VIC. MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEG. COUNCIL. SESS. 1902-3.

VICTORIA.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SESSION 1902-3.

WITH COPIES OF THE VARIOUS DOCUMENTS ORDERED TO BE PRINTED.

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MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DURING THE PERIOD FROM 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1902, TO 7TH APRIL, 1903.

Provinces and Members.	Elected at— Nomination.	Elected at— Polling.	Dates of Retirement.	Remarks.
MELBOURNE PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 13,996. No. of Members, 4.
The Honorables—				
Robert Reid	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
succeeded by				
William Cain	21 Feb. 1903	...	1908	Elected in place of Hon. R. Reid, resigned.
Sir Arthur Snowden	31 Aug. 1901	...	1907	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
John Mark Davies	20 June 1902	...	1906	Vacated seat by accepting office of Solicitor-General; re-elected.
Cornelius Job Ham	26 Aug. 1898	...	1904	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
NORTH YARRA PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 9,218. No. of Members, 3.
The Honorables—				
William Pitt	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Frederick Sheppard Grimwade ...	1 Sept. 1900	...	1906	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Nathaniel Levi	26 Aug. 1898	...	1904	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
SOUTH YARRA PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 13,671. No. of Members, 4.
The Honorables—				
Thomas Henry Payne	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
George Godfrey	31 Aug. 1901	...	1907	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Edward Miller	1 Sept. 1900	...	1906	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Edmund Edmonds Smith ...	...	25 June 1901	1904	Elected in place of Hon. S. Fraser, resigned.
SOUTHERN PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 11,036. No. of Members, 3.
The Honorables—				
Thomas Brunton	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Sir Rupert Turner Havelock Clarke, Bart.	1 Sept. 1900	...	1906	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Donald Melville	19 Dec. 1899	...	1904	Vacated seat by accepting office of Minister of Defence; re-elected.
SOUTH-WESTERN PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 7,233. No. of Members, 3.
The Honorables—				
Thomas Charles Harwood ...	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Sidney Austin	1 Sept. 1900	...	1906	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Sir Henry John Wrixon, K.C.M.G., K.C.	26 Aug. 1898	...	1904	Retired by rotation, and re-elected. Elected President, 18th June, 1901.
NELSON PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 5,922. No. of Members, 3.
The Honorables—				
Hans William Henry Irvine ...	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Steuart Gladstone Black	30 Mar. 1901	...	1906	Elected in place of Hon. W. H. S. Osmand, deceased.
Thomas Dowling	26 Aug. 1898	...	1904	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
WESTERN PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 6,451. No. of Members, 3.
The Honorables—				
Agar Wynne	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Walter Synnot Manifold	...	25 June 1901	1906	Elected in place of Hon. S. W. Cooke, resigned.
Nathan Thornley	26 Aug. 1898	...	1904	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
succeeded by				
Robert Blackwood Ritchie ...	21 Mar. 1903	...	1904	Elected in place of Hon. N. Thornley, deceased.
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 11,682. No. of Members, 4.
The Honorables—				
Henry Williams	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Joseph Major Pratt	31 Aug. 1901	...	1907	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
James Bell	1 Sept. 1900	...	1906	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Thomas Comrie	26 Aug. 1898	...	1904	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL—*continued.*

Provinces and Members.	Elected at— Nomination.	Elected at— Polling.	Dates of Retirement.	Remarks.
NORTHERN PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 8,284. No. of Members, 4.
The Honorables—				
William Lawrence Baillieu ...	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
George Simmie	31 Aug. 1901	...	1907	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Joseph Sternberg	1 Sept. 1900	...	1906	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Joseph Henry Abbott	26 Aug. 1898	...	1904	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
WELLINGTON PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 8,233. No. of Members, 4.
The Honorables—				
Sir Henry Cuthbert, K.C.M.G., K.C.	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Edward Morey	31 Aug. 1901	...	1907	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
David Ham	1 Sept. 1900	...	1906	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
John Young McDonald	26 Aug. 1898	...	1904	Elected in place of Hon. T. D. Wanliss, who retired by rotation.
NORTH CENTRAL PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 5,380. No. of Members, 3.
The Honorables—				
Nicholas FitzGerald	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
William Blair Gray	...	25 June 1901	1906	Elected in place of Hon. Sir W. A. Zeal, K.C.M.G., resigned.
Dr. William Henry Embling ...	26 Aug. 1898	...	1904	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
NORTH-EASTERN PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 9,267. No. of Members, 3.
The Honorables—				
William Orr	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Arthur Otto Sachse	1 Sept. 1900	...	1906	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Frederick Brown	26 Aug. 1898	...	1904	Retired by rotation, and re-elected. Re-appointed Chairman of Committees, 15th October, 1902.
GIPPSLAND PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 9,728. No. of Members, 4.
The Honorables—				
William McCulloch	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Joseph Hoddinott	31 Aug. 1901	...	1907	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
William Pearson	1 Sept. 1900	...	1906	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Edward Jolley Crooke	26 Aug. 1898	...	1904	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
SOUTH-EASTERN PROVINCE:				No. of Electors, 13,986. No. of Members, 3.
The Honorables—				
James Balfour	29 Aug. 1902	...	1908	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
James Callender Campbell ...	1 Sept. 1900	...	1906	Retired by rotation, and re-elected.
Duncan Elphinstone McBryde ...	13 June, 1901	...	1904	Elected in place of Hon. W. Knox, resigned.
				Total No. of Electors, 134,087.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Legislative Council,
Melbourne, 7th April, 1903.

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1902-3.

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FIRST SESSION

OF THE

NINETEENTH PARLIAMENT.

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ADMINISTRATION AND PROBATE (LEGAL CHARGES) BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act relating to Legal Charges for obtaining Probate or Letters of Administration.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 1st April, 1903, p. 121.

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Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 10th March, p. 93. (*Assented to 7th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1844.)

BALLAARAT COURT HOUSE LAND BILL.—Bill relating to certain Land granted as a Site for a Market Place in the city of Ballaarat.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Initiated, by leave, and read a first time, 16th December, 1902, p. 49.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 18th December, p. 53.

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CHURCH OF ENGLAND BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act relating to the Church of England in Victoria.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 11th March, 1903, p. 97.

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COLAC LAND RESERVE REVOCATION BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to revoke the permanent reservation of certain Crown Land in the County of Polwarth, Town of Colac.*"—(*Hon. A. O. Sachse.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time; read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, 1903, pp. 126-7. (*Assented to 6th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1833.)

COLAC PUBLIC LIBRARY SITE SALE BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to authorize the Sale of certain Land reserved as a Site for a Public Library and Reading Room at Colac and for other purposes.*"—(*Hon. A. O. Sachse.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time; read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, 1903, p. 127. (*Assented to 6th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1834.)

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE BILL (No. 1).—Bill intituled "*An Act to apply out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of Six hundred and seventy-seven thousand seven hundred and seventy-one pounds to the service of the year One thousand nine hundred and two and One thousand nine hundred and three.*"—(*Hon. R. Reid.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time; read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 22nd October, 1902, p. 20. (*Assented to 24th October*, 1902. *Act No.* 1790.)

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE BILL (No. 2).—Bill intituled "*An Act to apply out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of Seven hundred and seventy-one thousand five hundred and ninety-one pounds to the service of the year One thousand nine hundred and two and One thousand nine hundred and three.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 18th December, 1902, p. 53.

Read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 18th December, p. 53. (*Assented to 22nd December*, 1902. *Act No.* 1813.)

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE BILL (No. 3).—Bill intituled "*An Act to apply out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of Three hundred and twenty-three thousand and seventy-three pounds to the service of the year One thousand nine hundred and two and One thousand nine hundred and three.*"—(*Hon. A. O. Sachse.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time; read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 25th February, 1903, p. 83. (*Assented to 27th February*, 1903. *Act No.* 1818.)

CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Reform of the Constitution of Victoria.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 18th December, 1902, p. 53.

Petitions presented, 22nd January, 1903, p. 62; 5th February, p. 73.

Motion—That this Bill be now read a second time—debate adjourned, 22nd January, 1903, p. 62; debate resumed and further adjourned, 27th January, p. 63; 28th January, p. 65; 29th January, p. 68; debate resumed; Bill read a second time with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the whole number of the Members of the Council, and committed; motion—That it be an instruction to the Committee to divide the Bill into two Bills—negatived; considered in Committee, 3rd February, p. 70.

Further considered in Committee, 4th February, p. 72; 5th February, p. 73; 10th February, p. 76; 11th February, p. 77.

Reported with amendments; recommitted for the reconsideration of clause 4, new clause E (on casting vote of the President), and new clause D; reconsidered in Committee and re-reported with further amendments, 11th February, pp. 77–8.

Order for consideration of report discharged and Bill recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 4, 10, and E (on casting vote of the President) and for the consideration of a proposed new clause; reconsidered in Committee and re-reported with further amendments; report, by leave, considered and adopted; Bill read the third time with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the whole number of the Members of the Council, and passed, 17th February, pp. 79–80.

Message from the Assembly notifying that they have agreed to some of the amendments of the Council, have disagreed with others, and have agreed to two of the said amendments with amendments, 26th February, p. 85.

Motion—That the Standing Orders of this Honorable House be suspended, to afford an opportunity of freely and fully considering the Message of the Legislative Assembly on the Constitution Reform Bill—agreed to, 5th March, p. 89.

Amendments considered; the Council insist on some of their amendments disagreed with by the Assembly, agree to one of the amendments made by the Assembly on an amendment of the Council, agree to another of the amendments made by the Assembly on an amendment of the Council with a further amendment, and insist on one of their amendments disagreed with by the Assembly with an amendment, 5th March, pp. 90–92.

Message from the Assembly notifying that they insist on disagreeing with the amendments made and insisted on by the Council, and that they have agreed to the further amendment of the Council on the amendment of the Assembly on the Council's amendment in clause 5; amendments considered; motion—That the Council do not insist on their amendments disagreed with by the Assembly; amendment proposed—to omit all the words after "That" with a view to insert in place thereof the words "the Council insist on their amendments in the Bill intituled '*An Act to provide for the Reform of the Constitution of Victoria*,' and in returning the Bill to the Legislative Assembly invite their special attention to the practice of Parliament as laid down in *May*,

CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL—*continued.*

page 479, viz.:—'According to established usage, when a Bill has been returned by either House to the other, with amendments which are disagreed to, a Message is sent, or a Conference is desired, by the House which disagrees to the amendment, to acquaint the other with the reasons for such disagreement, in order to reconcile their differences, and, if possible, by mutual concessions to arrive at an ultimate agreement.' The Legislative Council further point out that the foregoing practice was followed by the Legislative Assembly during the present Session so far as regards the Factories and Shops Acts Continuance Bill, and the result of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly meeting in conference on that occasion was the passing of the Bill referred to into law. Further, the Legislative Council inform the Legislative Assembly that, in the event of their requesting a Free Conference in regard to the Constitution Reform Bill, the Legislative Council will be glad to grant it"—and amendment made, 11th March, pp. 95–7.

Message from the Assembly, acquainting the Council that they have passed the following resolution in reply to the Message dated 11th March instant, received from the Council, namely:—"That this House, while not agreeing with the view expressed in the Message that only the House disagreeing with amendments should ask for a Conference, and whilst asserting that this has not been the practice hitherto, in its desire to achieve Reform, and in recognition that the Legislative Council has, in effect, invited a Conference, deems it right to waive, at this juncture, all merely formal considerations, and requests a Free Conference between the Houses"; and requesting a Free Conference on the subject-matter of the amendments made by the Council in the Constitution Reform Bill, and acquainting the Council that they have appointed seven Members of the Assembly to be Managers of the said Conference; Message considered; desire of the Assembly complied with, and seven members of the Council appointed Managers of the Conference to confer with a like number of Members of the Assembly, the Conference to meet in the South Library at half-past seven o'clock this day, 12th March, p. 100.

The Managers proceeded to the Conference, 12th March, p. 100; 17th March, p. 101; 18th March, p. 103; 19th March, p. 105; 24th March, p. 107; 25th March, p. 109; 26th March, p. 111.

The Honorable Sir Henry Cuthbert brought up a Report from the Managers of certain recommendations agreed to at the Conference, 24th March, pp. 107–8; further Report by the Honorable A. Wynne, 25th March, p. 109; 26th March, p. 111.

Message from the Assembly returning the Bill and notifying that they have agreed to the recommendations of the Free Conference on the Bill; recommendations considered; motion, That this House concur with the Legislative Assembly in agreeing with the whole of the recommendations of the Free Conference in respect to the Bill for the Reform of the Constitution of Victoria; amendment proposed to omit all the words after the word "That" with a view to insert in place thereof the words "the Report of the Managers for the Council in the Free Conference on the Reform Bill is unsatisfactory, as no Report embodying the dissolubility of the Council for legislative purposes will be acceptable to this House unless the said Report also embodies the acceptance of the Council's amendments to clause 30 of the said Bill, and, further, that in all other directions the said Report has reached the limit of concession"; but, on division, not made; main question put and resolved in the affirmative, 1st April, pp. 115–21.

Message from the Assembly transmitting Message from His Excellency the Governor, recommending certain amendments in the Bill, to which the Assembly had agreed; His Excellency's amendments considered and agreed to, 3rd April, p. 125. (*Reserved for the signification of His Majesty's pleasure thereon, 7th April, p.* 130.)

CORONERS ACT 1890 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL.—Bill to further amend the *Coroners Act* 1890. (*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Initiated and read a first time, 21st October, 1902, p. 18.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee, 30th October, p. 26.

Further considered in Committee and reported with an amendment; report, by leave, considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 11th November, p. 29.

Message from the Assembly notifying their agreement to the Bill with amendments, 1st April, p. 121.

Amendments considered and agreed to, 2nd April, p. 124. (*Assented to 6th April,* 1903. *Act No.* 1828.)

CROWN LANDS SELECTION AND PURCHASE BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act relating to the Selection and Purchase of Crown Land.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time; read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, 1903, p. 126. (*Assented to 6th April,* 1903. *Act No.* 1831.)

DAIRYING COMPANIES ACT 1900 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to further amend the 'Dairying Companies Act* 1900.'"—(*Hon. A. O. Sachse.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time; read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, 1903, p. 128. (*Assented to 6th April,* 1903. *Act No.* 1840.)

DEBENTURES DESTRUCTION BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to authorize the Destruction of Discharged Public Debentures Bonds and Coupons.*"—(*Hon. W. Pitt.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 11th November, 1902, p. 27.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 12th November, p. 32. (*Assented to 25th November,* 1902. *Act No.* 1801.)

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act relating to receipts of Income Tax during July and August One thousand nine hundred and three.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 11th March, 1903, p. 97.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 12th March, p. 99. (*Assented to 6th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1823.)

INSOLVENCY BILL.—Bill to amend the law relating to Insolvency.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Initiated and read a first time, 21st October, 1902, p. 18.

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Further considered in Committee, 11th November, p. 29.

Further considered in Committee and reported with an amendment; report, by leave, considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 26th November, p. 40.

Message from the Assembly notifying their agreement to the Bill with an amendment; amendment considered and agreed to, 3rd April, 1903, p. 127. (*Assented to 6th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1836.)

LEGITIMATION OF CHILDREN BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to Legitimize Children by Registration under the Registration of Births Deaths and Marriages Acts.*"—(*Hon. A. O. Sachse.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 10th March, 1903, p. 93.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported with amendments, 31st March, p. 113.

Order for consideration of report discharged and Bill recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 2 and 5 and the Schedule; reconsidered in Committee and re-reported with further amendments; report, by leave, considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 2nd April, p. 124.

Message from the Assembly notifying their agreement to the amendments of the Council, 3rd April, p. 127. (*Assented to 6th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1835.)

LICENSING ACT 1890 AMENDMENT BILL.—Bill to amend the *Licensing Act* 1890.—(*Hon. N. Levi.*)—Initiated and read a first time, 22nd October, 1902, p. 19.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 28th October, p. 22. Bill not returned from the Assembly.

LOCAL RAILWAY RATES ABOLITION BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Abolition of Local Rates on certain lines of railway.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 18th November, 1902, p. 34.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 25th November, p. 38. (*Assented to 9th December*, 1902. *Act No.* 1807.)

MALLEE LAND ACCOUNT BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act relating to the Mallee Land Account.*"—(*Hon. R. Reid.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 29th October, 1902, p. 23.

MALLEE LAND ACCOUNT BILL—*continued.*

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 30th October, p. 25. (*Assented to 12th November*, 1902. *Act No.* 1792.)

MALLEE LAND ACCOUNT BILL (No. 2).—Bill intituled "*An Act providing for the Transfer to the Consolidated Revenue of the Mallee Land Account.*"—(*Hon. W. Pitt.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 11th March, 1903, p. 97.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 12th March, p. 99. (*Assented to 6th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1822.)

MARRIAGE ACT 1900 AMENDMENT BILL.—Bill to amend the *Marriage Act* 1900.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Initiated and read a first time, 15th October, 1902, p. 14.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported with amendments; report, by leave, considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 21st October, p. 18.

Message from the Assembly notifying agreement to the Bill with amendments, 18th November, p. 35.

Amendments considered and agreed to, 26th November, p. 40. (*Assented to 9th December*, 1902. *Act No.* 1809.)

MELBOURNE TRAMWAYS TRUST DEBENTURES BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Restriction of Transfer of Debentures held by the Melbourne Tramways Trust.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly. Standing Orders relating to private Bills, by leave, suspended, and all fees remitted with regard to the Bill, and Bill read a first time; read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported with amendments; report, by leave, considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, 1903, pp. 127–8.

All proceedings subsequent to the first reading rescinded, and Bill, by leave, read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, p. 128. (*Assented to 6th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1841.)

MEMBERS AND PUBLIC SERVICE RETRENCHMENT BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Reduction until the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and three of the Reimbursement of Expenses payable to Members of the Legislative Assembly and the Salaries or Pay of certain Public Officers.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 28th October, 1902, p. 22.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 30th October, p. 25. (*Assented to 12th November*, 1902. *Act No.* 1793.)

