

MR. H. DAGLISH (Subiaco): I wish at the outset to express my concurrence in the regret which has been expressed by other speakers at the untimely death of Mr. Alexander Forrest. The Labour party, with which I am associated, was not associated nor in sympathy with the party to which Mr. Forrest belonged; but we feel the loss which the community has sustained, and especially those who were more intimately associated with him, in the death of the late member. I beg to congratulate the Ministry on their accession to office, because that accession is due to the deliberate voice of the people, uttered for the first time at the general election. I believe the present Administration is the first that has been placed in power by the people as a body, most of them having for the first time had an opportunity of exercising the franchise at the last election; and I take the opportunity also of congratulating the member for the Williams (Hon. F. H. Piesse) on his position as leader of the Opposition; one that he has fairly won, and I trust he will long continue to enjoy it. In regard to the programme of the Government, there is one departure I regret to see they have taken, and that is the appointment of honorary Ministers. While congratulating them on obtaining the services of the member for East Perth (Hon. W. H. James), I think the principle of appointing honorary Ministers is bad, and I am sorry it is being introduced into this State, even for the first time. There may be some justification or reason why it should be adopted in the Upper House, so as to give some degree of assistance to the Minister for Lands as being the only Minister representing the Government in that House, and that must be a difficult task when it devolves on only one Minister. But in this House the principle is capable of abuse; and although so far as it has been carried by the present Administration there is little or no harm in it, yet I look with some degree of fear because of the danger that the principle may be extended, and that some future Government may seek to increase its voting power in this House by increasing the number of honorary Ministers, who may be invited to take office without having administrative duties to perform. I differ from one hon. member who said there is no policy in the Speech. I have

risen now to support as a whole the policy in the Speech; and I did feel some degree of fear when I learnt for the first time that there was no policy in it. A little later, however, I learnt that the policy in the Speech was the policy of the past; and I find that during the past ten years there has been no policy, if it be the case that there is no policy in the Speech now before us. There are in it, however, some striking points I have not been able to find in the policy of the past; such as the introduction of a Bill to abolish plural voting, which is a new departure of the present Government, and one on which I congratulate the Government sincerely, because it is undoubtedly a proposal that has been demanded by the people, and has the support of the people behind it. Then we are promised electoral reform; and here again, if this has been the policy of the past, that policy has been kept thoroughly in the background; but I rejoice that in the new régime there is some chance of this policy being brought into the forefront; and I can promise, as far as I am concerned, that I will do all I can, no matter how early electoral reform may come, to assist in putting it through. I would like to urge on the Ministry the consideration whether it may not be wise to depart from the usual parliamentary procedure of amending the Constitution Act and the Electoral Act at the close of a Parliament, and whether it may not be desirable to amend those Acts in the first session of the Parliament; because it may perchance happen that in the future there may arise a Ministry, even in the course of this Parliament, that knows not the will of the people, and these men may refuse to carry out the measures now in the programme laid before us. Should that happen before these measures are passed, we will be confronted by the fact that when the next general election comes there will be no means of getting a thorough expression of the will of the people because of the want of a proper redistribution of seats. I would urge that in view of the passing of these measures, and of having a dissolution of this Parliament in six, eight, or twelve months time, the inconvenience of members of this House should be borne, because we should consider first the needs of the people before we consult our own



convenience; and I would willingly see an election brought about early, if it were necessary, in order that the voice of the people might be heard to its fullest extent in this Chamber. I am glad to learn it is proposed to reorganise the civil service; and I can assure members that it is time this reorganisation was attempted. Things in the civil service have simply been allowed to drift. I believe that as a body public servants have as good an intelligence, have as much zeal, and have fully as much capacity, as have persons in any other service. In many departments we will find the wrong man at the head of the business. In many of the departments we will find a large number of servants doing the main portion of the work and drawing very little pay, and we will find a small body of the higher men drawing very large pay and doing very little work. I was inclined to take exception to one remark made by the member for Albany (Mr. Gardiner), when he spoke of the attendance of civil servants at functions and their neglecting to attend at their offices. I think the hon. member argued from the particular to the general, and was guilty of unfairness to a great number of public servants. As a body they really do attend to their duties and their offices; and as far as my experience goes, members of the public service in the main do not attend public functions, and have neither the opportunity nor the desire to do so. If the remarks that were made could be applied to a few individuals, it might be worth while for the Ministry to follow the advice that was given. For instance, when we hear of a prominent member of the public service expressing his intention to resign if a certain politician were appointed as Ministerial head of a certain department, I contend that member of the service is taking up a position that should not be tolerated, and is actually insulting Parliament and the people by limiting the choice in making a Ministerial appointment. When we find the same public servant giving a public testimonial to a Minister on his retiring from office, testifying to the good work that Minister had done, I contend there is need that Parliament should insist that this sort of thing shall not be tolerated, and that neither censure nor praise in regard to the action of Ministers is expected from

