaths. Therefore, there can be no objection whatever to the transaction. The question of the removal of the existing church building will be a matter entirely for the church people and the Children's Hospital authorities. Not only will there be a benefit derived by both the church and the hospital, but the exchange will make available a fair amount of money to put in hand works, which is a most desirable step at the present time. Hamilton-street and the two footpaths will be made, and the effect of money being provided for the making of that street will release other moneys, which the Council can then apply to the making of another small street, College-street, and to the making of the Subiaco portion of Thomas-street. Then, again, when the Subiaco Council are in a posi-

tion to finance the construction of their portion of Thomas-street, the Perth City Council are prepared to complete the construction of the Perth portion. Thomas-street is within the boundaries of two municipalities, and the macadamised portion is that of the Perth City Council, though that body have not macadamised right through to the Subiaco boundary. The Subiaco Council estimate that the passing of this Bill will mean the putting in hand of about £1,200 worth of work. Thus, it is plain that there is benefit to be gained all round, and that there can be no objection whatever to letting this Bill go through.

Mr. ALLEN (West Perth) [6.9]: With regard to the street proposed to be continued, Hamilton-street, I desire to refer to the fact that already Coghlan-road is made on the western side. College-street, however, is not made; and I think it would be much more to the convenience of the general public if that street could be made.

Mr. B. J. Stubbs: No.

Mr. Hudson: That is a local council matter. We are in the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. ALLEN: I am only making a suggestion. It seems to me, as a rate-payer of Subiaco, that if College-street were made, instead of Hamilton-street being continued, it would be of much more service to the municipality as a whole.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee.

Mr. Holman in the Chair; the Minister for Lands in charge of the Bill.

Clauses 1, 2—agreed to.

Clause 3—Power to exchange for the purposes of reserve AA 12391.

Mr. HUDSON: What provision does the Minister propose to make to safeguard the interests of the State so as to fulfil the promise given by Sir Newton Moore in 1907? We ought to know what conditions will be imposed upon the persons to whom this new grant is to be made. They are surrendering a grant

made under special conditions, and the Committee should be informed what the Government's proposals are with regard to the demise by the Crown of other land in exchange.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: I give the desired assurance willingly. The strip of land to be handed over to the Seventh Day Adventists will be handed over on exactly the same terms as the original land, namely, that it is to be used for church purposes only.

Mr. Hudson: What are the church people getting out of this deal?

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: Nothing. They are making the exchange purely in the interests of the Children's Hospital, and I think that is to their credit.

Hon. J. D. CONNOLLY: We are dealing with a Class A reserve, and I take the opportunity of protesting against a matter of this kind being dealt with when the Standing Orders are suspended—at one sitting. Class A reserves are provided for the people, and they must not be touched except under the authority of an Act of Parliament. To deal with such a matter as this in five minutes is to make a farce of the restriction. There is all the difference in the world between Class A reserves and Class B.

The Minister for Lands: This land goes to the Children's Hospital, which has a Class B reserve; and we are adding this strip of Class A to the hospital's Class B reserve.

Hon. J. D. CONNOLLY: Class B reserves can be altered by the act of the Executive Council.

Bill reported without amendment, and the report adopted.

Read a third time, and transmitted to the Council.

BILL—VERMIN BOARDS AMENDMENT.

Council's Message—Conference of Managers.

Message received from the Council, notifying that five o'clock p.m. had been

fixed as the time for the meeting of the conference.

Report of Conference Managers.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS (Hon. W. D. Johnson—Guildford): I have to report that the managers for the Assembly met the managers for the Council in conference, and I exceedingly regret that we could not come to an agreement. Sir Edward Wittenoom, Hon. J. Duffell, and the Colonial Secretary met us and I outlined the facts I have presented to this Chamber on other occasions, that a certain number of pastoralists in a portion of the North-West requested the Government of the day to advance money to build the fence, that £65,000 or £66,000 was advanced, that they agreed to strike a rate and pay interest, sinking fund, and the maintenance of the fence. The pastoralists carried out this agreement for a certain period, and then fell into arrears, which now amount to £9,000. It has been proved conclusively that it takes something like 2s. per 100 acres to meet their obligations to the State and the expense of maintenance. In moving the second reading, I pointed out that the Government would agree to take over the maintenance of the fence if the board so desired, and on the advice of our departmental officers, I explained that we could do the work more economically. I also stated that if we found we could administer the affairs more economically, we would reduce the rate, but the Council managers desired to fix a maximum rate of 1s. per 100 acres. It was pointed out in conference that not only would this reduced rate apply to the Gascoyne board, but that it would prove to be the fixed charge, and this might have a detrimental effect on other boards which might be created. Sir Edward Wittenoom maintained his position that he was not prepared to waver from the rate of 1s. The hon. Mr. Mitchell endeavoured to get him to agree to 1s. 6d. but he was adamant. The Honorary Minister tried to convince the Council managers that this was an honourable undertaking entered into evidently by honourable men, and that it