METHODIST UNION BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to confirm the Union in Victoria of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, the Primitive Methodist Church, the Bible Christian Church, and the United Methodist Free Churches; to deal with the Properties in Victoria of the said Uniting Churches, and to assimilate the Trusts thereof; to vest the said Properties in the United Church under the name of the Methodist Church of Australasia; to give certain powers to the Victoria and Tasmania Conference of the Methodist Church of Australasia; to amend 'The Victorian Wesleyan Methodists' Act* 1887,' *and for other purposes.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 11th November, 1902, p. 28.

Standing Orders relating to Private Bills, by leave, suspended, and all fees remitted with regard to the Bill, and Bill read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 12th November, p. 31. (*Assented to 25th November*, 1902. *Act No.* 1799.)

MILDURA IRRIGATION TRUSTS ACT 1895 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to further amend the 'Mildura Irrigation Trusts Act* 1895' *and for other purposes.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time; read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported with an amendment; report, by leave, considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, 1903, p. 126.

Message from the Assembly notifying their agreement to the amendment of the Council, 3rd April, p. 128. (*Assented to 6th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1842.)

MINISTERS' AND OFFICERS' SALARIES RETRENCHMENT BILL.—Bill intituted "*An Act to provide for the Reduction until the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and three of the Salaries or Pay of Responsible Ministers of the Crown and certain Officers under the 'Constitution Act,'* or Part IX. of '*The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890,' *or whose Salaries or Pay are provided for by Special Appropriations.*"—(*Hon. R. Reid.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 29th October, 1902, p. 23.

Read a second time, with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the whole number of the Members of the Council, and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time, with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the whole number of the Members of the Council, and passed, 11th November, p. 28. (*Reserved for the signification of His Majesty's pleasure thereon, 25th November*, 1902, p. 51.)

MUNICIPAL ENDOWMENT REDUCTION BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to reduce for one year the Municipal Endowment.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assemby and read a first time, 29th October, 1902, p. 24.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 30th October, p. 25. (*Assented to 12th November*, 1902. *Act No.* 1791.)

MUNICIPAL OVERDRAFTS INDEMNITY BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to indemnify the Councillors of various Municipalities for Borrowing Moneys by Overdrafts on Bankers for the purposes of their Municipalities contrary to the provisions of the 'Local Government Act* 1890' *and for other purposes.*"—(*Hon. R. Reid.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 12th November, 1902, p. 31.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 26th November, p. 40. (*Assented to 9th December*, 1902. *Act No.* 1811.)

PATENTS BILL.—Bill to amend the Law concerning Letters Patent for Inventions.—(*Hon. A. O. Sachse.*)—Initiated, by leave, and read a first time, 18th November, 1902, p. 34.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 2nd December, p. 43.

Message from the Assembly notifying their agreement to the Bill, 12th March, 1903, p. 100.

Message from His Excellency the Governor recommending an amendment in the Bill; His Excellency's amendment considered and agreed to, 17th March, p. 101.

Message from Assembly notifying their agreement to His Excellency's amendment, 18th March, p. 103. (*Assented to 6th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1824.)

POLICE ASSURANCE BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to amend Part III. of the 'Police Regulation Act* 1890' *with regard to future Appointees.*"—(*Hon. A. O. Sachse.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 22nd October, 1902, p. 19.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 11th November, p. 29. (*Assented to 25th November*, 1902. *Act No.* 1798.)

PUBLIC BUILDINGS RENT BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act relating to charging Public Officers for Rent of Public Buildings used by them for Residence.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 11th November, 1902, p. 27.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported with an amendment; report, by leave, considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 12th November, p. 32.

Message from the Assembly notifying their agreement to the amendment of the Council, 18th November, p. 35. (*Assented to 25th November*, 1902. *Act No.* 1803.)

PUBLIC WORKS LOAN APPLICATION BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to sanction the issue and application of certain sums of Money available under Loan Acts for Public Works and other purposes.*"—(*Hon. R. Reid.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 11th November, 1902, p. 28.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 18th November, p. 35. (*Assented to 9th December*, 1902. *Act No.* 1806.)

RAILWAY ACCIDENT FUND AND RAILWAYS STORES SUSPENSE ACCOUNT BILL —Bill intituled "*An Act relating to the Railway Accident Fund and to the Railways Stores Suspense Account.*"—(*Hon. W. Pitt.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 5th March, 1903, p. 89.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 10th March, p. 93. (*Assented to 6th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1820.)

RAILWAY LOAN APPLICATION BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to sanction the issue and application of certain sums of Money available under Loan Acts for Railways.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 11th November, 1902, p. 28.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 12th November, p. 32. (*Assented to 9th December*, 1902. *Act No.* 1805.)

RAILWAYS COMMISSIONERS APPOINTMENT BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Appointment of three Victorian Railways Commissioners instead of one Commissioner.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 31st March, 1903, p. 113.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 2nd April, p. 123. (*Assented to 6th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1825.)

SEED AND FODDER ADVANCES BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to enable Seed and Fodder to be advanced on certain terms to Cultivators of Land.*"—(*Hon. W. Pitt.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 29th January, 1903, p. 67.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 5th February, p. 73. (*Assented to 6th February*, 1903. *Act No.* 1816.)

SPRING VALE NECROPOLIS BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act relating to The Necropolis, Spring Vale.*"—(*Hon. A. O. Sachse.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 3rd April, 1903, p. 125.

Read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported with an amendment; report, by leave, considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, p. 125.

Message from the Assembly notifying their agreement to the amendment of the Council with an amendment; amendment considered and agreed to, 3rd April, p. 128. (*Assented to 6th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1843.)

ST. ARNAUD LAND BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to revoke the Permanent Reservation and Grant of certain Land at St. Arnaud.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time; read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, 1903, p. 127. (*Assented to 6th April*, 1903. *Act No.* 1839.)

STATISTICS COLLECTION BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Collection of Statistics.*"—(*Hon. A. O. Sachse.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 18th November, 1902, p. 35.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 26th November, p. 40. (*Assented to 9th December*, 1902. *Act No.* 1810.)

TRADING STAMPS ACT 1901 AMENDMENT BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the 'Trading Stamps Act* 1901.'"—(*Hon. R. Reid.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 21st October, 1902, p. 17.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 30th October. p. 26. (*Assented to 12th November*, 1902. *Act No.* 1794.)

TRANSFER OF LAND ACT 1890 AMENDMENT BILL.—Bill to amend the *Transfer of Land Act* 1890. —(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Initiated and read a first time, 21st October, 1902, p. 18.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee, 11th November, p. 29.

Further considered in Committee, 26th November, p. 40; 3rd December, p. 45.

Reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd December, p. 45. Bill not returned from the Assembly.

TREASURY BONDS BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to authorize the Issue of Treasury Bonds.*"—(*Hon. A. O. Sachse.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 29th October, 1902, p. 23.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 11th November, p. 28. (*Assented to 25th November*, 1902. *Act No.* 1795.)

TREASURY BONDS BILL (No. 2).—Bill intituled "*An Act to authorize the Issue of Treasury Bonds (No. 2).*"—(*Hon. R. Reid.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 11th November, 1902, p. 27.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 12th November, p. 32. (*Assented to 25th November*, 1902. *Act No.* 1800.)

TRUST FUNDS ACT 1897 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL. —Bill intituled "*An Act to further amend the 'Trust Funds Act* 1897.'"—(*Hon. R. Reid.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 29th October 1902, p. 24.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed 11th November, p. 28. (*Assented to 25th November*, 1902. *Act No.* 1797.)

TRUSTEE COMPANIES BILL.—Bill to amend the Law relating to Trustee Companies.—(*Hon. J. Bell.*)—Initiated, by leave, and read a first time, 5th March, 1903, p. 92.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee, 10th March, p. 94.

TRUSTEE COMPANIES BILL—*continued.*

Motion—That the Bill be further considered in Committee this day—debate adjourned, 31st March, p. 113.

Ruling of the President—The President said—"I desire to say in regard to this Bill that I have considered the point which was taken yesterday by Mr. Wynne. I have no doubt, on looking at the Principal Act and at this Bill, that this is a public Bill. It deals with trustee companies generally, and not with any one in particular, and it also deals with the general public. It affects the general public, and there is no doubt that it is a public Bill."—debate resumed on the question—That the Bill be further considered in Committee this day; motion for the adjournment of the debate negatived; question—That the Bill be further considered in Committee this day—resolved in the affirmative; further considered in Committee, 1st April, p. 122.

Further considered in Committee and reported with amendments, 2nd April, p. 124.

Recommitted for the reconsideration of clause 2; reconsidered in Committee, 2nd April, p. 124.

Further considered in Committee and re-reported without further amendment; report, by leave, considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, p. 125. Bill not returned from the Assembly.

UNIVERSITY ACT 1890 AMENDMENT BILL.—Bill to amend the *University Act* 1890.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Initiated and read a first time, 21st October, 1902, p. 18.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee, 11th November, p. 29.

Further considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 26th November, p. 40.

Message from the Assembly notifying their agreement to the Bill, 1st April, 1903, p. 121.

Report from the Clerk of the Parliaments of a clerical error in the Bill; error corrected by the Council and the letter ordered to be sent to the Assembly with a Message requesting their concurrence in such correction, 2nd April, p. 123.

Message from the Assembly notifying their concurrence with the Council in the correction of the clerical error reported by the Clerk of the Parliaments, 2nd April, p. 123. (*Assented to 6th April,* 1903. *Act No.* 1826.)

UNLAWFUL ASSEMBLIES ACT 1890 AMENDMENT BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to amend Part I. of the 'Unlawful Assemblies and Processions Act* 1890.'"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time; read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, 1903, p. 126. (*Assented to 6th April,* 1903. *Act No.* 1829.)

VICTORIAN LOANS REDEMPTION FUND ACT 1898 AMENDMENT BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to further amend the 'Victorian Loans Redemption Fund Act* 1898.'"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 29th October, 1902, p. 24.

Read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 11th November, p. 28. (*Assented to 25th November,* 1902. *Act No.* 1796.)

WATER ACTS AMENDMENT (CONDAH SWAMP LANDS) BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the Water Acts so far as relates to the Condah Swamp Lands.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time; read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, 1903, p. 126. (*Assented to 6th April,* 1903. *Act No.* 1832.)

WATER SUPPLY LOANS APPLICATION BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to sanction the issue and application of certain sums of money available under Loan Acts for Water Supply in Country Districts and for other purposes.*"—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time, 25th November, 1902, p. 37.

Motion—That this Bill be now read a second time; debate adjourned, 26th November, p. 39; debate resumed; Bill read a second time and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 2nd December, p. 43. (*Assented to 9th December,* 1902. *Act No.* 1812.)

WOMEN'S DISABILITIES REMOVAL BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to remove some Anomalies in the Law relating to Women.*"—(*Hon. D. Melville.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time; read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, 1903, p. 127. (*Assented to 6th April,* 1903. *Act No.* 1837.)

YEA RACE-COURSE RESERVE SALE BILL.—Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Sale of the Yea Race-course and Public Recreation Reserve and for the Purchase of other Land in lieu thereof.*"—(*Hon. A. O. Sachse.*)—Brought from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time; read a second time, by leave, and committed; considered in Committee and reported without amendment; report considered and adopted; Bill read the third time and passed, 3rd April, 1903, p. 126. (*Assented to 6th April,* 1903. *Act No.* 1830.)

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

VICTORIA.

No. 1.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 14TH OCTOBER, 1902.

1. The Council met pursuant to the Proclamation of His Excellency the Governor, bearing date the sixth day of October instant, which Proclamation was read by the Clerk, and is as follows:—

FIXING THE TIME FOR HOLDING THE FIRST SESSION OF THE NINETEENTH PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA.

PROCLAMATION

By His Excellency Sir George Sydenham Clarke, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George; Fellow of the Royal Society; Governor of the State of Victoria and its Dependencies in the Commonwealth of Australia, &c., &c., &c.

WHEREAS by *The Constitution Act* it was amongst other things enacted that it should be lawful for the Governor to fix such places within Victoria, and, subject to the limitation therein contained, such times for holding the first and every other Session of the Council and Assembly, and to vary and alter the same respectively in such manner as he might think fit; and also from time to time to prorogue the said Council and Assembly, and to dissolve the said Assembly, by Proclamation or otherwise, whenever he should deem it expedient: And whereas the said Council and Assembly are called "The Parliament of Victoria," and it is expedient to fix the time for holding the next Session thereof: Now therefore I, the Governor of the State of Victoria in the Commonwealth of Australia, in exercise of the power conferred by the said Act, do by this my Proclamation fix Tuesday the 14th day of October, 1902, as the time for the commencement and holding of the next Session of the said Council and Assembly, called the Parliament of Victoria, for the despatch of business, at the hour of Twelve o'clock noon, in the State Parliament Houses, situate in the Carlton Gardens, in the City of Melbourne: And the Honorable the Members of the Legislative Council and the Members of the Legislative Assembly are hereby required to give their attendance at the said time and place accordingly.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the State of Victoria aforesaid, at Melbourne, this sixth day of October, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and two, and in the second year of His Majesty's reign.

G. S. CLARKE.

By His Excellency's Command,

WM. H. IRVINE.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

Commissioners from His Excellency the Governor appointed to open the Parliament having been introduced to the Council Chamber by the Usher, the Honorable Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G., desired the Usher to request the presence of the Members of the Legislative Assembly to hear the Commission read for the commencement and holding of this present Session of the Parliament.

The Members of the Legislative Assembly having presented themselves, Sir John Madden said—

HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

His Excellency the Governor, not thinking fit to be present in person this day, has been pleased to cause Letters Patent to issue under the Seal of the State constituting us his Commissioners to do in his name all that is necessary to be performed in this Parliament. This will more fully appear from the Letters Patent, which will now be read by the Clerk of the Parliaments.

(600 copies.)

Then the said Letters Patent were read by the Clerk as follow, viz.:—

EDWARD, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India:

WHEREAS by Proclamation made the sixth day of October instant by His Excellency Sir GEORGE SYDENHAM CLARKE, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Fellow of the Royal Society, Governor of the State of Victoria and its Dependencies in the Commonwealth of Australia, the said Sir GEORGE SYDENHAM CLARKE, did fix Tuesday, the fourteenth day of October instant, as the time for the commencement and holding of the next Session of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of Our said State, called "The Parliament of Victoria," for the despatch of business, at Twelve of the clock at noon, in the State Parliament Houses, situate in the Carlton Gardens, in the City of Melbourne: And forasmuch as for certain causes the said Sir GEORGE SYDENHAM CLARKE, cannot conveniently be present in person in the said Parliament at that time: NOW KNOW YE THAT WE, trusting in the discretion, fidelity, and care of Our trusty and well-beloved The Honorable Sir JOHN MADDEN, K.C.M.G., B.A., LL.D., the Chief Justice of Our Supreme Court of Victoria, and His Honour EDWARD DUNDAS HOLROYD, M.A., a Justice of Our said Court, do give and grant by the tenor of these presents unto you the said Sir JOHN MADDEN and EDWARD DUNDAS HOLROYD, or either of you, full power in Our name to begin and hold the said Session of Our said Parliament, and to do everything which for and by Us, or the said Sir GEORGE SYDENHAM CLARKE, shall be there to be done; commanding also by the tenor of these presents all whom it may concern to meet Our said Parliament, and to the said Sir JOHN MADDEN and EDWARD DUNDAS HOLROYD, or either of them, that they diligently attend in the premises and form aforesaid. In testimony whereof We have caused the Seal of Our said State to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS Our trusty and well-beloved Sir GEORGE SYDENHAM CLARKE, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Fellow of the Royal Society; Governor of the State of Victoria and its Dependencies, in the Commonwealth of Australia, &c., &c., &c., at Melbourne, this tenth day of October, One thousand nine hundred and two, and in the second year of Our reign.

(L.S.)

GEORGE SYDENHAM CLARKE.

By His Excellency's Command,

WM. H. IRVINE.

Entered on Record by me in the Register of Patents, Book 24, Page 265, this tenth day of October, One thousand nine hundred and two.

G. C. MORRISON.

Then Sir John Madden said:—

HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

We have it in command from His Excellency to inform you that on a future day, of which due notice will be given, His Excellency will declare to you in person, in this place, the causes of his calling this Parliament together; and, Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly, as it is necessary before you proceed to the despatch of business that a Speaker of the Legislative Assembly be chosen, His Excellency requests that you, in your Chamber, will proceed to the choice of a proper person to be Speaker.

The Members of the Legislative Assembly withdrew.

The Commissioners withdrew.

2. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

3. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS.—The Honorables the President, J. H. Abbott, W. L. Baillieu, T. Comrie, J. M. Davies, N. Levi, D. Melville, E. Morey, Sir A. Snowden, J. Sternberg, and H. Williams, severally delivered to the Clerk the Declaration required by the thirty-seventh section of the Act No. 1075, as hereunder set forth:—

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, HENRY JOHN WRIXON, do declare and testify that I am legally seised of an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Two hundred and seventy-five pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Kew, and are known as land and house, corner of Barker's-road and Wrixon-street.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Kew are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Two hundred and seventy-five pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"H. J. WRIXON."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, JOSEPH HENRY ABBOTT, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred and ninety-two pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the

same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal districts of Bendigo and Echuca, and are known as—

"Firstly, part of Crown allotment nine of section twenty-four B, city of Bendigo, particularly described in certificate of title entered in the Register Book, vol. 2586, fol. 517022.

"Secondly, Crown allotment six and six A of section sixty-eight C, Olinda and Gladstone streets, city and parish of Bendigo.