members of the public service, whether high or low in position. I think likewise the practice which is referred to in one newspaper to-day, that of members of the civil service praising this or that Minister on his retirement from office, and speaking of his good qualities as an administrator, is a practice which this House should deprecate; for if public servants can give praise to Ministers and tell of their good deeds publicly, then undoubtedly civil servants have an equal right to express publicly their opinions of the wrong deeds of Ministers. I contend that neither one nor the other is satisfactory, and that neither one nor the other should be tolerated; and I trust that in the reorganisation of the service Ministers will take the opportunity of putting a stop to these little things which have occasionally created such a lot of interest in a way, but which at the same time do not conduce to the good of the public service or to the advantage of the public or of Ministers themselves. I am glad to learn that a great deal of attention is to be given to the adjustment of the finances, because though I cannot pose as an expert in public finance, I have seen quite enough to satisfy me that the circumstances fully warrant attention. I heard it implied recently that there was not at the present time in the Treasurer's chair a great financial expert. While not admitting for a minute this to be either right or wrong, I wish to express my belief that we do not need any great financial expert in order to deal with the affairs of our Treasury. What we do want is a Treasurer who is fully seized of the fact that two and two make four, and make four only, and who is seized of the farther fact that if we have 20 shillings income we have only 20 shillings available to be spent, and we must not for a minute entertain a proposal to spend 21 shillings. We want a Treasurer, farther, who is not labouring under the impression that "kite-flying" represents the acme of public financing. That belief has apparently been held in the past by some gentlemen who have been our financial experts; and it is because of this circumstance that at the present time, in a year which has given us our biggest revenue, we are faced nevertheless with a deficit. I trust that with the painstaking Treasurer I believe the country now has the advant-



age of possessing, this sort of thing will be rendered impossible for the future, at any rate during the present Administration's term of office. I am glad to see that it is proposed to establish a Public Works Board, because there can be no question that if the board be rightly constituted its functions will result in a great deal of public good, by preventing the waste of public money which has occurred in the past on a great many occasions. There is no doubt that the large deficit of to-day is due simply to the fact that public funds have been squandered, and have been squandered in a way which is certainly not creditable to those who have allowed the squandering to take place without any word of protest. I am glad to learn that economy is to be exercised in all directions, but I trust the economy will not be merely an economy applied to wages of persons working for the Government. I trust it will be recognised that it is possible for this State to pay a fair wage for all work done for it—nothing more than a fair wage, certainly, but in no case less. I trust that in the Railway Department due consideration will be given to the requirements of the men in this respect. I know that work of a laborious character has been done for the Railway Department at a rate which, when I was a councillor at Subiaco, the council would not allow to be paid for similarly laborious work done out there. I trust that there will be a recognition of the fact that the labourer is worthy of his hire, and that this State is not yet so poor as not to be able to afford a fair day's wage for a fair day's work. That should be the first consideration, and I trust economy will never go in the direction of starvation wages. In regard to the shortage of rolling-stock, I am not going to enter into the point in dispute between the Ministry and the leader of the Opposition ; but I wish to point out that it seems to me regrettable that the Government have not yet made any effort to have rolling-stock manufactured in this State. It seems to me, as an amateur in that sort of thing, that it should be possible with a country which possesses the amount of timber there is here, to have the rolling-stock made locally ; and I should certainly like to see some effort made in that direction, not

