

	<b>NOBS.</b>	
Mr. Brockman	Mr. Sampson	
Mr. Ferguson	Mr. Seward	
Mr. Hawke	Mr. J. H. Smith	
Mr. Mana	Mr. Thorn	
Mr. McLarty	Mr. Warner	
Mr. North	Mr. Welsh	
Mr. Patrick	Mr. Doney	
Mr. Piessé		(Teller.)

House adjourned 6.12 p.m.

## Legislative Council,

Wednesday, 16th May, 1934.

Adjournment, special: Retiring members ... .. PAOS 274

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

### ADJOURNMENT—SPECIAL.

#### References to Retiring Members.

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY** (Hon. J. M. Drew—Central) [4.35]: I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn until Tuesday, the 22nd instant.

It is expected that the Secession Bill will pass through another place to-morrow evening, and will be here on Tuesday next. On that occasion I will move the first reading and then ask the House to agree to the suspension of the Standing Orders to enable me to make my second reading speech. Then, if members so desire, the debate can be adjourned until the following day.

**HON. SIR EDWARD WITTENOOM** (North) [4.36]: My only object in rising is to say a few words of farewell to my fellow members because, as they all know, I have announced my retirement from active politics and my occupancy of this seat expires on Monday next.

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Unfortunately.

Hon. Sir EDWARD WITTENOOM: I desire to take this opportunity of saying goodbye to members, and to thank them for the many courtesies and kindnesses they have extended to me during the long period I have been a member of this Chamber. I should like to have had a chance to speak

against the Secession Bill which the Chief Secretary has told us will reach this Chamber on Tuesday next, but unfortunately that will not be possible. I sincerely thank all members, and I include Labour members as well, for their many kindnesses, and express my regret that after to-day I shall not again be with them.

**HON. W. J. MANN** (South-West) [4.41]: I wish to refer to the services rendered to the State by another of the retiring members, the Hon. Edwin Rose, who is leaving us after an honoured 18 years of duty. I should also like to include the other members who will no longer be with us when their term expires next Monday. I shall always have happy recollections of my association with Sir Edward Wittenoom, and particularly with my colleague, Mr. Rose. I regret very much that the conditions are such that Mr. Rose has felt it incumbent upon him to retire from public life, and I should like his name to be bracketed with that of Sir Edward Wittenoom, because of the splendid services he has rendered to Western Australia.

**Hon. J. NICHOLSON** (Metropolitan) [4.43]: I should like to endorse the complimentary remarks concerning those members who have decided to retire after long and faithful services given to this House. There is no doubt about it that these gentlemen have rendered most distinguished service to the State of Western Australia, and we shall miss their presence here very much indeed. We became accustomed to seeing them from year to year and we shall feel that we are weaker in our deliberations without their sound advice. It is pleasing to know that when a man feels that the time has come for him to retire, he is retiring with the goodwill of those with whom he has been associated for so long, and that those he is leaving behind will retain the high esteem in which they always held him. The services rendered by our friends who are about to retire will, I am sure, always remain as an example for us to follow and we shall be spurred to do our duty as they did theirs, so well and so faithfully.

**HON. V. HAMERSLEY** (East) [4.54]: I also desire to associate myself with the regret that has been expressed at losing the services of Sir Edward Wittenoom, Mr.

Rose and Mr. Franklin. Sir Edward Wittenoom has filled practically every position of note in the State, and has given distinguished service in the political life of this country from the earliest days. Those services date back to the Crown Colony days, then later to the years during which we had Responsible Government, and again since the year in which we entered Federation. Not only has Sir Edward figured prominently in the political sphere, but he has also made a name for himself in the commercial world. As Agent General for Western Australia, Sir Edward also earned the approbation of the people and proved himself a philosopher and friend to a great many people who have come to our shores from time to time—people to whom he never failed to give good advice. This can also be said of the other gentlemen who are leaving us and who have played a prominent part in the pastoral and agricultural development of this country. No one has been more to the fore in this respect than our friend, the Hon. Edwin Rose, who took an active part in opening up the Kimberley country, showing thus what determined pluck and energy could do in those areas in the days when white men occupying the far north took their lives in their hands. Mr. Franklin has also shown us what a worthy career can be carved out by an individual. He, too, has given great service to the people and particularly those in the metropolitan area. This House is losing the services of able men who have carried out their job faithfully and well, and I personally regret the loss we are about to sustain by their leaving us.

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY** (Hon. J. M. Drew—Central—in reply) [4.48]: I am glad that Sir Edward Wittenoom has given me the opportunity to bid him good-bye and to express the feelings of the House which are entirely feelings of appreciation of his long and faithful services to Western Australia.

Hon. Sir Edward Wittenoom: Except on the subject of education.

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY**: While Sir Edward was Minister for Education, he set the pace and introduced reforms which have been beneficial to the State. There is no doubt about it that he did set the pace and did marvellous work while he

occupied the education portfolio. Throughout his career he has helped the State in numerous ways, apart altogether from politics. He came into the House a popular gentleman, esteemed by the whole community, and he leaves it with the appreciation of all who have been associated with him in this House, also that of the members of another place, and indeed the people of Western Australia as a whole. Then there are other members who are to be no longer with us. There is Mr. Rose, who has been for many years a member of this House—a gentleman who endeared himself to all, and whose practical mind often proved helpful in the course of debate. There is Sir Charles Nathan also—his utterances always carried weight. His wide business experience frequently made him invaluable, and his absolute fairness was generally recognised. Mr. Franklin we shall also miss. He had a good grasp of many matters that came before us for discussion, and he was able to give the House the benefit of his knowledge. We can all regret the loss of these members, and we can all wish them a happy future.

**THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT** [4.50]: Before the motion is put I, too, should like to add a few words. This is an occasion when it can be said that the heart has prevailed over the head, and I think we can speak from the heart. As Acting President, I am deprived of the right to express my opinion on the floor of the House, but I desire, on my own behalf and on behalf of my colleague for whom I am acting, to express personal regret at the departure from this House of Sir Edward Wittenoom, Sir Charles Nathan, the Hon. Edwin Rose, and Lord Mayor Franklin. It can truthfully be said that those four men who are going from our midst have served this House and their country well and they have set an example that can well be followed by those who are succeeding them. All four are well along the journey of life towards that bourne from which we return no more, and, speaking for myself, I may express the hope that they all may be blessed for a long time to come with the greatest of God's gifts—good health.

Question put and passed.

*House adjourned at 4.52 p.m.*