"Thirdly, part of Crown allotment three, section six, town of Echuca, parish of Echuca North, county of Rodney, particularly described in certificate of title entered in the Register Book, vol. 1786, fol. 357001.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Bendigo are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and forty pounds; and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Echuca are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Fifty-two pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"JOSEPH HENRY ABBOTT."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria No. 1075, I, WILLIAM LAWRENCE BAILLIEU, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of Two hundred and sixty pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal districts of Melbourne and Boroondara, and are known as—

"Firstly, all that piece of land having a frontage of fifty-one feet and eight inches to Swanston-street, Melbourne, by a depth of one hundred and twelve feet along Latrobe-street, and being Crown allotments 32 and 33, section 44, city of Melbourne, parish of North Melbourne, more particularly described in certificate of title, volume 2043, folio 408547.

"Secondly, all that piece of land containing fifteen acres or thereabouts, having a frontage to Whitehorse-road, Canterbury, and being part of the land described in certificate of title, volume 2038, folio 407259.

"Thirdly, all that piece of land containing two acres three roods and twenty-three perches, being part of Crown portion 129, parish of Boroondara, county of Bourke, and being the land more particularly described in certificate of title, volume 2625, folio 534945.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Melbourne are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Ninety pounds; and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Boroondara are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Eighty pounds; and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Boroondara, and above referred to as 'thirdly,' are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and seventy pounds (£170).

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"W. L. BAILLIEU."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, THOMAS COMRIE, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred and forty pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Tarnagulla, and are known as Crown allotments 11 and 11A of section thirteen, township and parish of Tarnagulla, county of Gladstone.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Tarnagulla are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and forty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"THOMAS COMRIE."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, JOHN MARK DAVIES, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Lilydale, and are known as Crown allotments fifty-six, fifty-seven, and fifty-eight, parish of Wandin Yallock, county of Evelyn, containing six hundred and twenty-five acres and twenty perches or thereabouts.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Lilydale are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Two hundred and forty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"JNO. M. DAVIES."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, NATHANIEL LEVI, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of Two hundred and eight pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal districts of city of Melbourne, city of St. Kilda, municipal district of city of South Melbourne, shire of Cranbourne, and shire of Moorabbin, and are known as Printing establishment, situated in Hosier-lane, off Flinders-street east, city of Melbourne; allotment 1 of section 9 x twenty-eight perches and nine-tenths, allotment 2 of section 9 x nineteen perches and eight-tenths, allotment 3 of section 9 x nineteen perches and six-tenths, city of St. Kilda, parish of South Melbourne, county of Bourke; allotments 1 and 2, section 57 C, allotments 1, 44, and 45, section 64 F, and allotment 28, section 43 O, parish of South Melbourne, county of Bourke; allotment 10, village of Lang Lang, two roods; allotment 11, village of Lang Lang, two roods twenty-six perches, parish of Lang Lang, Yallock riding, shire of Cranbourne, county of Mornington; allotment 5, part of Crown portion 28, parish of Moorabbin, South riding, shire of Moorabbin, county of Bourke; lot 66, part of Crown allotments 7 and 14, parish of Mordialloc, East riding, shire of Moorabbin, county of Bourke.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of city of Melbourne are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Sixty-five pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of city of St. Kilda are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Thirty-two pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of city of South Melbourne are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Ninety-three pounds; and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district or shire of Cranbourne are rated in the rate-book of such district or shire upon a yearly value of Three pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district or shire of Moorabbin are rated in the rate-book of such district or shire upon a yearly value of Fifteen pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"NATHL. LEVI."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, DONALD MELVILLE, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred and forty-six pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal districts of Brunswick, Pyalong, and McIvor, and are known as—

"My residence, situated in Albion-street, West Brunswick, with twenty-eight and one-half acres land; two hundred and six acres land within the shire of Pyalong; and one hundred and forty acres land within the shire of McIvor.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Brunswick are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and one pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Pyalong are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Thirty pounds, and that within the municipal district of McIvor at Fifteen pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"D. MELVILLE."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, EDWARD MOREY, of Ballarat, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of Two hundred and twenty-seven pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of the city of Ballarat, and are known as assessment 89, Lydiard-street, Eighty pounds; assessment 1493, Armstrong-street, Sixty-three pounds, and are allotments six and nineteen, section nine, city and parish of Ballarat, county of Grenville; also assessment, Lyons-street, Ballarat, Eighty-four pounds, being allotment seventeen of section fourteen, city and parish of Ballarat.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of the city of Ballarat are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Two hundred and twenty-seven pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"E. MOREY."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, ARTHUR SNOWDEN, of 433 Little Collins-street, Melbourne, barrister and solicitor, and of Saint Helliers-street, Abbotsford, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony, now the State, of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred and six pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Collingwood, and are known as the villa residence called 'St. Helliers,' situate in St. Helliers-street, Abbotsford, in the said municipal district, and grounds attached thereto, forming my residence, such lands having a frontage of two hundred and thirty-eight feet nine inches to St. Hellier's-street by a depth of about three hundred feet.

"And I further declare that the said lands or tenements are situate in the municipal district of Collingwood and are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and six pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"ARTHUR SNOWDEN."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, JOSEPH STERNBERG, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of over One hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal districts of the shires of Deakin and Echuca, and are known as—firstly, Crown allotments 91, 92, 93, and 133, parish of Kyabram, county of Rodney, in the municipal district of the shire of Deakin; secondly, Crown allotments 39A, 39B, 40A, 40B, and 41B, parish of Carag Carag, county of Rodney, in the municipal district of the shire of Deakin; thirdly, Crown allotments 4 and 5, section 1A, township and parish of Rochester, county of Bendigo, in the municipal district of the shire of Echuca, particularly described in the certificate of title entered in the Register Book, vol. 1190, fol. 237802; fourthly, part of Crown allotment 3, section 3A, township of Rochester, parish of Rochester West, county of Bendigo, particularly described in the certificate of title entered in the Register Book, vol. 1828, fol. 365402, and which land is situated in the municipal district of the shire of Echuca.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of the shire of Deakin, and are firstly above described, are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Fifty-five pounds; and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of the shire of Deakin, and are secondly above described, are rated in the rate-book of such district upon the yearly value of Thirty-six pounds; and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of the shire of Echuca, and are thirdly above described, are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Thirty pounds; and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of the shire of Echuca, and are fourthly above described, are rated in the rate-book of such district upon the yearly value of Twenty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"JOSEPH STERNBERG."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, HENRY WILLIAMS, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Mildura, and are known as land and buildings situate on section 41, block D, Mildura, and various allotments of land in the Mildura settlement.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Mildura are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and eighty-three pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Mildura are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and eighty-three pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"H. WILLIAMS."

4. ADJOURNMENT.—Ordered, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until to-morrow at two o'clock.

And then the Council, at twelve minutes past twelve o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 2.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 15TH OCTOBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair.

2. APPROACH OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The approach of His Excellency the Governor was announced by the Usher.

His Excellency came into the Council Chamber, and commanded the Usher to desire the immediate attendance of the Legislative Assembly, who, being come with their Speaker, His Excellency was pleased to speak as follows :—

MR. PRESIDENT AND HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL :

MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY :

I have called you together at the earliest opportunity after the return of the writs for the General Election in order that I may have your advice and assistance with regard to matters of importance and urgency.

The question of the finances of the State will demand your serious consideration. My Advisers are of opinion that the expenditure for the ordinary purposes of government should be confined within the narrowest limits consistent with efficiency, so that the largest share possible of the funds derived from taxation shall be available for assisting national industries and developing the agricultural and mining resources of the State. The processes necessary for permanently reducing ordinary government expenditure will necessarily occupy a considerable time, inasmuch as they involve a gradual restriction and simplification of many of the services rendered by the State. My Advisers have already taken steps for effecting economies wherever possible, and rely on your cordial co-operation in such further action as may be necessary to achieve the end in view.

In the meantime an urgent and immediate necessity has arisen to prevent the accounts of the present financial year closing with a serious deficit. For the purpose of preventing this, the Government have prepared Bills to effect considerable immediate retrenchment, and to raise further revenue by widening the basis of the Income Tax and Probate Duties.

While, however, exercising the greatest caution in the incurring of further liabilities, my Advisers will not hesitate to seek your authority for obtaining, by way of loan, on the most favorable terms possible, the necessary moneys for the construction of works of undoubted permanent advantage to the State.

The first measure to be submitted to you will be one to re-enact the Factories and Shops Acts, continuing the operation of those Acts until the 31st of December, 1903, in order to enable Parliament to deal, on their merits, with the important questions involved in such industrial legislation.

A Bill dealing with the reform of the Constitution will be introduced at a very early date. That measure will provide, amongst other things, for a reduction in the number of Ministers, and of Members of both branches of the Legislature ; for dispensing with the property qualification for Members of the Legislative Council, and extending the franchise for both Chambers ; for the settlement of differences between the two Houses ; and for an early dissolution of Parliament so that a new Legislature may be elected upon the altered basis.

(600 copies.)

MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY :

The Estimates for the current financial year will be submitted to you in due course. They have been prepared with special regard to economy, while at the same time provision has been made to meet the necessary requirements of the State.

MR. PRESIDENT AND HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL :

MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY :

My Ministers, recognising the need for prompt and energetic action to alleviate the distress caused—especially in the Mallee District—by the severe drought, have determined to proceed immediately with the construction of several important works for the conservation and distribution of water in the arid areas of the State. These, and others which are receiving the earnest consideration of the Government, will be brought before you at an early date.

It is intended also to proceed with other public works necessary for the development of the country.

I trust your deliberations will, under the blessing of Divine Providence, conduce to the prosperity and happiness of the people of Victoria.

Which being concluded, a copy of the Speech was delivered to the President, and a copy to Mr. Speaker, and His Excellency the Governor left the Chamber.

The Legislative Assembly then withdrew.

3. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

4. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS.—The Honorables S. Austin, J. Balfour, J. Bell, S. G. Black, F. Brown, T. Brunton, E. J. Crooke, Sir H. Cuthbert, T. Dowling, Dr. W. H. Embling, N. FitzGerald, G. Godfrey, W. B. Gray, C. J. Ham, D. Ham, T. C. Harwood, H. W. H. Irvine, Walter S. Manifold, D. E. McBryde, J. Y. McDonald, W. Orr, T. H. Payne, W. Pitt, R. Reid, A. O. Sachse, E. E. Smith, N. Thornley, and A. Wynne severally delivered to the Clerk the Declaration required by the thirty-seventh section of the Act No. 1075, as hereunder set forth :—

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, SIDNEY AUSTIN, of Geelong, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred and sixty-eight pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Winchelsea, and are known as 'Karngun Paddocks.'

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Winchelsea are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and sixty-eight pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"SIDNEY AUSTIN."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, JAMES BALFOUR, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred and six pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Prahran, and are known as part of Crown portion 18, parish of Prahran.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Prahran are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and six pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"JAMES BALFOUR."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, JAMES BELL, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred and sixty pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Dunolly, and are known as my property, being allotments 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9 of section 26, and allotments 8[b] and 9 of section 12, town of Dunolly.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Dunolly are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and sixty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"JAMES BELL."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, STEUART GLADSTONE BLACK, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of Two thousand and eighty-six pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Mortlake, and are known as 'The Sisters' Estate,' comprising—

"In the parish of Kolora.

"Section V., allotments A and B; section VI., allotments A and B; section VII., allotments A, B, and C; section VIII., allotments, 6, 7, and 8.

"In the parish of Ellerslie.

"Allotments 40, 41B, 41B², 42A, 42B, 43A, 43B, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 30B, 27B, part of 30A, part of 27A, and part of 26.

"In the parish of Framlingham East.

"Allotments 7 and 8.

"In the parish of Keilambete.

"Section V., allotments 1, 2, 3, and 4; section VI., allotments 1, 2, and 3; section VII. allotments A and B; section VIII., allotments 1 and 2; section IX., allotments A^A A^B, B, C, D^A, and D^B; section X., allotments 1 and 2; section XX., allotment A.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Mortlake, are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three thousand two hundred and eighty-six pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"STEUART G. BLACK."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, FREDERICK BROWN, of Beechworth, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred and twenty-one pounds ten shillings above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of United Shire of Beechworth, and are known as 'Shrublands'—Allotments 2, 3, and 4 of section F, with dwelling-house and out-offices, occupied by me; also allotment 8, section P^1, allotment 17 of section 4, allotment 2 of section 38, part of allotment 3, section D, and part of allotment 1, section 2, all in town and parish of Beechworth.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of the United Shire of Beechworth are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and twenty-one pounds ten shillings.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"FREDK. BROWN."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, THOMAS BRUNTON, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of Four hundred and fifty pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the shire of Broadmeadows, and are known as 'Roxburgh Park.'

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the shire of Broadmeadows are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Four hundred and fifty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"THOMAS BRUNTON."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, EDWARD JOLLEY CROOKE, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Three hundred and sixty pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Rosedale, and are known as portion of 'The Holey Plain Estate.'

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Rosedale are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three hundred and sixty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"E. J. CROOKE."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, HENRY CUTHBERT, of the city of Ballarat, K.C.M.G., do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Two hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal districts of Ballarat and shire of Ballarat, and are known as—

"Part of allotment 1 of section nine, city of Ballarat.

"Allotment 2 of section fourteen, parish of Ballarat, county of Grenville.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of the city of Ballarat are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Eighty pounds; and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of the shire of Ballarat are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and twenty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"HENRY CUTHBERT."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, THOMAS DOWLING, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Two thousand two hundred and twenty pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal districts of Mortlake and Hampden, and are known as 'Jellalabad,' situated on Mount Emu Creek, Darlington, shire of Mortlake and Hampden, bounded on the south by township of Darlington, on the east by lands belonging to Messrs. Cole and Dodds, on north by station known as 'Terrinallum,' on the west by station known as 'Mount Fyans.'

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal districts of Mortlake and Hampden are rated in the rate-books of such districts upon a yearly value of Two thousand two hundred and twenty pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal districts of Mortlake and Hampden are rated in the rate-books of such districts upon a yearly value of Two thousand two hundred and twenty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a member of the Legislative Council.

"THOMAS DOWLING."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, WILLIAM HENRY EMBLING, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of Two hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of St. Kilda, and are known as 'Elmwood, Chapel-street, St. Kilda.'

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of St. Kilda are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Two hundred pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"W. H. EMBLING."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, NICHOLAS FITZGERALD, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of St. Kilda, county of Bourke.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of St. Kilda, are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Two hundred and seventy-five pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of St. Kilda are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Two hundred and seventy-five pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"N. FITZGERALD."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, GEORGE GODFREY, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of St. Kilda, and are known as all that piece of land being part of Crown portion 68A, parish of Prahran, at St. Kilda, county of Bourke, and situate in High-street, St. Kilda.

"And I further declare that the said lands or tenements are situate in the municipal district of St. Kilda, and are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Two hundred pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"GEO. GODFREY."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, WILLIAM BLAIR GRAY, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Shire of Maldon, and are known as allotment 10E, High-street, section A, parish of Maldon, and allotment part 14, High-street, section A, parish of Maldon.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Shire of Maldon are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One thousand six hundred pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a member of the Legislative Council.

"W. B. GRAY."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, CORNELIUS JOB HAM, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred and ten pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Melbourne, and are known as tenements No. 70 and 71 Albert ward, in the city of Melbourne.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Melbourne are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and ten pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Melbourne are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and ten pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"C. J. HAM."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, DAVID HAM, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of Three hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Ballarat East, and are known as the Exhibition Mart and dwelling-houses situated in Victoria and Main streets.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Ballarat East are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three hundred pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Ballarat East are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three hundred pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"DAVID HAM."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, THOMAS CHARLES HARWOOD, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony, now the State, of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred pounds and upwards above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal districts of Newtown and Chilwell and Queenscliff, and are known respectively as 'Hawthorn,' Skene-street, Newtown, Geelong, and 'Graylings,' Swanston-street, Queenscliff.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Newtown and Chilwell are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Queenscliff are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Eighty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or hereditaments, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"THOS. C. HARWOOD."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria No. 1075, I, HANS WILLIAM HENRY IRVINE, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Three hundred and fifty pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Stawell, and are known as The Great Western Vineyard, Great Western.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Stawell are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three hundred and fifty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"HANS WILLIAM HENRY IRVINE."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria No. 1075, I, WALTER SYNNOT MANIFOLD, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Shire of Warrnambool, and are known as portion 23 and portion 24, parish of Mepunga, county of Heytesbury.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Shire of Warrnambool are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Two hundred and thirty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"WALTER MANIFOLD."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, DUNCAN ELPHINSTONE McBRYDE, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Three hundred and eighty pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Brighton, and are known as 'Kamesburgh,' containing ten acres or thereabouts, being part of Dendy's special survey at Brighton, and situate at the angle of North-road and Cochrane-street, and purchased by me for the sum of Twelve thousand two hundred pounds.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Brighton are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three hundred and eighty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"D. E. McBRYDE."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, JOHN YOUNG McDONALD, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Two hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Ballarat West, and are known as the Edinburgh Buildings.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Ballarat West are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Two hundred pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Ballarat West are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Two hundred pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"J. Y. McDONALD."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, WILLIAM ORR, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Two hundred and twenty-five pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Malvern, and are known as 'Del Monte,' Mercer-road, Malvern.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Malvern are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Two hundred and twenty-five pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"WM. ORR."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, THOMAS HENRY PAYNE, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Nine hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of city of Prahran, and are known as 'Leura,' Toorak, being Crown portion 30, parish of Prahran, county of Bourke.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Prahran are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Nine hundred pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"THOS. H. PAYNE."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, WILLIAM PITT, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Collingwood, and are known as land, Trenery-crescent, Collingwood.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Collingwood are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and fifty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"WILLIAM PITT."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, ROBERT REID, merchant, Melbourne, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred and twelve pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Beaconsfield, shire of Berwick, and are known as 'Mount Pleasant,' Pakenham, being lots 1, 12, 13, 20, and 47, Pakenham, 448 acres.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Berwick are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and twelve pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"ROBERT REID."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, ARTHUR OTTO SACHSE, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Three hundred and seventy pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Prahran, and are known as 'Marilla,' Toorak-road, South Yarra.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Prahran are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three hundred and seventy pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"A. O. SACHSE."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, EDMUND EDMONDS SMITH, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred and fifty pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Heidelberg, and are known as 'Awaba,' Eaglemont Estate.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Heidelberg are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and fifty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"E. E. SMITH."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, NATHAN THORNLEY, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of One thousand four hundred and three pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and, further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Minhamite, and are known as 'Kangatong,' about 8,000 acres.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Minhamite are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One thousand four hundred and three pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"N. THORNLEY."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, AGAR WYNNE, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Two hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal districts of Mortlake and Hampden, and are known as 'Terinallum.'