only because of the amount of employment it would give to workers, but also because of the fact that it would enable us to have the requirements of our Railway Department met much more quickly than they can be under the present system, when it is necessary to await the convenience of the firms who supply the rolling-stock in addition to waiting during the unduly long time it takes for the orders to pass to the old land and for the rolling-stock to come out here. I should like to see the Ministry give some attention to the matter and see whether it will not be possible to encourage this new industry in our midst. In regard to the incursion of rabbits, I suppose that it will not be expected that a metropolitan member should have much to say. However, I have seen something of the evils resulting from the incursion of rabbits in Victoria, and I can therefore appreciate the fears of the farmers. What I cannot appreciate is the inactivity which has in the past characterised the Government of this State in regard to this very matter, especially during the time that we had a friend of the farmers at the head of the Lands Department. For years past the rabbits have been known to be in West Australia ; for years past it has been the custom periodically to get reports in regard to the rabbits ; but members who have studied the nature of the rabbit will know that a report does no good and no harm whatever to him. There was, however, no other effort made to deal with the rabbit, except sending an inspector to report on him. I must also except the one occasion when the Government were guilty of the cruelty to animals exhibited in turning loose a lot of cats in order that they might eat the rabbits. It is not on record yet whether the rabbits ate the cats, or the cats the rabbits ; but we know that the cats have disappeared while the rabbits are still in our country. I should like to say that I think there has been a certain amount of inefficiency amongst the officers who have been intrusted with the work of reporting on the rabbit incursion. I know that the officers who have rendered most assistance in furnishing particulars as to how far the rabbits had reached, have been the police. I remember one occasion, not very long since, when one of the respon-



sible officers of the Agricultural Department simply ridiculed the statement of the police that the rabbits were in any number in a certain spot near the south-eastern corner of the goldfields. Recent events have amply proved that the rabbits were there, and that the statement of the police was right and that of the expert wrong. In connection with this subject, I should like just in passing to allude to what I think was a mistake of an unpleasant nature, though perhaps not a big mistake. It was made in connection with the rabbit recently brought down from Lake Lefroy. I saw a statement in the paper, immediately after the rabbit was brought down, that it could be seen at Messrs. Bickford's shop in Hay street. I consider that it is a great mistake for the Government to afford to any firm an advertising advantage of that or any other description. I think that if there is any advantage to be got from an advertising dodge of that sort, it should simply be open to public competition. Hon. members may laugh at the subject, but everyone knows that Messrs. Bickford's reason for exhibiting the rabbit was solely to advertise their premises—to get the advantage of attracting the attention of the public to their show windows; and it is not a reasonable thing that one firm should be helped against another in this fashion. It may seem a small thing only, but the principle is there, and we should carry the principle to its logical extremity in cases of this description, where the action of the Government officials is involved. I welcome the proposal for the introduction of fruit. The only thing I have any doubt about is as to whether the Government are not going too far in regard to the inspection at Fremantle—whether this will not make the fruit so dear as to be practically out of the reach of ordinary citizens by the time it is retailed in our shops. As a matter of fact, I think that when the fruit is inspected, and certified to as clean, by the State from which it is exported, we can reasonably take that inspection and that certificate as satisfactory. I do not at all sympathise with those who object to the removal of the prohibition on pears and apples, because I think that even if it were certain that we were going to introduce disease by remov-

ing that prohibition—a contention that I do not admit for a moment—it is far less evil that we should introduce disease in fruit into this community than that we should perpetuate disease in human beings; and I contend that there are in our midst men, and women, and children, and especially children, who do not thrive as they ought to thrive, who do not enjoy the health that they ought to possess, simply because they have no means of getting access to the fruit acids they require in order to build up sound and healthy bodies. I contend that when it comes to a question of maintaining and building up human beings, it is far more important to do that than to build up any industry whatsoever in this State. I would therefore say that under the circumstances I have a great deal of pleasure in supporting the proposal of the Ministry to remove this fruit prohibition. I note also with satisfaction that the Ministry propose to introduce a measure to provide a proper supply of water for the metropolitan districts. I should like to urge that when this measure is introduced it should provide for an elective board, to be elected by the ratepayers in the various metropolitan and suburban municipalities in proportion to their respective numbers. I should like farther to urge that, instead of any money required for the purpose of making adequate the water supply of the metropolis and suburbs being borrowed by the Government, the board be empowered to borrow it, so that the loan may not become a portion of the State debt, even though it may be necessary to borrow the money on slightly less advantageous terms than those on which it could be obtained if the State took the matter into its own hands. I think that the cost of this water supply should fall on the ratepayers, and that the board can carry out the scheme efficiently in the same way as the Metropolitan Board of Works in Victoria has carried, or is carrying out its water works and sewerage works—although these are perhaps not being done as efficiently as they would be if that board were elective. I trust we shall be delivered not only from the existing Water Works Board, but from any other irresponsible board of the same description. I know that the people in