would be wrong for any branch of the Legislature to use their position in the direction of giving these men an opportunity to repudiate an honourable understanding.

Hon. Frank Wilson: Is it wise to discuss individual actions in conference?

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: When there is a matter of £66,000 at stake, in addition to an obligation of £9,000 which has not been met, surely the people ought to know the exact details.

Hon. Frank Wilson: I do not think you are right in disclosing the attitude of individual managers.

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: I desire that the people of the country shall know how the matter stands. I pointed out to Sir Edward Wittenoom that he was taking a big responsibility by using his position in Parliament to give these men an opportunity to repudiate an honourable agreement on the strength of which £66,000 of the people's money had been advanced, and to fix a rate on which these people could not possibly meet their obligations. We were unable to move the hon. member, who stated definitely and distinctly that he was not prepared to depart from his attitude; he would agree to a rate of 1s. and nothing more. We cannot ask Parliament to agree to that rate because it is not sufficient to enable these pastoralists to meet their obligations. Therefore, we shall not be able to get back the money which should have been repaid to the State, and consequently the Bill will be lost.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The Minister must not discuss the principles of the Bill at this stage.

Hon. J. D. Connolly: Will the Bill be lost?

The MINISTER FOR LANDS: Yes, unless the Council give way.

BILL—GOVERNMENT ELECTRIC WORKS.

Message from the Council received and read notifying that it did not press its modification in requested amendment No. 3.

SELECT COMMITTEE, WHALING LICENSE.

Message from the Council received and read notifying that the Hon. J. M. Drew had been authorised to attend and give evidence before the select committee.

House adjourned at 6.18 p.m.

Legislative Council,

Thursday, 4th March, 1915.

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The PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTION—DEFICIT.

Hon. Sir E. H. WITTENOOM (with-out notice) asked the Colonial Secretary: 1, From what sources has the deficit of £1,118,548, now overdrawn by the Government, been obtained? 2, How is the amount made up, and has it been obtained from any bank or savings bank, or from moneys taken from any loan or other trust fund, and in the latter case from what specific funds has it been taken? 3, Have the Government any bond, Treasury bill, or other security, for the whole or any portion of this £1,118,548? 4, In the event of any portion being taken from Loan Funds, from what particular item has it been taken? 5, What specific works are being retarded by reason of

this immense amount of £1,118,548 being taken from the moneys voted for these specific works? 6, Has Parliamentary approval been obtained for these moneys being deviated from the purpose for which Parliament voted the money to other purposes? 7, Has the Audit Act as to the expenditure of loan moneys been observed and complied with?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied: I can hardly believe that the hon. gentleman is serious in asking such a string of questions without notice.

QUESTION—MAIZE IMPORTATION.

As to costs, duty, etc.

Hon. W. PATRICK asked the Colonial Secretary: Referring to the 6,000 tons of maize imported by the Government,—1, What was the amount paid for freight and insurance? 2, What was the amount paid for duty to the Commonwealth? 3, What sum was paid, or is payable, for wharfage and other landing charges? 4, Have the Government applied to the Commonwealth for remission of duty? 5, If the Commonwealth have agreed, or agree to remit duty, will the purchasers get the benefit of such remission?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied: 1, The freight amounted to £8,359 18s. 5d. The insurance was paid in London, and details of this as a separate item are not yet to hand. 2, £10,031 18s. 6d. 3, The ship has not finished discharging, but at schedule rates, wharfage, handling and harbour improvement charges will cost approximately £3,000. 4, Yes. 5, Yes.

BILL—INCOME AND PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS TAXATION.

Second Reading—Bill defeated.

Debate resumed from the previous day. The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. J. M. Drew—Central—in reply) [4.37]: This is a Bill to impose a special tax on incomes and entertainments, but there has been introduced into the discussion a