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Mortlake are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three thousand one hundred and forty-seven pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Hampden are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three thousand three hundred and fifty-seven pounds ten shillings.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"AGAR WYNNE."

5. SWEARING-IN OF MEMBER.—The Honorable W. McCulloch, being introduced, took and subscribed the oath required by law, and delivered to the Clerk the Declaration required by the thirty-seventh section of the Act No. 1075, as hereunder set forth:—

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, WILLIAM MCCULLOCH, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Three hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal districts of Avoca, Stawell, and Ararat, and are known as 'Woodlands.'

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal districts of Avoca, Stawell, and Ararat are rated in the rate-books of such districts upon a yearly value of Five thousand five hundred and eighty-three pounds—

"Avoca	£550
"Stawell	4,319
"Ararat	714
	£5,583

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"W. McCULLOCH."

6. MARRIAGE ACT 1900 AMENDMENT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies a Bill to amend the *Marriage Act* 1900 was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

7. CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That the Honorable Frederick Brown be Chairman of Committees of the Council.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Whereupon the Honorable Frederick Brown was congratulated by the Honorable the President on his again securing the confidence of honorable Members, and then the Honorable Frederick Brown returned his thanks for his re-election to the office of Chairman of Committees.

8. PAPERS.—The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk:—

Alterations in the Regulations under the *Land Act* 1901.

Alterations in the Regulations under the *Land Act* 1901.

Bank Liabilities and Assets.—Summary of Sworn Returns for the quarter ended the 30th June, 1902.

Victorian Railways.—Report of the Victorian Railways Commissioner for the year ending 30th June, 1902.

9. Speech of His Excellency the Governor.—The President reported the Speech of His Excellency the Governor.

The Honorable W. L. Baillieu moved, That a Committee be appointed to prepare an Address to His Excellency the Governor in reply to His Excellency's Opening Speech.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

The Honorable W. L. Baillieu moved, That the Committee consist of the Honorables W. L. Baillieu, S. G. Black, G. Godfrey, W. B. Gray, T. C. Harwood, W. Orr, and H. Williams.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

The Committee retired to prepare the Address.

The Honorable W. L. Baillieu presented the Address which had been agreed to by the Committee, and the same was read by the Clerk, and is as follows :—

To His Excellency Sir George Sydenham Clarke, *Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Fellow of the Royal Society, Governor of the State of Victoria and its Dependencies, in the Commonwealth of Australia, &c.. &c., &c.*

May it please Your Excellency :

We, the Legislative Council of Victoria, in Parliament assembled, beg to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the gracious Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament.

The Honorable W. L. Baillieu moved, That the Council agree with the Committee in the said Address.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

The Honorable W. L. Baillieu moved, That the Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor by the President and such Members of the Council as may wish to accompany him.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

10. Adjournment.—Ordered, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next, at half-past four o'clock.

And then the Council, at seventeen minutes past nine o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 3.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 21st OCTOBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. Declaration of Member.—The Honorable G. Simmie delivered to the Clerk the Declaration required by the thirty-seventh section of the Act No. 1075, as hereunder set forth :—

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, George Simmie, of Cornelia Creek, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of One hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Echuca Shire, and are known as 'Cornelia Creek.'

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Echuca Shire are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One thousand pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"G. SIMMIE."

3. Presentation of Address to His Excellency the Governor.—The President reported that he had that day waited upon His Excellency the Governor and had presented to him the Address of the Legislative Council agreed to on the 15th instant, and that His Excellency had been pleased to make the following reply :—

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

In the name and on behalf of the King I thank you for your expressions of loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign contained in the Address which you have been good enough to present to me, and I earnestly hope that your deliberations at this important juncture in the affairs of the State may result in practical measures for promoting the prosperity of this community.

G. S. CLARKE.

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 21st October, 1902.

4. Message from the Assembly.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the 'Trading Stamps Act* 1901,'" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

5. Trading Stamps Act 1901 Amendment Bill.—On the motion of the Honorable R. Reid, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

6. Papers.—The Honorable J. M. Davies presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor—

Local Government Laws.—Report of Royal Commission for inquiring into and reporting on the Numerous Amendments required in the Law relating to Local Government.

Final Report of the Royal Commission on Management of the Railway Department; together with the Appendices and Minutes of Evidence.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

(600 copies.)

The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk:—

Regulation Numbered X. of the Regulations under the Education Act 1890, rescinded.

Water Acts—

The Arapiles Shire Council and the Western Wimmera Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—Application of Municipal Funds.

The Dimboola Shire Council and the Western Wimmera Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—Application of Municipal Funds.

Leaghur and Meering Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—General Rate.—Rating Regulation.

Marquis Hill Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—General Rate.—Rating Regulation.

Rodney Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—General Rate.—Rating Regulation (No. 21).

Yatchaw Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—General Rate.—Rating Regulation.

7. Days of Business.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in each week be the days on which the Council shall meet for despatch of business during the present Session, and that half-past Four o'clock be the hour of meeting on each day; that on Tuesday and Thursday in each week the transaction of Government business shall take precedence of all other business; and that on Wednesday in each week Private Members' business shall take precedence of Government business.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

8. Standing Orders Committee.—The Honorable W. Pitt moved, That the Honorables the President, J. H. Abbott, S. Austin, J. Balfour, J. M. Davies, N. FitzGerald, G. Godfrey, D. E. McBryde, Sir A. Snowden, and N. Thornley be Members of the Select Committee on the Standing Orders of the House; three to be the quorum.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

9. Parliament Buildings Committee.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the Honorables the President, Walter S. Manifold, W. Orr, W. Pitt, and A. O. Sachse be Members of the Joint Committee to manage and superintend the Parliament Buildings.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

10. Library Committee.—The Honorable R. Reid, for the Honorable A. O. Sachse, moved, That the Honorables the President, S. G. Black, Sir H. Cuthbert, C. J. Ham, and D. Melville be Members of the Joint Committee to manage the Library.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

11. Refreshment Rooms Committee.—The Honorable W. Pitt moved, That the Honorables J. Bell, W. B. Gray, J. M. Pratt, G. Simmie, and J. Sternberg be Members of the Joint Committee to manage the Refreshment Rooms.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

12. Printing Committee.—The Honorable R. Reid, for the Honorable A. O. Sachse, moved, That the Honorables the President, T. Brunton, T. Comrie, T. Dowling, D. Ham, N. Levi, J. Y. McDonald, T. H. Payne, R. Reid, and E. E. Smith be Members of the Printing Committee; three to be the quorum.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

13. Transfer of Land Act 1890 Amendment Bill.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, a Bill to amend the *Transfer of Land Act* 1890 was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

14. Insolvency Bill.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, a Bill to amend the law relating to Insolvency was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

15. Coroners Act 1890 further Amendment Bill.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, a Bill to further amend the *Coroners Act* 1890 was read a first time, ordered to be printed and read a second time on Tuesday next.

16. University Act 1890 Amendment Bill.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, a Bill to amend the *University Act* 1890 was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

17. Marriage Act 1900 Amendment Bill.—This Bill was, according to order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with amendments, the House ordered the Report to be taken into consideration this day, whereupon the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Bill be sent to the Assembly with a Message desiring their concurrence therein.

And then the Council, at twenty-two minutes past five o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 4.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 22ND OCTOBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. NUMBER OF MALE AND FEMALE VOTERS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.—The Honorable Sir H. Cuthbert moved, That there be laid before this House a Return showing—
   1. The number of voters for the Legislative Council on the present qualification.
   2. The number of female electors if the present franchise were conferred on them.
   3. The number of voters if the qualification of occupiers were reduced from £25 to £20.
   4. The number of female voters if value of their properties as occupiers were reduced from £25 to £20.
   5. The like information of the number of male, also of female, voters if value of their holdings were reduced from £20 to £15.
   6. The number of male and female voters whose freehold is valued at £10 per annum. State the numbers under each heading.
   7. The number of male, also of female, electors if the Ratepayers' Roll be adopted.

   Question—put and, after debate, resolved in the affirmative.

3. LICENSING ACT 1890 AMENDMENT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable N. Levi, a Bill to amend the *Licensing Act* 1890 was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

4. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to revive and continue the 'Factories and Shops Act* 1896' *and the Acts amending the same,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

5. FACTORIES AND SHOPS ACTS CONTINUANCE BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to amend Part III. of the 'Police Regulation Act* 1890' *with regard to future Appointees,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

7. POLICE ASSURANCE BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

8. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the 'Education Act* 1901,'" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

9. EDUCATION ACT 1901 AMENDMENT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable R. Reid, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

10. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the following Members of this House be appointed Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways, viz.:—The Honorables J. H. Abbott, D. Melville, and E. Morey.

    Question—put and, after debate, resolved in the affirmative.

(600 copies.)

11. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to apply out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of Six hundred and seventy-seven thousand seven hundred and seventy-one pounds to the service of the year One thousand nine hundred and two and One thousand nine hundred and three,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

12. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE BILL (No. 1).—On the motion of the Honorable R. Reid, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time and ordered to be printed and, by leave, was read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

13. ADJOURNMENT—Ordered, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next.

And then the Council, at five minutes past six o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 5.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 28TH OCTOBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS.—The Honorables Sir Rupert T. H. Clarke, Bart., and J. M. Pratt severally delivered to the Clerk the Declaration required by the thirty-seventh section of the Act No. 1075 as hereunder set forth :—

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I Sir RUPERT TURNER HAVELOCK CLARKE, Bart., do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the Colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Two thousand one hundred and eighty-three pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment ; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Merriang, and are known as—

"Nine thousand seven hundred and five acres in the parish of Darraweit Guim, No. 5 in the rate-book.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Merriang are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Two thousand one hundred and eighty-three pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"RUPERT T. H. CLARKE."

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, JOSEPH MAJOR PRATT, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Two hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment ; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Melbourne, and are known as all that piece of land containing thirty-six perches and three-tenths of a perch or thereabouts, being part of Crown allotment four, section fourteen, city of Melbourne, parish of North Melbourne, at East Melbourne, county of Bourke.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Melbourne are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Two hundred pounds sterling.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"J. M. PRATT."

(600 copies.)

3. PETITIONS.—The following Petitions, praying that the Council would reject the proposal to re-enact the wages boards sections of the Factories and Shops Acts, were presented as under :—

By the Honorable N. Levi—
From the President, Vice-Presidents, and Secretary of the Victorian Chamber of Manufactures.
From the President, Vice-President, and Executive Officers of the Melbourne and Suburban Timber Merchants' Association.

By the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling—
From the President, Vice-President, and Executive Officers of the Master Butchers' and Live Stock Buyers' Association.

By the Honorable E. E. Smith—
From the President, Vice-Presidents, and Executive Officers of the Victorian Employers' Federation.

Severally read, ordered to lie on the Table, and referred to the Committee of the whole on the Factories and Shops Acts Continuance Bill.

The following Petitions, praying that the Council would reject the proposal to re-enact the wages boards sections of the Factories and Shops Acts, were presented as under :—

By the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling—
From the President, Vice-President, and Executive Officers of the Master Tanners' and Leather Manufacturers' Association of Victoria.

By the Honorable N. Levi—
From the President, Vice-Presidents, and Executive Officers of the Master Builders' Association of Melbourne.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and referred to the Committee of the whole on the Factories and Shops Acts Continuance Bill.

The following Petitions, protesting against any suspension of the Factories and Shops Acts or the Wages Board clause, were presented as under :—

By the Honorable N. Levi—
From the operatives engaged in the Fellmongery trade.
From the operatives engaged in the Fellmongery trade in the Geelong district.

Severally read, ordered to lie on the Table, and referred to the Committee of the whole on the Factories and Shops Acts Continuance Bill.

4. FACTORIES AND SHOPS ACTS CONTINUANCE BILL.—The Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill having been read, the Honorable J. M. Davies, moved, That this Bill be now read a second time; and debate arising thereupon, it was ordered that the debate be adjourned until to-morrow.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Reduction until the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and three of the Reimbursement of Expenses payable to Members of the Legislative Assembly and the Salaries or Pay of certain Public Officers,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

6. MEMBERS AND PUBLIC SERVICE RETRENCHMENT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

7. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Orders of the Day be postponed until to-morrow :—

Trading Stamps Act 1901 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
Insolvency Bill—Second reading.
Coroners Act 1890 *further Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
University Act 1890 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
Police Assurance Bill—Second reading.
Education Act 1901 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
Transfer of Land Act 1890 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*

8. LICENSING ACT 1890 AMENDMENT BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair, and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Bill be sent to the Assembly with a Message desiring their concurrence therein.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the Council, at forty-two minutes past nine o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 6.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH OCTOBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. THE COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS.—The President laid upon the Table the following Warrant appointing the Committee of Elections and Qualifications :—

VICTORIA.

Pursuant to the provisions of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890, I do hereby appoint—

The Honorable James Balfour,
The Honorable Steuart Gladstone Black,
The Honorable Sir Henry Cuthbert,
The Honorable John Mark Davies,
The Honorable Thomas Charles Harwood,
The Honorable Thomas Henry Payne, and
The Honorable Nathan Thornley

to be Members of a Committee to be called "The Committee of Elections and Qualifications."

Given under my hand this twenty-ninth day of October, One thousand nine hundred and two.

H. J. WRIXON,
President of the Legislative Council.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Reduction until the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and three of the Salaries or Pay of Responsible Ministers of the Crown and certain Officers under 'The Constitution Act' or Part IX. of 'The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890' *or whose Salaries or Pay are provided for by Special Appropriations*," and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

4. MINISTERS' AND OFFICERS' SALARIES RETRENCHMENT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable R. Reid the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to authorize the issue of Treasury Bonds*," and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

6. TREASURY BONDS BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

7. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act relating to the Mallee Land Account*," and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

8. MALLEE LAND ACCOUNT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable R. Reid, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

(600 copies)

9. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to further amend the 'Victorian Loans Redemption Fund Act* 1898,'" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

10. VICTORIAN LOANS REDEMPTION FUND ACT 1898 AMENDMENT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

11. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to further amend the 'Trust Funds Act* 1897,'" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

12. TRUST FUNDS ACT 1897 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable R. Reid, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

13. FACTORIES AND SHOPS ACTS CONTINUANCE BILL.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question, That this Bill be now read a second time, was read and, after further debate, the question being put, was resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with amendments.

Ordered, That the Bill as amended be printed, and taken into consideration to-morrow.

14. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Orders of the Day be postponed until to-morrow :—

Members and Public Service Retrenchment Bill—Second reading.
Trading Stamps Act 1901 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
Insolvency Bill—Second reading.
Coroners Act 1890 *further Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
University Act 1890 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
Police Assurance Bill—Second reading.
Education Act 1901 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
Transfer of Land Act 1890 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*

15. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to reduce for One Year the Municipal Endowment,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

16. MUNICIPAL ENDOWMENT REDUCTION BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

17. ADJOURNMENT.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the Council, at twenty-one minutes past eleven o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 7.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, 30TH OCTOBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. FACTORIES AND SHOPS ACTS CONTINUANCE BILL.—The Order of the Day for the Consideration of the Report from the Committee of the whole having been read—
   Ordered—That the said Order be discharged.
   On the motion of the Honorable Walter S. Manifold, this Bill was recommitted to a Committee of the whole in respect of clauses A and C.
   House in Committee.
   The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Balfour having reported that the Committee had amended clauses A and C, the House ordered the Report to be taken into consideration this day; whereupon the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.
   Ordered—That the Bill be returned to the Assembly with a Message acquainting them that the Council have agreed to the Bill with amendments, and requesting their concurrence therein.

3. MUNICIPAL ENDOWMENT REDUCTION BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
   House in Committee.
   The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Balfour having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
   Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

4. MALLEE LAND ACCOUNT BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
   House in Committee.
   The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Balfour having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and after debate the Bill was read a third time and passed.
   Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

5. MEMBERS AND PUBLIC SERVICE RETRENCHMENT BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
   House in Committee.
   The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Balfour having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
   Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

(600 copies.)

6. TRADING STAMPS ACT 1901 AMENDMENT BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Balfour having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

7. INSOLVENCY BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Balfour reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.
Resolved—That the Council will, on Tuesday, 11th November next, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

8. CORONERS ACT 1890 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Balfour reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.
Resolved—That the Council will, on Tuesday, 11th November next, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

9. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Orders of the Day be postponed until Tuesday, 11th November next:—

Ministers' and Officers' Salaries Retrenchment Bill—Second reading.
Treasury Bonds Bill—Second reading.
Victorian Loans Redemption Fund Act 1898 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
Trust Funds Act 1897 *further Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
University Act 1890 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
Police Assurance Bill—Second reading.
Education Act 1901 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
Transfer of Land Act 1890 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*

10. ADJOURNMENT.—Ordered, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, 11th November next.

And then the Council, at six o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday, 11th November next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 8.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 11TH NOVEMBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same was read by the Honorable the President :—

G. S. CLARKE,

Governor of Victoria. *Message No.* 1.

The Governor informs the Legislative Council that he has, on this day, at the Government Offices, given the Royal Assent to the undermentioned Act of the present Session, presented to him by the Clerk of the Parliaments, viz. :—

"*An Act to apply out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of Six hundred and seventy-seven thousand seven hundred and seventy-one pounds to the service of the year One thousand nine hundred and two and One thousand nine hundred and three.*"

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 24th October, 1902.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act relating to charging Public Officers for Rent of Public Buildings used by them for Residence,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

4. PUBLIC BUILDINGS RENT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to authorize the issue of Treasury Bonds (No. 2),*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

6. TREASURY BONDS BILL (No. 2).—On the motion of the Honorable R. Reid, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

7. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to authorize the Destruction of Discharged Public Debentures Bonds and Coupons,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

8. DEBENTURES DESTRUCTION BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable W. Pitt, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

(600 copies.)

9. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to confirm the Union in Victoria of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, the Primitive Methodist Church, the Bible Christian Church, and The United Methodist Free Churches; to deal with the Properties in Victoria of the said Uniting Churches, and to assimilate the Trusts thereof; to vest the said Properties in the United Church under the name of the Methodist Church of Australasia; to give certain powers to the Victoria and Tasmania Conference of the Methodist Church of Australasia; to amend 'The Victorian Wesleyan Methodists' Act* 1887,' *and for other purposes,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

10. METHODIST UNION BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

11. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to sanction the issue and application of certain sums of Money available under Loan Acts for Railways,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

12. RAILWAY LOAN APPLICATION BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

13. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to sanction the issue and application of certain Sums of Money available under Loan Acts for Public Works and other purposes,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

14 PUBLIC WORKS LOAN APPLICATION BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable R. Reid, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

15. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to further amend the 'Defences and Discipline Act* 1890,' " and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

16. DEFENCES AND DISCIPLINE ACT 1890 AMENDMENT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

17. PAPER.—The following Paper, pursuant to the direction of an Act of Parliament, was laid upon the Table by the Honorable J. M. Davies :—

Victorian Railways.—Report of the Victorian Railways Commissioner for the quarter ending 30th September, 1902.

18. MINISTERS' AND OFFICERS' SALARIES RETRENCHMENT BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the whole number of the Members of the Legislative Council, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time, with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the whole number of the Members of the Legislative Council, and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

19. TREASURY BONDS BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

20. VICTORIAN LOANS REDEMPTION FUND ACT 1898 AMENDMENT BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

21. TRUST FUNDS ACT 1897 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

22. Insolvency Bill.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole having been read—the President left the Chair.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Resolved—That the Council will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

23. Coroners Act 1890 further Amendment Bill.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole having been read—the President left the Chair.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with an amendment, the House ordered the Report to be taken into consideration this day, whereupon the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Bill be sent to the Assembly with a Message desiring their concurrence therein.

24. University Act 1890 Amendment Bill.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown reported that the Committee had had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Resolved—That the Council will, on Tuesday next, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

25. Police Assurance Bill.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

26. Postponement of Order of the Day.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Order of the Day be postponed until Tuesday next:—

Education Act 1901 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*

27. Transfer of Land Act 1890 Amendment Bill.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Resolved—That the Council will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

And then the Council, at thirty-one minutes past six o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 9.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 12TH NOVEMBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. SURPLUS WEALTH TAX.—The Honorable T. Dowling moved, That, in view of the complete disorganization of the State finances, it is imperative that the Government at an early date bring in a Surplus Wealth Tax Bill, which would balance the ledger.
On the motion of the Honorable H. Williams, the debate was adjourned.

3. VICTORIAN RAILWAYS.—PROFITS ON PAYING LINES.—The Honorable E. E. Smith moved, That there be laid before this House a Return showing the profits made on the paying lines of the Victorian Railways during the years 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, and 1900, and the net earnings per cent. on capital; giving the names of the various lines on which such profit is made.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and negatived.

4. SUBURBAN RAILWAYS.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1900.—The Honorable E. E. Smith moved, That there be laid before this House a Return showing the revenue and expenditure, also the earnings per cent. on the capital, upon the suburban railway lines in detail for the year ending 1900.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to indemnify the Councillors of various Municipalities for Borrowing Moneys by Overdrafts on Bankers for the purposes of their Municipalities contrary to the provisions of the 'Local Government Act* 1890' *and for other purposes*," and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

6. MUNICIPAL OVERDRAFTS INDEMNITY BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable R. Reid, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

7. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly returning the Bill intituled "*An Act to revive and continue the 'Factories and Shops Act* 1896' *and the Acts amending the same*," and acquainting the Council that the Assembly have agreed to one of the amendments made in such Bill by the Council, have disagreed with others, and have agreed to three of the said amendments with amendments, with which they desire the concurrence of the Council.
Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

8. METHODIST UNION BILL.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That all the Standing Orders relating to Private Bills be suspended in relation to the Methodist Union Bill, and that all fees be remitted with regard to such Bill.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
The Bill was, according to Order, then read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair, and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

(600 copies.)

9. Public Buildings Rent Bill.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with an amendment, the House ordered the Report to be taken into consideration this day, whereupon the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.
Ordered—That the Bill be returned to the Assembly with a Message acquainting them that the Council have agreed to the Bill with an amendment and requesting their concurrence therein.

10. Treasury Bonds Bill (No. 2).—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

11. Debentures Destruction Bill.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

12. Railway Loan Application Bill.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

13. Defences and Discipline Act 1890 Amendment Bill.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

14. Postponement of Orders of the Day.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Orders of the Day be postponed until Tuesday next:—

Insolvency Bill—To be further considered in Committee.
Transfer of Land Act 1890 *Amendment Bill—To be further considered in Committee.*

15. Adjournment.—Ordered, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next.

And then the Council, at one minute past nine o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday, next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 10.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 18TH NOVEMBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. DECLARATION OF MEMBER.—The Honorable W. Pearson delivered to the Clerk the Declaration required by the thirty-seventh section of the Act No. 1075, as hereunder set forth :—

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I WILLIAM PEARSON, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the State of Victoria of the yearly value of Five hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Rosedale, and are known as Kilmany Park, Sale.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Rosedale are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three thousand three hundred and eighty-eight pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"WM. PEARSON."

3. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same was read by the Honorable the President :—

G. S. CLARKE,

Governor. *Message No. 2.*

The Governor informs the Legislative Council that he has, on this day, at the Government Offices, given the Royal Assent to the undermentioned Acts of the present Session, presented to him by the Clerk of Parliaments, viz. :—

"*An Act to reduce for One Year the Municipal Endowment.*"
"*An Act relating to the Mallee Land Account.*"
"*An Act to provide for the Reduction until the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and three of the Reimbursement of Expenses payable to Members of the Legislative Assembly and the Salaries or Pay of certain Public Officers.*"
"*An Act to amend the 'Trading Stamps Act* 1901.'"

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 12th November, 1902.

(600 copies.)

4. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the abolition of Local Rates on certain lines of railway*," and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

5. LOCAL RAILWAY RATES ABOLITION BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

6. PATENTS BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse, a Bill to amend the Law concerning Letters Patent for Inventions was, by leave, read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

7. PETITION.—The Honorable N. Levi presented a Petition from the President, Vice-Presidents, and Secretary of the Victorian Chamber of Manufactures, praying that the Legislative Council would adhere to their amendments made in the Factories and Shops Acts Continuance Bill.

Petition read and ordered to lie on the Table.

8. PAPER.—The following Paper, pursuant to the direction of an Act of Parliament, was laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

Certificate under Section 399 of *Land Act* 1901, No. 1749, with Plan showing proposed Outlet from Lake Gillear to River Hopkins, Parish of Mepunga, County of Heytesbury.

9. FACTORIES AND SHOPS ACTS CONTINUANCE BILL.—The Order of the Day for the consideration of the amendments made in this Bill by the Council and disagreed with by the Assembly, or agreed to with amendments, having been read—the said amendments were read and are as follow :—

Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with by the Legislative Assembly.
1. Clause 3, line 11, after "same" insert "save and except that the words 'either House' in the second and third last lines of subdivision (1) of section fifteen of the *Factories and Shops Act* 1900 shall be omitted and the words 'both Houses' substituted therefor."	Agreed to with the following amendment, viz. :—Omit all words after "that" and insert in place thereof the words "no new wages boards shall be constituted during the continuance of this Act."
2. " line 14, omit "thirty-first" and insert "thirtieth."	Disagreed with.
3. " line 14, omit "December" and insert "September."	Disagreed with.
4. Clause 4, line 1, before "Every" insert "Subject to the conditions and exceptions hereinafter contained."	Agreed to with the following amendment, viz.:—Omit the words "conditions and."
5. After clause 4 insert the following new clauses :—	
A. No determination of any Special Board made after the sixteenth day of July One thousand nine hundred and two shall apply or remain in force or hereafter be published in the *Government Gazette*.	Disagreed with.
B. No determination of any Special Board in respect of the trade or business of a fellmonger heretofore made and published in the *Government Gazette* shall hereafter apply or remain in force.	Disagreed with.
6. Clause 5, at end of clause add "or with any liability for breach of contract or agreement necessarily occasioned by reason of or consequent on the passing of this Act."	Agreed to with the following amendment, viz.:—After "agreement" insert the words "between employer and employé."

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the Council agree to the amendment of the Assembly on amendment 1.

Debate ensued.

The Honorable T. C. Harwood moved, as an amendment, That the words "this Act" be omitted with a view to insert the words "any of the Acts hereby continued."

Debate continued.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Question—That the Council agree to the amendment of the Assembly on amendment 1—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Amendments 2 and 3, after debate, insisted on.

Amendment of the Assembly on amendment 4 disagreed with.

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the Council do not insist on their amendment to insert new Clause A.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

Council divided.

Ayes, 8.	Noes, 31.
The Hon. T. Brunton	The Hon. J. H. Abbott
E. J. Crooke	W. L. Baillieu
J. M. Davies	J. Balfour
Walter S. Manifold	J. Bell
R. Reid	S. G. Black
Sir A. Snowden.	F. Brown
	T. Comrie
Tellers.	Sir H. Cuthbert
G. Godfrey	T. Dowling
A. O. Sachse.	Dr. W. H. Embling
	N. FitzGerald
	W. B. Gray
	D. Ham
	T. C. Harwood
	N. Levi
	D. E. McBryde
	W. McCulloch
	J. Y. McDonald
	D. Melville
	E. Morey
	W. Orr
	T. H. Payne
	W. Pearson
	J. M. Pratt
	E. E. Smith
	J. Sternberg
	N. Thornley
	H. Williams
	A. Wynne.
	Tellers.
	S. Austin
	H. W. H. Irvine.

And so it passed in the negative.

Amendment to insert new clause B, after debate, insisted on.

Amendment of the Assembly on amendment 6 agreed to.

Ordered—That a Message be sent to the Assembly acquainting them that the Council have agreed to some of the amendments made by the Assembly on amendments of the Council, have disagreed with one of such amendments, and insist on their amendments disagreed with by the Assembly.

10. Message from the Assembly.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to provide by pumping for the Supply of Water from Long Lake to Part of the Eastern Mallee,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

11. Eastern Mallee Water Supply Bill.—On the motion of the Honorable R. Reid, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

12. Message from the Assembly.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly returning the *Marriage Act* 1900 Amendment Bill with amendments, and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

13. Public Works Loan Application Bill.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

14. Message from the Assembly.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly returning the Public Buildings Rent Bill, and notifying their agreement to the amendment of the Council.

15. Message from the Assembly.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Collection of Statistics,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

16. Statistics Collection Bill.—On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

17. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Orders of the Day be postponed until Tuesday next :—

University Act 1890 *Amendment Bill—To be further considered in Committee.*
Municipal Overdrafts Indemnity Bill—Second reading.
Insolvency Bill—To be further considered in Committee.
Transfer of Land Act 1890 *Amendment Bill—To be further considered in Committee.*
Education Act 1901 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
Surplus Wealth Tax—The question is—That, in view of the complete disorganization of the State finances, it is imperative that the Government at an early date bring in a Surplus Wealth Tax Bill, which would balance the ledger—Resumption of debate.

18. ADJOURNMENT.—Ordered, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next.

And then the Council, at sixteen minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday, next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 11.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly intimating that they desire a Free Conference with the Council on the subject-matter of the amendments made and insisted on by the Council in the Bill intituled "*An Act to revive and continue the 'Factories and Shops Act* 1896' *and the Acts amending the same*," and acquainting the Council that they have appointed seven Members of the Assembly to be Managers of the said Conference.

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the desire of the Assembly for a Free Conference on the Bill intituled "*An Act to revive and continue the 'Factories and Shops Act* 1896' *and the Acts amending the same*" be complied with.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

The Honorable Sir H. Cuthbert moved, That the following Members be appointed Managers of the Conference :—The Honorables J. Balfour, Dr. W. H. Embling, N. FitzGerald, T. C. Harwood, H. W. H. Irvine, D. Melville, and the Mover.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the Conference meet this day at a quarter to eight o'clock in the Conference Room.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That a Message be sent to the Assembly informing them that the Council have appointed seven Members to confer with a like number of Members of the Assembly on the Bill intituled "*An Act to revive and continue the 'Factories and Shops Act* 1896' *and the Acts amending the same*," and have appointed the Conference Room as the place, and a quarter to eight o'clock this day as the time of meeting of such Conference.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to sanction the issue and application of certain sums of money available under Loan Acts for Water Supply in Country Districts and for other purposes*," and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

4. WATER SUPPLY LOANS APPLICATION BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

5. PETITIONS.—The Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling presented a Petition from certain coachbuilders, wheelwrights, and accessory trades in Victoria, in favour of the Council insisting on their amendment in the Factories and Shops Acts Continuance Bill prohibiting the gazetting of any Wages Board's determinations not gazetted before 16th July, 1902.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The Honorable H. W. H. Irvine presented a Petition from certain employers in the Jam Trade against the bringing into force of the determination of the Tinsmiths' Trade.

The Honorable E. E. Smith presented a Petition from certain members of the Aerated Waters Manufacturers Trades Protection Association against the bringing into force of the determination not gazetted in relation to the Aerated Waters Manufacturers Trade.

Severally read, and ordered to lie on the Table.

The Honorable D. Melville presented a Petition from certain employers in the Brassworkers Trade, against the bringing into force of the determination not gazetted in relation to the Brassworkers Trade.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

(600 copies.)

The following Petitions in favour of amending the Education Act so that instead of the school being dismissed prior to the giving of voluntary religious instruction, the children not receiving such religious instruction may be given secular instruction in all schools where there is more than one room were presented as under :—

By the Honorable J. Balfour—
From the Council of Churches, representing the Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational, Baptist, and Lutheran Churches of Victoria.

By the Honorable W. Orr—
From the Elders' Association of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

Severally read, ordered to lie on the Table, and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Education Act 1901 Amendment Bill.

Petitions similar to the foregoing were presented as under :—

By the Honorable Sir H. Cuthbert—
From the Administrator of the Diocese of Melbourne and the Anglican Bishops of Ballarat, Bendigo, Wangaratta, and Gippsland.

By the Honorable T. H. Payne—
From the Fellowship Union of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

By the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling—
From the Reverend Llewelyn D. Bevan, D.D., and H. L. Kettle, on behalf of certain inhabitants of Melbourne in public meeting assembled.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

7. Paper.—The following Paper, pursuant to the direction of an Act of Parliament, was laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

Constitution Act Amendment Act 1890.—Part IX.—Statement showing the Names of all Persons temporarily employed in the Department of the Legislative Council.

8. Local Railway Rates Abolition Bill.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

9. Eastern Mallee Water Supply Bill.—The Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill having been read—The Honorable R. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time ; and debate arising thereupon it was ordered that the debate be adjourned until to-morrow.

10. Factories and Shops Acts Continuance Bill.—Conference.—The Managers then went to the Conference, and being returned—

11. Postponement of Orders of the Day.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Orders of the Day be postponed until to-morrow :—

Marriage Act 1900 *Amendment Bill—Message from Assembly to be taken into consideration.*
Statistics Collection Bill—Second reading.
University Act 1890 *Amendment Bill—To be further considered in Committee.*
Municipal Overdrafts Indemnity Bill—Second reading.
Insolvency Bill—To be further considered in Committee.
Transfer of Land Act 1890 *Amendment Bill—To be further considered in Committee.*
Education Act 1901 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
Patents Bill—Second reading.
Surplus Wealth Tax—The question is—That, in view of the complete disorganization of the State finances, it is imperative that the Government at an early date bring in a Surplus Wealth Tax Bill, which would balance the ledger—Resumption of debate.

12. Adjournment.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That the Council at its rising adjourn until half-past three o'clock to-morrow.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the Council, at fourteen minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 12.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 26TH NOVEMBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. FACTORIES AND SHOPS ACTS CONTINUANCE BILL.—FREE CONFERENCE.—The Managers again proceeded to the Conference, and, being returned—

3. PETITION.—The Honorable D. E. McBryde presented a Petition from the Moderator of Presbyterian Church, the President of the Methodist Church of Australasia, the President of the Baptist Union of Victoria, and the Acting Chairman of the Congregational Union of Victoria, in favour of amending the Education Act, so that, instead of the school being dismissed prior to the giving of voluntary religious instruction, the children not receiving such religious instruction may be given secular instruction in all schools where there is more than one room.
   Ordered to lie on the Table.

4. VICTORIAN RAILWAYS.—PASSENGERS AND RECEIPTS, HEIDELBERG LINE.—The Honorable G. Godfrey, for the Honorable N. Levi moved, That there be laid before this House a Statement showing—
   1. The number of passengers carried to Melbourne from each station on the railway line from Heidelberg to Melbourne and receipts therefrom during the period from 1st January to 31st October, 1902; and
   2. The number of passengers carried from Melbourne to each station on the same line to Heidelberg and receipts therefrom during the period from 1st January to 31st October, 1902.

   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

5. VICTORIAN RAILWAYS.—PROFITS ON PAYING LINES.—The Honorable E. E. Smith moved, That there be laid before this House a Return showing the profits made on the paying lines of the Victorian Railways during the years 1900 and 1901, and the net earnings per cent. on capital; giving the names of the various lines on which such profit is made.
   Debate ensued.
   On the motion of the Honorable A. Wynne, the debate was adjourned until Tuesday next.