the district which I represent are simply ignored by the Metropolitan Board. Men have been penalised in amounts ranging from £10 to £20 for the privilege of having water laid on to their premises—that is, before they drew a drop of water from the pipes, and independently altogether of the annual charge for meter and the annual rate charge. It has been laid down by the chairman of the board as a principle on which his board went, that it was determined to get the biggest pound of flesh it could from the ratepayers of Subiaco; and I contend that no public body should be managed on such a system as that. I should therefore like to see a body responsible to the ratepayers of the various districts, and I trust that when the measure is before the House this is the line upon which it will go. In regard to the encouragement of immigration of persons skilled in farm labour and so on, I cannot altogether congratulate the Ministry upon that phase of the Governor's Speech; because I should like to know a little more about it and about the lines on which the Government propose to assist immigration. If their proposal include only encouragement of immigration, then I am quite with them; but if it be to assist immigration, then I am entirely opposed to their position. If it be encouragement of British immigrants, I shall have very much pleasure in giving support to the proposal; but if it is to immigration of foreigners, then I am altogether opposed to it.

HON. F. H. PIESSE: The British nation was built up by foreigners.

MR. DAGLISH: I am in sympathy with those who desire to see here a British State, and nothing but a British State; and while we do not desire to exclude any persons of other nationalities coming here of their own free will to settle with us and help us to build up the State, at the same time the British Isles themselves, I contend, offer a large area for recruiting purposes, and until that area shall have been exhausted there is no need whatever to go outside the British Isles to get additional population for this State. I am rather surprised that those people whose jingoism and imperialism are strongest, should be always the first to propose and should always be the most anxious for the introduction of foreign

labour, simply because it is cheaper labour than the British.

A MEMBER: Not cheaper.

At 6.30 o'clock, the SPEAKER left the Chair.

At 7.30. Chair resumed.

MR. H. DAGLISH (continuing): When this House rose an hour ago, I was referring to immigration, and I urged that British immigration should be encouraged; but I would like to point out that under any circumstances it seems to me unwise for the State to allow the introduction of any class of labour whatever under contract, because persons living abroad, even if they are living in English-speaking communities, cannot possibly know the conditions which obtain in this State. They cannot understand the rates of wages which rule here, and in entering into a contract they are signing they know not what, and may be committing themselves to an agreement which, if they really understood it, would not meet with their approval at all. The member for the Williams (Hon. F. H. Piesse) said labour was required in any quantity, on the farms, and I can assure the hon. member that labour can be obtained in any quantity on the farms, assuming that reasonable pay is given for the work. As a matter of fact, there are many men at the present time in different parts of this State who are in need of employment. There are many men on the goldfields and many in Perth who need employment and are willing to go to a distance in order to obtain it, but they require to be adequately remunerated, and also to have fairly good conditions to live under; and I contend that a large number of farmers who complain of the scarcity of labourers are those responsible for that scarcity so far as they are concerned, because they do not pay a reasonable wage, and do not provide proper food and proper accommodation for the workers whom they employ. However, I would like to point out a farther consideration as against contract labour and as against introducing cheap labour, namely that if labour were introduced and if the worker found out he could command a better wage in the cities



and could live under happier conditions, he would rapidly leave the farm as soon as his contract had expired, and would simply become a new competitor on the labour market in the cities and on the goldfields. Under these circumstances I think, therefore, the Government should hesitate and ponder very carefully before they resolve on taking any decisive action with regard to this immigration question. I welcome the proposal to introduce a Factories Bill, always supposing that it is a fairly comprehensive measure, and that it will not only include the Truck Act and Early Closing Act, but will deal with our various industries on the lines of the Victorian Act at present in force, in the direction of establishing a wages board to assess wages, of limiting the hours of labour for the worker, and of seeing that proper sanitary conditions are observed in the various factories. If a Factories Bill be introduced, I shall have a great deal of pleasure in supporting it, and I believe, from the composition of the Ministry, we have reasonably good ground for expecting a good measure, whereas if we have a measure like what I remember was the first Factories Act in Victoria—and which the Colonial Treasurer will also remember—I shall feel it my duty to oppose it, because a measure called a Factory Act and not comprehensive would be simply the means of blocking legislation on the same subject by providing excuses for those who wished to vote against it on the plea that a Factories Act already existed on the statute book, and that would suffice for all requirements. I have already referred to the question of electoral reform. It astonished me to learn that because miners were nomadic, they were not entitled to the same consideration and representation as other classes of the community. It strikes me that the miner, by his nomadic habits, does far more for this State than he would do if he were too much inclined to settle early, and to stay in one particular spot.