6. DISCHARGE OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—On the motion of the Honorable D. Melville, and after debate, the following Order of the Day was read and discharged :—
   Surplus Wealth Tax—The question is—That in view of the complete disorganization of the State finances it is imperative that the Government at an early date bring in a Surplus Wealth Tax Bill, which would balance the ledger—Resumption of debate.

7. EASTERN MALLEE WATER SUPPLY BILL.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question—That this Bill be now read a second time, was read, and, after further debate, the question being put was resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.
   House in Committee.
   The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
   Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

8. WATER SUPPLY LOANS APPLICATION BILL.—The Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill having been read—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That this Bill be now read a second time; and debate arising thereupon it was ordered that the debate be adjourned until Tuesday next.

(600 copies)

9. MARRIAGE ACT 1900 AMENDMENT BILL.—The Order of the Day for the consideration of the amendments made in this Bill by the Assembly having been read—

The said amendments were read and are as follow :—

Clause 1, line 6, omit "which Act" and substitute "the *Marriage Act* 1890."
„ 2, line 16, sub-section (*c*) after "female" insert "or male."

Insert the following new clause :—

3. Notwithstanding anything contained in any Act no contract or agreement whereby any barrister and solicitor or any person other than the complainant would but for this Act be entitled either directly or indirectly to retain for his own use the whole or any part of any sum which pursuant to the *Marriage Act* 1900 may be ordered by justices to be paid by any defendant for the confinement expenses of any woman shall have any force or effect in so far as it purports so to entitle any such person. If any barrister and solicitor or person as aforesaid directly or indirectly retains for his own use the whole or any part of any sum ordered to be paid by any defendant as aforesaid he shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be liable to a penalty not exceeding Twenty pounds.

On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Council, after debate, agreed to the several amendments made in the Bill by the Assembly and ordered a Message to be sent to the Assembly acquainting them therewith.

10. STATISTICS COLLECTION BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

11. UNIVERSITY ACT 1890 AMENDMENT BILL.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole having beeen read—the President left the Chair.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Bill be sent to the Assembly with a Message desiring their concurrence therein.

12. MUNICIPAL OVERDRAFTS INDEMNITY BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

13. INSOLVENCY BILL.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole having been read—the President left the Chair.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with an amendment, the House ordered the Report to be taken into consideration this day, whereupon the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Bill be sent to the Assembly with a Message desiring their concurrence therein.

14. TRANSFER OF LAND ACT 1890 AMENDMENT BILL.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole having been read—the President left the Chair.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Resolved—That the Council will, on Tuesday next, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

15. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Orders of the Day be postponed until Tuesday next :—

Education Act 1901 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*
Patents Bill—Second reading.

16. ADJOURNMENT.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That the Council at its rising adjourn until Tuesday next, at four o'clock.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the Council, at seventeen minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 13.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 2ND DECEMBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. PAPERS.—The Honorable J. M. Davies presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor—

Thirty-eighth Report of the Board for the Protection of the Aborigines.
Charitable Institutions.—Report of Inspector for the year ended 30th June, 1902.
Statistical Register of the State of Victoria for the year 1901—
Part II.—Interchange.
Part III.—Production.
Part IV.—Finance, &c.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

Additions to the Regulation under the *Land Act* 1901.
Alterations in the Regulations under the *Land Act* 1901.
Census of Victoria 1901.—Part I.—Inhabitants and Houses.—Population enumerated on the 31st March, 1901.
The Constitution Act Amendment Act 1890.—Part IX.—Statement showing the Names, Remuneration, Duties, &c., of all Persons temporarily employed in the Department of the Legislative Assembly under the authority of Part IX. of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 during the period from 13th November, 1901, to 27th November, 1902.
Constitution Statute.—Statement of Expenditure under Schedule D to Act 18 & 19 Vict., Cap. 55, during the year 1901–2.
Clause 7 of Regulation No. XXIII. of the Regulations under the *Education Act* 1890 rescinded.
Dentists Act 1898.—Regulation.
Exhibition Trustees.—Report of Proceedings and Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 30th June, 1902.
Explosives Act 1890.—Additions to List of Explosives authorized for Importation into and Manufacture in Victoria.
Explosives Acts.—Alteration of Regulations.
The Land Act 1901, Section 107, Schedule No. 17.—Country Lands to be offered for Sale by Public Auction during the year 1902.
Savings Banks.—Statements and Returns for the year ended 30th June, 1902.
Companies Act 1890.—Summary of Statements for the year 1901 made by the Companies transacting Life Assurance Business in Victoria.
Water Act 1890.—Hamilton Waterworks Trust.—Additional Loan of £900.
Water Acts—
Rodney Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—District decreased.
The Western Wimmera Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—Authority to borrow.

(600 copies.)

3. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same was read by the Honorable the President :—

G. S. CLARKE,
Governor of Victoria. *Message No.* 3.

The Governor informs the Legislative Council that he has, on this day, at the Government Offices, given the Royal Assent to the undermentioned Acts of the present Session, presented to him by the Clerk of the Parliaments, viz. :—

"*An Act to authorize the issue of Treasury Bonds.*"
"*An Act to further amend the 'Victorian Loans Redemption Fund Act* 1898.'"
"*An Act to further amend the 'Trust Funds Act* 1897.'"
"*An Act to amend Part III. of the 'Police Regulation Act* 1890' *with regard to future Appointees.*"
"*An Act to confirm the Union in Victoria of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, the Primitive Methodist Church, the Bible Christian Church, and The United Methodist Free Churches; to deal with the Properties in Victoria of the said Uniting Churches, and to assimilate the Trusts thereof; to vest the said Properties in the United Church under the name of the Methodist Church of Australasia; to give certain powers to the Victoria and Tasmania Conference of the Methodist Church of Australasia; to amend 'The Victorian Wesleyan Methodists' Act* 1887,' *and for other purposes.*"
"*An Act to authorize the issue of Treasury Bonds (No.* 2*).*"
"*An Act to authorize the Destruction of Discharged Public Debentures Bonds and Coupons.*"
"*An Act to further amend the 'Defences and Discipline Act* 1890.'"
"*An Act relating to charging Public Officers for Rent of Public Buildings used by them for Residence.*"

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 25th November, 1902.

4. ADJOURNMENT.—The Honorable T. Dowling moved, That the Council do now adjourn, and said he proposed to speak on the subject of the manner in which the Council dealt with the motion respecting the Surplus Wealth Tax, and six Members having risen in their places and required the motion to be proposed, the question was put and, after debate, negatived.

5. DECLARATION OF MEMBER.—The Honorable J. C. Campbell delivered to the Clerk the Declaration required by the thirty-seventh section of the Act No. 1075, as hereunder set forth :—

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, JAMES CALLENDER CAMPBELL, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Two hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Brighton, and are known as Myrtle Grove, situate in New-street and North-road, town of Brighton, containing seven and one-half acres or thereabouts, on which is erected a two-storied brick house, containing sixteen rooms; also an allotment of land situate at Elwood-street, Brighton.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Brighton are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and ninety-five pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"JAS. C. CAMPBELL."

6. FACTORIES AND SHOPS ACTS CONTINUANCE BILL—FREE CONFERENCE.—The Managers again proceeded to the Conference and, being returned—

The Honorable Sir Henry Cuthbert reported, on behalf of the Managers for the Legislative Council, that they had met the Managers for the Legislative Assembly on the subject-matter of the amendments made and insisted on by the Legislative Council in the Factories and Shops Acts Continuance Bill, and that, after discussion, the following resolutions had been agreed to :—

That the 31st October, 1903, be the time fixed for the continuance in operation of the measure, instead of 30th September, 1903, as proposed by the Council.

That, as regards the Fellmongering Trade, the old wages board be done away with, and that a new board may be created, no determination of such new board to have any effect unless sanctioned by a majority of seven-tenths of the members, exclusive of the Chairman.

That the determination of the Brewers Board remain as passed.

That the Carriage Board be excluded from the wages boards provisions.

That, in the cases of the Artificial Manure Board, the Brassworkers Board, the Ironmongers Board, the Leather Goods Board, and the Oven-makers Board, where any of such boards consist of ten members, a majority of seven-tenths, exclusive of the Chairman, shall be required to give effect to any determination, and where any of such boards consist of six members, a two-thirds majority, exclusive of the Chairman, shall be required.

That, as regards the Tinsmiths Board, the determinations of the board are not to apply to persons employed in making jam tins, or tins for the preservation of fruit or vegetables or any product of a like kind.

7. WATER SUPPLY LOANS APPLICATION BILL.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question, That this Bill be now read a second time, was read and, after further debate, the question being put, was resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

8. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Order of the Day be postponed until to-morrow :—

Transfer of Land Act 1890 *Amendment Bill—To be further considered in Committee.*

9. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Order of the Day be postponed until Tuesday next :—

Education Act 1901 *Amendment Bill—Second reading.*

10. PATENTS BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered, That the Bill be sent to the Assembly with a Message desiring their concurrence therein.

11. VICTORIAN RAILWAYS.—PROFITS ON PAYING LINES.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question, That there be laid before this House a Return showing the profits made on the paying lines of the Victorian Railways during the years 1900 and 1901, and the net earnings per cent. on capital, giving the names of the various lines on which such profit is made, having been read—

Debate resumed.

On the motion of the Honorable A. Wynne, the debate was adjourned until Tuesday next.

And then the Council, at nine minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 14.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 3RD DECEMBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. PAPER.—The Honorable J. M. Davies presented :—

Victorian Railways.—Passengers and Receipts, Heidelberg Line.—Return to an Order of the Legislative Council, dated 26th November, 1902, showing—

1. The number of passengers carried to Melbourne from each station on the railway line from Heidelberg to Melbourne and receipts therefrom during the period from 1st January to 31st October, 1902 ; and
2. The number of passengers carried from Melbourne to each station on the same line to Heidelberg and receipts therefrom during the period from 1st January to 31st October, 1902.

3. TRANSFER OF LAND ACT 1890 AMENDMENT BILL.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole having been read—the President left the Chair.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Bill be sent to the Assembly with a Message desiring their concurrence therein.

4. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly returning the Bill intituled "*An Act to revive and continue the 'Factories and Shops Act* 1896' *and the Acts amending the same*," and acquainting the Council that the Assembly have agreed to the recommendations of the Free Conference on the said Bill, with which the Assembly desire the concurrence of the Council.

And the said recommendations were read and are as follow :—

Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with.	Recommendations of the Free Conference.
1. Clause 3, line 11, after "same" insert "save and except that the words 'either House' in the second and third last lines of subdivision (1) of section fifteen of the *Factories and Shops Act* 1900 shall be omitted and the words 'both Houses' substituted therefor."	Agreed to by the Assembly with the following amendment, viz.:—Omit all words after "that" and insert in place thereof the words "no new wages boards shall be constituted during the continuance of this Act." Amendment of Assembly agreed to by the Council.	1. The Council's amendment and the amendment of the Assembly thereon not now to be made.

(600 copies.)

Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with.	Recommendations of the Free Conference.
2. Clause 3, line 14, omit "thirty-first" and insert "thirtieth."	Disagreed with by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council.	2. Disagreement of Assembly to be insisted on.
3. Clause 3, line 14, omit "December" and insert "September."	Disagreed with by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council.	3. Assembly not to insist on disagreement, but "October" to be inserted in place of "December" omitted, and the following words to be added to the clause:—"except as to the several trades or businesses hereinafter specifically provided for and save and except that no new wages boards shall be constituted and no determination of any Special Board already constituted shall be made except as hereinafter provided during the continuance of this Act."
4. Clause 4, line 1, before "Every" insert "Subject to the conditions and exceptions hereinafter contained."	Agreed to by the Assembly with the following amendment, viz.:—Omit the words "conditions and." Amendment of Assembly disagreed with by the Council.	4. Assembly not to insist on their amendment to omit the words "conditions and" but the following words to be added to the Council's amendment after the word "contained":—"and to the provisions and restrictions hereinafter mentioned."
5. After clause 4 insert the following new clauses:—		5. Assembly to insist on disagreeing with Council's amendment to insert new clauses A and B, but the following new clauses to be inserted after clause 4 of the Bill:—
A. No determination of any Special Board made after the sixteenth day of July One thousand nine hundred and two shall apply or remain in force or hereafter be published in the *Government Gazette.*	Disagreed with by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council.	D. No determination of any Special Board in respect of any trade or business except that of the process trade or business of a brewer or of a bottler of fermented liquors made after the sixteenth day of July One thousand nine hundred and two and previous to the passing of this Act shall be published in the *Government Gazette* or if already so published shall hereafter apply or be or remain in force anything contained in the said *Factories and Shops Act* 1896 and any enactment amending the same notwithstanding.
B. No determination of any Special Board in respect of the trade or business of a fellmonger heretofore made and published in the *Government Gazette* shall hereafter apply or remain in force.	Disagreed with by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council.	E. The Special Boards heretofore appointed in respect of the process trade or business of a maker of carriages carts and other vehicles (other than perambulators) and also of persons employed in making any parts of carriages carts and other vehicles (other than perambulators) shall not be revived or continued, and no determination made by such Special Boards or either of them shall hereafter apply or be in force.
		F. The Special Board heretofore appointed in respect of the process trade or business of fellmongers or wool scourers

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Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with.	Recommendations of the Free Conference.
		or tanners of sheepskins shall not be hereby revived or continued, and no determination made by such boards or either of them shall hereafter apply or be in force. The Governor in Council may if he think fit during the continuance of this Act appoint a Special Board in respect of such process trade or business consisting of ten members and a chairman for the purposes mentioned in section fifteen of the *Factories and Shops Act* 1896 as amended by the Act No. 1654. One-half of such ten members shall be representatives of employers and one-half of employés and shall be elected respectively by themselves, and each firm or company or co-operation carrying on such business shall be considered as one employer for the purpose of voting for and electing such representatives of employers. Any determination of such Special Board shall only be made by a majority being at least seven of such ten representatives who shall sign the same before it shall be published in the *Government Gazette*, the chairman to have no vote in making such determination. And subject as above the several provisions of the said Factories and Shops Acts shall apply to such Special Board.
5. After clause 4 insert the following new clauses:—		
A. No determination of any Special Board made after the sixteenth day of July One thousand nine hundred and two shall apply or remain in force or hereafter be published in the *Government Gazette.*	Disagreed with by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council.	
B. No determination of any Special Board in respect of the trade or business of a fellmonger heretofore made and published in the *Government Gazette* shall hereafter apply or remain in force.	Disagreed with by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council.	
		G. The determinations heretofore made by the Special Board appointed in respect of the trade or business of a tinsmith or any determinations hereafter to be made shall not apply or be in force so far as any such determination refers to the wages to be paid to persons employed in making tins or receptacles for preserving or containing jam fruit or vegetables or produce of any kind intended for food for human consumption.
		H. Determinations by the Special Boards prior to the coming into operation of this Act respectively appointed for the following trades or businesses that is to say the aerated water trade the artificial manure trade the brassworkers trade the ironmoulders trade the leather goods trade and the ovenmakers trade shall hereafter be made only by a majority being at least seven when the representatives of the employers and employés amount to ten and by a majority being at least four of whom

Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with.	Recommendations of the Free Conference.
5. After clause 4 insert the following new clauses:—		
A. No determination of any Special Board made after the sixteenth day of July One thousand nine hundred and two shall apply or remain in force or hereafter be published in the *Government Gazette.*	Disagreed with by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council.	two shall be representatives of the employers and two of the employés when such representatives amount to six and shall only be published in the *Government Gazette* on being signed by the members of the board making the same. The chairman in all such cases to have no vote in making such determination. And subject as above the several provisions of the said Factories and Shops Acts shall apply to all such Special Boards.
B. No determination of any Special Board in respect of the trade or business of a fellmonger heretofore made and published in the *Government Gazette* shall hereafter apply or remain in force.	Disagreed with by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council.	And the following new clause to be inserted after clause 5 of the Bill:— J. In paragraph (*a*) of sub-section (5) of section fifteen of the *Factories and Shops Act* 1900 for the word "two" there shall be substituted the word "three." And the following consequential amendment to be made:—At the end of the title add the words "in respect of certain trades and businesses and to make special provision in respect of certain other trades and businesses."

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the Council concur with the Assembly in agreeing to the recommendations of the Free Conference on the said Bill.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That a Message be sent to the Assembly acquainting them that the Council have concurred with the Assembly in agreeing to the recommendations of the Free Conference on the said Bill.

5. ADJOURNMENT.—Ordered, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, 16th December instant.

And then the Council, at thirty-five minutes past six o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday, 16th December instant.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 15.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 16TH DECEMBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. ADJOURNMENT TO THE PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SPRING-STREET.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the House do now adjourn to the Parliament House, situate in Spring-street, and the Honorable the President do take the Chair there at half-past five o'clock this day.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
And the House, according to the foregoing resolution, being assembled at the

PARLIAMENT HOUSE SPRING-STREET—

3. BALLAARAT COURT HOUSE LAND BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, a Bill relating to certain Land granted as a Site for a Market Place in the City of Ballaarat was, by leave, read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Thursday next.

4. PETITION.—The Honorable J. M. Davies presented a Petition from the Victorian Sunday School Union, in favour of amending the Education Act so that instead of the school being dismissed prior to the giving of voluntary religious instruction, the children not receiving such religious instruction may be given secular instruction in all schools where there is more than one room.
Petition read and ordered to lie on the Table.

5. EDUCATION ACT 1901 AMENDMENT BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That the Honorable J. Bell perform the duties of Chairman of Committees during this evening.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Bell reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with an amendment.
Ordered, That the Bill as amended be printed and taken into consideration on Thursday next.

6. ADJOURNMENT.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Thursday next, at a quarter to eight o'clock.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the Council, at thirty-eight minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until Thursday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

(600 copies.)

VICTORIA.

No. 16.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, 18TH DECEMBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. DECLARATION OF MEMBER.—The Honorable F. S. Grimwade delivered to the Clerk the Declaration required by the thirty-seventh section of the Act No. 1075, as hereunder set forth:—

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, FREDERICK SHEPPARD GRIMWADE, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Four hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Caulfield, and are known as 'Harleston,' situate at the corner of Balaclava and Orrong roads.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Caulfield are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Four hundred pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Caulfield are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Four hundred pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"F. S. GRIMWADE."

3. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same were read by the Honorable the President:—

G. S. CLARKE,
Governor of Victoria.

Message No. 4.

The Governor informs the Legislative Council that he has, on this day, at the Government Offices, reserved the undermentioned Bill, presented to him by the Clerk of the Parliaments, for the signification of His Majesty's pleasure thereon, viz.:—

"*A Bill to provide for the Reduction until the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and three of the Salaries or Pay of Responsible Ministers of the Crown and certain Officers under 'The Constitution Act' or Part IX. of 'The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890*' or whose Salaries or Pay are provided for by Special Appropriations.*"

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 25th November, 1902.

(600 copies.)

4. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same was read by the Honorable the President :—

G. S. CLARKE,
Governor of Victoria.

Message No. 5.

The Governor informs the Legislative Council that he has, on this day, at State Government House, Melbourne, given the Royal Assent to the undermentioned Act of the present Session, presented to him by the Clerk of the Parliaments, viz.:—

"*An Act to revive and continue the 'Factories and Shops Act* 1896*' and the Acts amending the same in respect of certain trades and businesses and to make special provision in respect of certain other trades and businesses.*"

State Government House,
Melbourne, 5th December, 1902.

5. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same was read by the Honorable the President :—

G. S. CLARKE,
Governor of Victoria.

Message No. 6.

The Governor informs the Legislative Council that he has, on this day, at the Government Offices, given the Royal Assent to the undermentioned Acts of the present Session, viz.: —

"*An Act to sanction the issue and application of certain sums of Money available under Loan Acts for Railways.*"

"*An Act to sanction the issue and application of certain Sums of Money available under Loan Acts for Public Works and other purposes.*"

"*An Act to provide for the Collection of Statistics.*"

"*An Act to indemnify the Councillors of various Municipalities for Borrowing Moneys by Overdrafts on Bankers for the purposes of their Municipalities contrary to the provisions of the 'Local Government Act* 1890*' and for other purposes.*"

"*An Act to provide by pumping for the Supply of Water from Long Lake to Part of the Eastern Mallee.*"

"*An Act to amend the 'Marriage Act* 1900.*'*"

"*An Act to provide for the abolition of Local Rates on certain lines of railway.*"

"*An Act to sanction the issue and application of certain sums of money available under Loan Acts for Water Supply in Country Districts and for other purposes.*"

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 9th December, 1902.

6. PAPERS.—The Honorable J. M. Davies presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor—

Inter-State Royal Commission on the River Murray, representing the States of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia.—Report of the Commissioners, with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plans.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

Bank Liabilities and Assets.—Summary of Sworn Returns for the quarter ended 30th September, 1902.

Dentists Act 1898.—Regulation.

Explosives Act 1890.—Copies of Orders in Council regarding the Explosive known as Rackarock.

Public Service Acts.—Regulation—Classification of General Division.

Report respecting Applications and Proceedings under the *Electric Light and Power Act* 1896 for the year 1901.

Water Acts—

- Bacchus Marsh Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—Graduated Rate.—Regulation No. 10 (Draft Form).
- Bairnsdale Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—Regulation No. 16.
- Campaspe Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—General Rate.—Rating Regulation.
- Cohuna Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—Regulation No. 26.—Extra Rate for 1902.
- Euroa Waterworks Trust.—Application for an Additional Loan of £7,000.
- Koondrook and Myall Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—General Rate.—Rating Regulation.
- Loddon United Waterworks Trust.—Application for Additional Loan of £100.
- North Boort Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—General Rate.—Rating Regulation.
- South Kerang Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—General Rate.—Rating Regulation.
- Swan Hill Irrigation and Water Supply Trust—
  - Authority for Overdraft.
  - General Rate.—Rating Regulation.
- Tragowel Plains Irrigation and Water Supply Trust—
  - Draft form of Rating Regulation repealed.
  - Rating Divisions.
- Wandella Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—General Rate.—Rating Regulation.
- Yarrawonga Urban Waterworks Trust.—Additional Loan of £300.

7. Message from the Assembly.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Reform of The Constitution of Victoria,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

8. Constitution Reform Bill.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

9. Message from the Assembly.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to apply out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of Seven hundred and seventy-one thousand five hundred and ninety-one pounds to the service of the year One thousand nine hundred and two and One thousand nine hundred and three,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

10. Consolidated Revenue Bill (No. 2).—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed and, by leave, to be read a second time this day.

11. Education Act 1901 Amendment Bill.—The Order of the Day for the consideration of the Report from the Committee of the whole having been read, the Report was, after debate, adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Bill be returned to the Assembly with a Message acquainting them that the Council have agreed to the Bill with an amendment and requesting their concurrence therein.

12. Ballaarat Court House Land Bill.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That the Honorable J. Bell perform the duties of Chairman of Committees during this evening.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Bell having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Bill be sent to the Assembly with a Message desiring their concurrence therein.

13. Consolidated Revenue Bill (No. 2).—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Bell having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

14. Postponement of Order of the Day.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Order of the Day be postponed until Tuesday next.

Victorian Railways—Profits on Paying Lines.—The question is—That there be laid before this House a Return showing the profits made on the paying lines of the Victorian Railways during the years 1900 *and* 1901, *and the net earnings per cent. on capital; giving the names of the various lines on which such profit is made.*

15. Message from the Assembly.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the Administration and Probate Acts,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

16. Administration and Probate Acts Amendment Bill.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

And then the Council, at fifty-four minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 17.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 23RD DECEMBER, 1902.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. ABSENCE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.—The President announced the receipt of a telegram from the Chairman of Committees expressing his regret at his enforced absence through illness.

3. ADMINISTRATION AND PROBATE ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.—This Bill was, according to order, and after debate, read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.
   The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, that the Honorable J. Bell perform the duties of Chairman of Committees during this evening.
   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
   House in Committee.
   The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Bell reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.
   Resolved—That the Council will, on Tuesday, 20th January next, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

4. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Orders of the Day be postponed until Tuesday, 20th January next :—

   Constitution Reform Bill—Second reading.
   Victorian Railways—Profits on Paying Lines.—The question is—That there be laid before this House a Return showing the profits made on the paying lines of the Victorian Railways during the years 1900 *and* 1901, *and the net earnings per cent. on capital; giving the names of the various lines on which such profit is made.*

5. ADJOURNMENT.—The Honorable J. M. Davies, moved, by leave, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday, 20th January next.
   Debate ensued.
   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the Council, at thirty-three minutes past six o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday, 20th January next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

(600 copies.)

VICTORIA.

No. 18.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 20TH JANUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. DEATH OF SENATOR SIR FREDERICK THOMAS SARGOOD, K.C.M.G.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That this House desires to place on record its high appreciation of the many and great public services rendered to this State by Senator Sir Frederick Thomas Sargood, K.C.M.G., and in common with the whole community deeply deplores his death.
   Debate ensued.
   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
   The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the President be requested to forward a copy of the foregoing resolution to the widow of the late Senator Sir Frederick Thomas Sargood, K.C.M.G.
   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

3. ADJOURNMENT.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the House do now adjourn out of respect to the memory of the late Senator Sir Frederick Thomas Sargood, K.C.M.G.
   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the Council, at fourteen minutes past five o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

(600 copies.)

VICTORIA.

No. 19.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 21st JANUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same was read by the Honorable the President:—

G. S. CLARKE,
Governor of Victoria. *Message No. 7.*

The Governor transmits to the Legislative Council a copy of a despatch which he has received from His Excellency the Governor-General, notifying that a vacancy has happened in the representation of the State of Victoria in the Senate of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 20th January, 1903.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Governor-General,
14th January, 1903.

SIR,

Under the provisions of Section 21 of The Constitution Act—and in the absence from the Commonwealth of the President of the Senate—I have the honour to inform you that, by the much-regretted death of the late Senator Sir Frederick Thomas Sargood, a vacancy "has happened" in the representation of Victoria in the Senate.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your Excellency's most obedient Servant,

TENNYSON,
Governor-General.

His Excellency the Governor of the State of Victoria.

3. JOINT SITTING—VACANCY IN THE SENATE.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That this House meet the Legislative Assembly in the Queen's Hall forthwith, for the purpose of sitting and voting together to choose a person to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of Senator Sir Frederick T. Sargood, K.C.M.G.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That this House do now adjourn to the Queen's Hall.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
The House then adjourned to the Queen's Hall, and being returned—

4. ADJOURNMENT.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the Council, at five minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

(600 copies.)

VICTORIA.

No. 20.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, 22ND JANUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly intimating that they have agreed to the Ballaarat Court House Land Bill, without amendment.

3. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same was read by the Honorable the President :—

G. S. CLARKE,
Governor of Victoria. *Message No.* 8.

The Governor informs the Legislative Council that he has, on this day, at the Government Offices, given the Royal Assent to the undermentioned Act of the present Session, presented to him by the Clerk of the Parliaments, viz. :—

"*An Act to apply out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of Seven hundred and seventy-one thousand five hundred and ninety-one pounds to the service of the year One thousand nine hundred and two and One thousand nine hundred and three.*"

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 22nd December, 1902.

4. PAPERS.—The Honorable J. M. Davies presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor—

Report of the Council of Judges under Section 33 of the Supreme Court Act 1890.
Report of Proceedings taken under the provisions of the Land Acts and the Wattles Act 1890 during the year ending 31st December, 1901.
Statistical Register of the State of Victoria for the year 1901—
Part V.—Vital Statistics, &c.
Part VI.—Law, Crime, &c.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

Agricultural Education.—Accounts of the Trustees of Agricultural Colleges and the Council of Agricultural Education, from 1st July, 1901, to 31st December, 1901.
Census of Victoria, 1901—
Part II.—Ages.—Population enumerated on the 31st March, 1901.
Part III.—Birthplaces and Allegiance.—Population enumerated on the 31st March, 1901.
The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works.—Statements of Accounts and Balance-sheet, together with Schedule of Contracts, for year ended 30th June, 1902.
Twenty-fourth Annual Report on Friendly Societies.—Report of the Actuary for Friendly Societies for the year 1901, to which are appended the Valuations, Numerical and Financial Summaries of the Returns furnished by the Secretaries, &c.
Water Acts.—The Dimboola Shire Council and the Western Wimmera Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—Application of Municipal Funds.

(600 copies.)

5. Petitions.—The following Petitions praying that the Council would reject clause 17 of the Administration and Probate Acts Amendment Bill were presented, as under :—

By the Honorable J. Sternberg—
From certain members of the Bendigo Law Association.

By the Honorable W. Orr—
From the Victorian United Law Clerks' Society.

By the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling—
From the Law Institute of Victoria.

Severally read, ordered to lie on the Table, and referred to the Committee of the whole on the Administration and Probate Acts Amendment Bill.

The Honorable T. C. Harwood presented a Petition from Isaac George Hodges, styling himself Mayor of the Town of Geelong, and Chairman of a Public Meeting of Citizens of Geelong, containing a resolution condemning the proposal of the Government for Separate Representation in Parliament of the Public Service.

The Honorable W. McCulloch presented a Petition from certain residents of Sale and district praying that the Council would reject clauses 26 to 29, inclusive, of the Constitution Reform Bill.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and referred to the Committee of the whole on the Constitution Reform Bill.

6. Report from Joint Sitting.—The President announced that yesterday a Joint Sitting of the two Houses was held to choose a person to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of Senator Sir Frederick T. Sargood, K.C.M.G., and that the Honorable Robert Reid was chosen to hold that place.

Then the Honorables A. Wynne, N. FitzGerald, and J. M. Davies congratulated the Honorable R. Reid, who returned his thanks.

7. Administration and Probate Acts Amendment Bill.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole having been read—the President left the Chair.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable F. Brown reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill and agreed to the same with amendments.

On the motion of the Honorable N. FitzGerald, this Bill was recommitted to a Committee of the whole to consider certain new clauses.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with further amendments, whereupon the House adopted the Report.

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

The Honorable Sir H. Cuthbert moved, as an amendment, That all the words after "be" be omitted, with a view to insert the words "laid aside."

Debate ensued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put and negatived.

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That this Bill be laid aside—put and resolved in the affirmative—Bill laid aside.

8. Constitution Reform Bill.—The Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill having been read, the Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That this Bill be now read a second time ; and debate arising thereupon, it was ordered that the debate be adjourned until Tuesday next.

And then the Council at fifteen minutes past ten o'clock adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 21.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 27TH JANUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. ADJOURNMENT.—The Honorable W. McCulloch moved, That the Council do now adjourn, and said he proposed to speak on the subject of the unsatisfactory state of the Victorian Railways, and six Members having risen in their places and required the motion to be proposed, the Question was put and, after debate, negatived.

3. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question, That this Bill be now read a second time having been read, the debate was resumed and further adjourned, on the motion of the Honorable Walter S. Manifold, until to-morrow.

And then the Council, at one minute past ten o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

(600 copies.)

VICTORIA.

No. 22.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 28TH JANUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. PAPERS.—The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

   Alterations in the Regulations under the Land Act 1901.
   Water Act 1890.—Shepparton Urban Waterworks Trust.—Additional Loan of £7,000.

3. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question, That this Bill be now read a second time having been read, the debate was resumed and further adjourned, on the motion of the Honorable H. W. H. Irvine, until to-morrow.

And then the Council, at six minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

(600 copies.)

VICTORIA.

No. 23.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, 29TH JANUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. ADDITIONAL DAY OF BUSINESS.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That during the remainder of the Session the House meet for the despatch of business on Friday in each week, at the hour of Eleven o'clock in the morning.

Debate ensued.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to enable Seed and Fodder to be advanced on certain terms to Cultivators of Land*," and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

4. SEED AND FODDER ADVANCES BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable W. Pitt, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

5. DECLARATION OF MEMBER.—The Honorable E. Miller delivered to the Clerk the Declaration required by the thirty-seventh section of the Act No. 1075, as hereunder set forth:—

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, EDWARD MILLER, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Three hundred and five pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal districts of Kew and Melbourne, and are known as part of 'Findon' Estate, being land (1) measuring four acres, situate corner of Barker's-road and Findon-street; (2) land having frontage of forty-nine feet to Exhibition-street, Melbourne, with buildings thereon.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Kew are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and forty-five pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Melbourne are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of One hundred and sixty pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"EDWARD MILLER."

(600 copies.)

6. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question, That this Bill be now read a second time having been read, the debate was resumed.

The Honorable T. Dowling moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

Council divided.

Ayes, 10.	Noes, 22.
The Hon. F. Brown	The Hon. J. H. Abbott
T. Comrie	S. Austin
Sir H. Cuthbert	W. L. Baillieu
T. Dowling	J. Balfour
N. FitzGerald	J. Bell
W. B. Gray	S. G. Black
N. Levi	J. C. Campbell
E. Miller.	J. M. Davies
	G. Godfrey
Tellers.	T. C. Harwood
D. E. McBryde	Walter S. Manifold
T. H. Payne.	W. McCulloch
	D. Melville
	J. M. Pratt
	A. O. Sachse
	E. E. Smith
	Sir A. Snowden
	J. Sternberg
	H. Williams
	A. Wynne.
	Tellers.
	W. Orr
	W. Pitt.

And so it passed in the negative.

Debate further continued, and, on the motion of the Honorable N. Levi, further adjourned until Tuesday next.

And then the Council, at fifty-two minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 24.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. RESIGNATION OF MEMBER.—The President announced that he had received the following letter from the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor :—

State Government House,
Melbourne, January, 1903.

SIR,

27th January, 1903. I am directed by His Excellency the Governor to inform you that the Honorable Robert Reid has resigned his seat in the Legislative Council of Victoria, as will be seen from the enclosed letter.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
C. VALLANGE,
Private Secretary.

The Honorable the President
of the Legislative Council, &c.. &c., &c.

"Belmont," Balwyn,
Melbourne, 27.1.03.

SIR,

I do myself the honour to inform Your Excellency that I have been chosen by the Parliament of Victoria to fill the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of the Honorable Sir F. T. Sargood.

I have now the honour to resign my seat in the Legislative Council of the State of Victoria.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
ROBERT REID.

To His Excellency
Sir George Sydenham Clarke, K.C.M.G.,
Governor of the State of Victoria.

3. PAPERS.—The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

Rules under Division VII. of the Companies Act 1896.—Eleventh Schedule.—Return by Prothonotary of Business of Court.

Water Acts—

Bacchus Marsh Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—Graduated Rate.—Regulation No. 10.

Tragowel Plains Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—Regulation.

(600 copies.)

4. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question, That this Bill be now read a second time was read, and, after further debate, the question being put, was resolved in the affirmative—Bill read a second time, with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the whole number of the Members of the Legislative Council, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

The Honorable H. Williams moved, That it be an instruction to the Committee to divide the Bill into two Bills.

Question—put and negatived.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Resolved—That the Council will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the Administration and Probate Acts,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

6. ADMINISTRATION AND PROBATE ACTS AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2).—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and by leave, after debate, was read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

7. PRINTING COMMITTEE.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That the Printing Committee of this House have power to meet and confer with the Printing Committee of the Legislative Assembly.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

8. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the consideration of the following Order of the Day be postponed until to-morrow:—

Seed and Fodder Advances Bill—Second reading.

And then the Council at four minutes past ten o'clock adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 25.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 4TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the further Appointment of an Acting Victorian Railways Commissioner*," and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

3. ACTING VICTORIAN RAILWAYS COMMISSIONER BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

4. PAPERS.—The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

   Constitution Statute.—Statement of Expenditure under Schedule D to Act 18 & 19 Vict., cap. 55, during the year 1901–2 (in substitution for Paper previously laid on the Table).

   Regulations under the Public Service Acts, and Appendix.—1st January, 1903.