MR. C. HARPER: It was not said disparagingly.

MR. H. DAGLISH: I understand it was not said disparagingly, but I take it objection was raised to giving them representation on the basis of population on account of their nomadic habits. I do

not urge that specially with regard to Kanowna, but I say that if the miner had not been nomadic Western Australia would not have been anything like what it is, but would have been dragging along with its 20,000, 30,000, or 40,000 of population instead of over 180,000. I believe West Australia has very great cause to thank the miner for the fact that he is nomadic, and should give him extra consideration on that ground. Miners, however, do not ask for extra consideration, but only that they shall get a reasonable representation in proportion to their numbers; and I would add that the nomadic habits of the miner at present, day by day and month by month, are adding considerably to the wealth of Western Australia, because the miner goes prospecting farther and farther from the first centre of settlement, and he continually makes new discoveries which add immensely to the wealth and importance of the State. In his habits therefore he is day by day and year by year adding to the possessions and to the population of this State. They are habits like that which have done so much for the State in the past and will do so much for it in the future, and therefore should not be a reason for refusing to the miner the same representation as is given to other classes of the community. I am glad to learn we are to have the Conciliation and Arbitration Act amended, and I trust it will be amended so as to make it in reality compulsory conciliation and arbitration. I should like, farther, if it were possible, for the Ministry to take the opportunity, after Supply has been granted and before the House adjourns for the visit of their royal highnesses, to pass that amendment. I should like to see it passed at once, because we have seen in the last few days what evil may arise from having a law in an imperfect state in that respect, and we do not know what it may bring forth. Therefore, I should like to see the Act amended at the earliest possible moment. I trust that when the Act is amended, it will be so amended that we shall have the ability to not only deprecate strikes, but absolutely prevent them. I can assure the Premier that as far as I am concerned I shall give my earnest support in making the measure as comprehensive and effective as possible in that direction. Whilst dealing with that point, I should like to



urge that the time has arrived when we in this State should follow the example of some of the Eastern States, and establish a department of labour, which would control such measures as the factories law, and control the administration of the Conciliation and Arbitration Act, the Truck Act, the Early Closing Act, and any Act which may exist on our statute book affecting the status and condition of labour. It might also deal with the efficiency of the Government Labour Bureau. That institution can be made of far more value than it is at present, if proper attention be given to it. When I say this, I want it to be distinctly understood I am not in any way reflecting upon Mr. Longmore, the gentleman who is at present administering that bureau, because I know he is not only a conscientious but a thoroughly capable officer, and I think means should be given to him to extend the operations of the office. I may, in passing, say I am surprised it should recently have been discovered that the Government officials had passed over the Government Bureau and had gone to a private registry for the purpose of obtaining labour. I do not believe any Minister was directly responsible for this; but I would like to know who the official was who took that action, and on what authority he did so. It is a farce to have this Government establishment, if we are to use private establishments; and it seems to me an improper thing that a man out of employment, who obviously has no means, or not much means, available to pay those who carry on private establishments, should be mulcted in the sum of 15s., before he is allowed to obtain work. It is to obviate this that the Bureau was established, and it is a very regrettable fact that the Government, or a Government official, should have gone outside that Bureau to subsidise private offices. I hope that this session will see a Public Service Bill of a comprehensive character passed. The measure passed by the last Parliament was simply an excuse for not dealing with the public service question. There was absolutely nothing in it that made it worth while to introduce it or to carry it through. It might just as well have been burnt as soon as it was printed, because it is utterly valueless, and has done nothing whatever and can do

nothing whatever in the direction of reform and reorganisation of the public service. I hope that when we get a measure from the Government we shall obtain a Bill that will be thoroughly comprehensive, and will deal with all departments in a businesslike fashion. I think I have dealt with most of the points in the Governor's Speech that I wish to refer to, and now I should like to just briefly refer to one or two omissions from that Speech. First of all, I am sorry the Minister did not take this opportunity of proposing a measure to abolish the indenture system amongst the aborigines, because from my own observation I am quite satisfied that system savours very strongly of slavery, and as early as I can get an opportunity I shall have pleasure in voting for its abolition. I am also surprised there is not a proposal brought forward to amend the licensing law, because if there be any law on the statute book that needs amendment, it is the law relating to the sale of liquor. Here in Perth we have not seen the evils of it to any great extent, because of late years the licensing authorities have been wise and judicious by inquiring carefully into the applications placed before them, and in most cases have exhibited a judgment worthy of a Daniel in framing their decisions; but on the goldfields the action of the various licensing benches has been slightly different in some cases, and there has not been that degree of judgment used which is desirable. It should not be required of any of our licensing courts that they should determine points of policy, such as the wisdom or otherwise of issuing new licenses in the various districts; but the power or right of doing so should be vested solely in the people themselves. I trust that, in spite of the omission of any reference to this subject in the Governor's Speech, this House will have the opportunity, this session, of passing a licensing law, and I hope the Ministers will provide in that law for local option for settling the question of new licenses, if it does not go farther. I should like to have seen some suggestion in the Speech for the reform of the Legislative Council, to see that body brought into line with public opinion; and I should like to see this House follow the example set by some of the wisest politicians who attended the Federal



Convention when they drew up the Constitution of the Commonwealth. I think if the principle of one-adult-one-vote is satisfactory enough to constitute the highest legislative Chamber in the Australian Commonwealth, then it is certainly good enough for our own State Parliament; and therefore I should like to see the adoption of this principle in the constitution of our Upper House. I should farther have liked to see a proposal to remove the food duties, so as to encourage immigration in the most desirable way in which it can be encouraged. We cannot expect everything, even from the present Administration; and I recognise with satisfaction that the present Administration have gone as far as they could reasonably be expected to go in their first session. I trust they will have an opportunity of carrying out their proposals; and I can assure them, as far as I am concerned, that while they keep to the lines laid down in the Governor's Speech, it will afford me the greatest pleasure to support them with all my strength, with all my heart, and with all my soul. I trust indeed that not only will they have a reasonable opportunity of carrying these proposals into law, but that they will wisely guide the destinies of this State so long as they occupy the position in which they are at present placed.

MR. G. H. RASON (Guildford): I desire to congratulate you, sir, on being again elected to the position of Speaker in this House. Still more do I congratulate the House on your having accepted the position; for speaking from my experience of the way in which you have assisted members of this House in the past, I am sure you will always be ready to afford to members of this new Parliament the benefit of the past parliamentary experience you have acquired. The first reference in the Speech is to the lamented death of our late Sovereign, Queen Victoria. In common with the rest of the Empire, I am sure we are all grieved at the loss of her whom we admired and honoured as a constitutional monarch, whom we loved as a good and noble woman; and I am sure the same loyal devotion will be extended to her successor, King Edward VII. We shall soon have an opportunity of welcoming to this State the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall; and although we may not be able to vie in our reception

with the magnificence of the sister States, and though perhaps it may not be advisable for us to attempt to vie in that magnificence, yet I trust we shall be equal to them in the sincerity of our welcome; and if any absolute proof of loyalty is necessary, then we have this satisfaction, that on the battlefields of South Africa our soldiers have been ready to shed their blood in fighting the battles of the Empire. Reference has been made in the Speech to the consummation of the Commonwealth of Australia. I sincerely hope the most ardent wishes of those in favour of that movement may be amply realised; and I look forward to a still greater federation, the federation of the Empire. I think this still greater federation, once regarded as a dream, and even as a dream worthy to be cherished, is now approaching almost daily within the range of probabilities; and I have no doubt that in course of time, in the interests of trade and in the interests of peace this greater federation, the federation of the Empire, will be completed. A kindly reference was made in the speech of the mover of the Address-in-reply to the good fortune of this State in having acquired such an excellent Governor as Sir Arthur Lawley. That sentiment I cordially reciprocate; and I feel sure that since our loyalty has not been wanting in welcoming him here, so when he shall have completed his service in this State, I feel sure the warmest recollections will be entertained in regard to himself and Lady Lawley. The mover of the Address-in-reply referred to the loss which this House and the country have sustained in the death of the member for West Kimberley, Mr. A. Forrest; and I hope I shall not be accused of presumption if I, who knew that gentleman so many years and was associated with him as one of the whips of the late Government party in this House, take on myself to thank hon. members opposite, who would probably have been opposed to that hon. member in politics at all events, for the kindly sentiments which have been expressed from that side of the House. Hon. members have said, and have said without exaggeration, that the loss of Mr. A. Forrest will be felt throughout the length and breadth of this State. Those who knew him best, best knew that