5. DECLARATION OF MEMBER.—The Honorable J. Hoddinott delivered to the Clerk the Declaration required by the thirty-seventh section of the Act No. 1075, as hereunder set forth :—

   "In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, JOSEPH HODDINOTT, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of over One hundred pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of the shire of Phillip Island and Woolamai, and are known as Crown allotments eleven, twelve, and thirteen, in the parish of Woolamai, county of Mornington.

   "And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Phillip Island and Woolamai are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three hundred and eighty pounds.

   "And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

   "J. HODDINOTT."

(600 copies.)

6. Punishment of Hawkers.—The Honorable A. Wynne moved, pursuant to amended notice, That there be laid before this House a Return showing—

   1. The number of summonses issued at the City Court against hawkers between 1st August last and the present date.
   2. The amount of fines inflicted.
   3. To what proportion of the fines is the City Council entitled.
   4. The term of imprisonment imposed; and
   5. The number of times persons have been imprisoned for non-payment of fines, and total term of imprisonment.

   The Honorable Sir A. Snowden moved, as an amendment, That the words "specifying the offences for which the persons were summoned, and the part of a street in the city where the offences were committed, and under what Act or by-law the prosecutions were made," be added to paragraph 1.
   Debate ensued.
   Question—That the words proposed to be added be so added—put and negatived.
   Main question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

7. Victorian Railways—Profits on Paying Lines.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question—That there be laid before this House a Return showing the profits made on the paying lines of the Victorian Railways during the years 1900 and 1901, and the net earnings per cent. on capital; giving the names of the various lines on which such profit is made, having been read—
   Debate resumed.
   The Honorable Sir H. Cuthbert moved, as an amendment, That the words "during the years 1900 and 1901" be omitted, with a view to insert in place thereof the words "for the financial year from the 30th June, 1901, to the 30th June, 1902."
   Debate ensued.
   The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the debate be now adjourned.
   Question—put, and after debate, resolved in the affirmative.
   Ordered—That the debate be adjourned until Wednesday next.

8. Constitution Reform Bill.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole having been read, the President left the Chair.
   House in Committee.
   The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.
   Resolved—That the Council will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

9. Postponement of Order of the Day.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Order of the Day be postponed until to-morrow:—

   Seed and Fodder Advances Bill—Second reading.

And then the Council, at ten minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 26.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, 5TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair, and read the Prayer.

2. PETITION.—The Honorable N. FitzGerald presented a petition from certain residents of the State of Victoria, praying that the Council would reject those provisions of the Constitution Reform Bill providing for separate representation of the Public Service, (clauses 26 to 29, inclusive).
   Petition read, and ordered to lie on the Table.

3. SEED AND FODDER ADVANCES BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
   House in Committee.
   The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
   Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

4. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole having been read—the President left the Chair.
   House in Committee.
   The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable F. Brown reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.
   Resolved—That the Council will, on Tuesday next, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

5. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the consideration of the following Order of the Day be postponed until Tuesday next :—
   Acting Victorian Railways Commissioner Bill—Second reading.

And then the Council, at twenty-five minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

(600 copies.)

VICTORIA.

No. 27.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 10TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same was read by the Honorable the President :—

G. S. CLARKE,
Governor of Victoria. *Message No.* 9.

The Governor informs the Legislative Council that he has, on this day, at the Government Offices, given the Royal Assent to the undermentioned Acts of the present Session, presented to him by the Clerk of the Parliaments, viz.:—

"*An Act relating to certain Land granted as a Site for a Market Place in the City of Ballaarat.*"
"*An Act to amend the Administration and Probate Acts.*"

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 5th February, 1903.

3. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same was read by the Honorable the President :—

G. S. CLARKE,
Governor of Victoria. *Message No.* 10.

The Governor informs the Legislative Council that he has, on this day, at the Government Offices, given the Royal Assent to the undermentioned Act of the present Session, presented to him by the Clerk of the Parliaments, viz.:—

"*An Act to enable Seed and Fodder to be advanced on certain terms to Cultivators of Land.*"

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 6th February, 1903.

4. PAPERS.—The Honorable J. M. Davies presented—

Punishment of Hawkers.—Return to an Order of the Legislative Council, dated Wednesday, 4th February, 1903, showing—

1. The number of summonses issued at the City Court against hawkers between 1st August last and the present date.
2. The amount of fines inflicted.
3. To what proportion of the fines is the City Council entitled.
4. The term of imprisonment imposed ; and
5. The number of times persons have been imprisoned for non-payment of fines, and total term of imprisonment.

The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

Victorian Railways.—Report of the Victorian Railways Commissioner for the quarter ending 31st December, 1902.

Water Acts.—Twelve-Mile Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—General Rate.—Rating Regulation.

(600 copies.)

5. Constitution Reform Bill.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole having been read—the President left the Chair.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Resolved—That the Council will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

6. Postponement of Order of the Day.—Ordered—That the consideration of the following Order of the Day be postponed until to-morrow :—

Acting Victorian Railways Commissioner Bill—Second reading.

And then the Council, at four minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 28.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. VICTORIAN RAILWAYS—PROFITS ON PAYING LINES.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question—That there be laid before this House a Return showing the profits made on the paying lines of the Victorian Railways during the years 1900 and 1901, and the net earnings per cent. on capital; giving the names of the various lines on which such profit is made, and on the amendment to omit the words "during the years 1900 and 1901" with a view to insert in place thereof the words "for the financial year from the 30th June, 1901, to the 30th June, 1902," having been read—

Debate resumed.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn.

3. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole having been read—the President left the Chair.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with amendments.

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That this Bill be recommitted to a Committee of the whole in respect of Clause 4.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

The Honorable J. Balfour moved, That this Bill be recommitted to a Committee of the whole in respect of new Clause E.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

Council divided.

Ayes, 19.	Noes, 19.
The Hon. J. H. Abbott	The Hon. F. Brown
W. L. Baillieu	J. C. Campbell
J. Balfour	T. Comrie
S. G. Black	Sir H. Cuthbert
J. M. Davies	Dr. W. H. Embling
N. FitzGerald	D. Ham
G. Godfrey	T. C. Harwood
W. B. Gray	N. Levi
H. W. H. Irvine	J. Y. McDonald
Walter S. Manifold	D. Melville
D. E. McBryde	E. Miller
W. McCulloch	E. Morey
W. Orr	W. Pearson
W. Pitt	G. Simmie
J. M. Pratt	E. E. Smith
J. Sternberg	Sir A. Snowden
H. Williams.	A. Wynne.
Tellers.	*Tellers.*
E. J. Crooke	S. Austin
A. O. Sachse.	J. Bell.

The Tellers having declared the numbers for the "Ayes" and for the "Noes" to be respectively nineteen, or equal, the President said—"The House thus being equally divided, it is my duty to vote for the Ayes, in order to give an opportunity for further consideration."

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(600 copies.)

The Honorable J. M. Pratt moved, That this Bill be recommitted to a Committee of the whole in respect of new clause D.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with further amendments, the House ordered the Report to be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

4. Acting Victorian Railways Commissioner Bill.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

5. Adjournment.—Ordered—That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next.

And then the Council, at fifteen minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 29.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. ABSENCE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.—The President announced that the Chairman of Committees was prevented from attending the Council owing to illness.

3. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—The Order of the Day for the consideration of the Report from the Committee of the whole having been read—

Ordered—That the said Order be discharged.

The Honorable Sir A. Snowden moved, That this Bill be recommitted to a Committee of the whole in respect of clauses 4 and 10.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

The Honorable N. Levi moved, That this Bill be recommitted to a Committee of the whole in respect of clause E.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

Council divided.

Ayes, 15.	Noes, 15.
The Hon. T. Brunton	The Hon. J. H. Abbott
J. C. Campbell	J. Balfour
T. Comrie	J. Bell
Sir H. Cuthbert	S. G. Black
T. Dowling	E. J. Crooke
Dr. W. H. Embling	J. M. Davies
D. Ham	G. Godfrey
J. Y. McDonald	W. B. Gray
D. Melville	D. E. McBryde
E. Miller	W. Orr
E. Morey	T. H. Payne
E. E. Smith	W. Pitt
Sir A. Snowden.	J. M. Pratt.
Tellers.	*Tellers.*
N. Levi	Walter S. Manifold
A. Wynne.	A. O. Sachse.

The Tellers having declared the numbers for the "Ayes" and for the "Noes" to be respectively fifteen, or equal, the President said—"The House thus being equally divided, it is my duty to vote for further consideration. I therefore declare the Ayes have it.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The Honorable A. Wynne moved—That this Bill be recommitted in respect of a proposed new clause.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, that the Honorable J. Bell perform the duties of Chairman of Committees during this evening.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

(600 copies.)

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable J. Bell having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with further amendments, the House ordered the Report to be taken into consideration this day, whereupon the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time, with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the whole number of the Members of the Legislative Council, and passed.

Ordered—That the Bill be returned to the Assembly with a Message acquainting them that the Council have agreed to the Bill with amendments, and requesting their concurrence therein.

4. ADJOURNMENT.—Ordered, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next.

And then the Council, at thirty-three minutes past eight o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 30.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. RETURN TO WRIT.—The President announced that there had been returned to him the Writ issued for the election of a Member to serve for the Melbourne Province in the place of the Honorable R. Reid, who had resigned ; and by the indorsement on such Writ it appeared that William Cain had been elected in pursuance thereof.

3. SWEARING-IN OF MEMBER.—The Honorable W. Cain, being introduced, took and subscribed the oath required by law, and delivered to the Clerk the Declaration required by the thirty-seventh section of the Act No. 1075, as hereunder set forth :—

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, WILLIAM CAIN, of Anderson-street, South Yarra, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Three hundred and seventy-five pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment ; and further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Melbourne, and are known as part of Crown portions nine and ten, parish of South Melbourne, at South Yarra, at the junction of Anderson-street and Clow-street, on which is erected my dwelling-house, and also of freehold vacant land in Anderson-street, adjoining my said residence.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Melbourne are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three hundred and seventy-five pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"WILLIAM CAIN."

4. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same was read by the Honorable the President :—

G. S. CLARKE,
Governor of Victoria.

Message No. 11.

The Governor informs the Legislative Council that he has, on this day, at the Government Offices, given the Royal Assent to the undermentioned Act of the present Session, presented to him by the Clerk of the Parliaments, viz.:—

"*An Act to provide for the further Appointment of an Acting Victorian Railways Commissioner.*"

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 20th February, 1903.

(600 copies.)

5. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to declare the Rates of Income Tax for the year ending on the thirty-first day of December One thousand nine hundred and three and to continue and amend the Income Tax Acts,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

6. INCOME TAX BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

7. PAPERS.—The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

Agricultural Education.—Accounts of the Trustees of Agricultural Colleges and the Council of Agricultural Education, from 1st January, 1902, to 30th June, 1902.
Alterations in the Regulations under the Land Act 1901.
Regulations under the Cyanide Patents Purchase Act 1900.
Seed Advances Act 1903.—Regulations.
Water Acts—
The Marquis Hill Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—Authority for Overdraft.
Tragowel Plains Irrigation and Water Supply Trust.—Graduated Rate.—Regulation No. 19 (Draft Form).

And then the Council, at fifty minutes past four o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 31.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to apply out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of Three hundred and twenty-three thousand and seventy-three pounds to the service of the year One thousand nine hundred and two and One thousand nine hundred and three,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

3. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE BILL (No. 3).—On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time and ordered to be printed, and, by leave, was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.
The Honorable A. O. Sachse moved, by leave, That the Honorable J. Bell perform the duties of Chairman of Committees during this evening.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Bell having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

4. INCOME TAX BILL.—The Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill having been read, the Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
The Honorable D. Melville moved, That the debate be now adjourned.
Debate continued.
Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put.
Council divided.

Ayes, 19.	Noes, 11.
The Hon. J. H. Abbott	The Hon. J. Balfour
W. Cain	J. Bell
T. Comrie	J. M. Davies
T. Dowling	G. Godfrey
Dr. W. H. Embling	Walter S. Manifold
W. B. Gray	J. Y. McDonald
D. Ham	W. Pearson
J. Hoddinott	A. O. Sachse
H. W. H. Irvine	H. Williams.
N. Levi	
D. Melville	*Tellers.*
E. Miller	S. G. Black
E. Morey	W. Pitt.
J. M. Pratt	
E. E. Smith	
Sir A. Snowden	
A. Wynne.	
Tellers.	
E. J. Crooke	
T. H. Payne.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.
Ordered—That the debate be adjourned until to-morrow.

5. ADJOURNMENT.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the Council, at five minutes past ten o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

(600 copies.)

VICTORIA.

No. 32.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, 26TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, returning the Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Reform of The Constitution of Victoria,*" and acquainting the Council that the Assembly have agreed to some of the amendments made in such Bill by the Council, have disagreed with others, and have agreed to two of the said amendments with amendments, with which they desire the concurrence of the Council.
   Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration on Wednesday next.

3. INCOME TAX BILL.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question, That this Bill be now read a second time was read and, after further debate, the question being put, was resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
   The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That the Honorable J. Bell perform the duties of Chairman of Committees during this evening.
   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
   House in Committee.
   The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Bell having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
   Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

4. ADJOURNMENT.—Ordered, after debate, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Wednesday next.

And then the Council, at nine o'clock, adjourned until Wednesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

(600 copies.)

VICTORIA.

No. 33.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 4TH MARCH, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. THE LATE HONORABLE NATHAN THORNLEY.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That this House records its high appreciation of the many years of public service rendered to this Council and the State of Victoria by the late Honorable Nathan Thornley.
   Debate ensued.
   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
   The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the President be requested to forward a copy of the foregoing resolution to the widow of the late Honorable Nathan Thornley.
   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

3. ADJOURNMENT.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the Council do now adjourn out of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Nathan Thornley.
   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the Council, at five o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

(600 copies.)

VICTORIA.

No. 34.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, 5TH MARCH, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, transmitting an amendment recommended by His Excellency the Governor (pursuant to the provisions of section thirty-six of the Constitution Act) in the Income Tax Bill, to which the Assembly have agreed, and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

The said amendment was read and is as follows :—

In clause nine, sub-clause (1), line two, after the word "except" insert "as provided in paragraph (*g*) of sub-section (1) of section seven of the Principal Act or."

On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Council agreed to the amendment recommended by His Excellency the Governor, and ordered that the Assembly be acquainted therewith.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year ending on the thirtieth day of June One thoussnd nine hundred and three, and to appropriate the supplies granted in this and the last preceding Session of Parliament,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

4. APPROPRIATION BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act relating to the Railway Accident Fund and to the Railways Stores Suspense Account,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

6. RAILWAY ACCIDENT FUND AND RAILWAYS STORES SUSPENSE ACCOUNT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable W. Pitt, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

7. PAPERS.—The Honorable J. M. Davies presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor—

Report of the Royal Commission appointed to investigate and report on the operation of the Factories and Shops Law of Victoria.

Report of the Royal Commission on Handling Grain and other Produce in Bulk or otherwise, together with the Appendices and Minutes of Evidence.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

8. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Order of the Day be postponed until after the consideration of the Notice of Motion, General Business:—

Constitution Reform Bill.—Message from Assembly to be taken into consideration.

9. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.—The Honorable Sir H. Cuthbert moved, That the Standing Orders of this Honorable House be suspended, to afford an opportunity of freely and fully considering the Message of the Legislative Assembly on the Constitution Reform Bill.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

(600 copies.)

10. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—The Order of the Day for the consideration of the amendments made in this Bill by the Council and disagreed with by the Assembly, or agreed to with amendments, having been read—the said amendments were read, and are as follow :—

Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with by the Legislative Assembly.
2. Clause 2, line 15, omit "provinces and." 3. „ page 2, lines 1–3, omit "and on such last-mentioned day the Legislative Council shall without further or other authority than this Act be dissolved and expire and the members thereof shall vacate their seats therein." 4. Clause 4, lines 12–17, omit— "'General election' where referring to the Council means an election at which all the members of the Council have to be elected, and "'Periodical election' where referring to the Council means an election at which half of the members of the Council have to be elected." 5. „ line 20, after "every" insert "male." 6. „ line 25, after "every" insert "male." 7. „ line 27, after "every" insert "male."	Disagreed with.
8. Clause 5, line 41, omit "six" and insert "five."	Agreed to with the following amendment:—Insert "two" in place of "six" omitted, and with the following consequential amendment:—At end of the clause omit "Assembly" and insert "Council."
11. Clause 10, line 25, omit "twenty-eight" and insert "forty-three." 12. „ line 26, omit "twenty-seven" and insert "forty-two." 13. „ line 26, omit "representatives of and." 14. After Clause 10 insert the following new clause :— I. Notwithstanding anything contained in *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 the Council shall by resolution to be passed during the next Session of Parliament after the passing of this Act determine as to the reduction of members from forty-eight to forty-three and the several Provinces in which such reduction shall be made and the members thereof who shall retire and the time when they shall retire. In the event of the Council failing to pass such resolution within the time aforesaid the Governor in Council may make such determination. 15. Clause 11, omit this clause. 16. Clause 12, omit this clause. 17. Clause 13, omit this clause.	Disagreed with.
18. Clause 14, omit this clause. 19. Clause 15, omit this clause. 20. Clause 16, omit this clause. 21. Clause 17, omit this clause. 22. Clause 18, omit this clause. 23. Clause 19, lines 34–7, omit "and if he shall for one year previously to such election have been legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold in possession for his own use and benefit in lands or tenements in Victoria of the annual value of." 24. „ lines 37–9, omit "pounds above all charges and encumbrances affecting the same other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment." 25. „ lines 40–3, omit "words 'Provided that the name of such male person is included in any general or supplementary roll or roll of ratepaying electors for the Legislative Council in force for any division of any province'" and insert "word 'Fifty.'" 26. Clause 20, omit this clause and insert the following new clause :— E. In section forty-four of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 for the words "Twenty-five" there shall be substituted the word "Twenty." 27. Clause 25, omit this clause.	Disagreed with.

Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with by the Legislative Assembly.
28. After Clause 26 insert the following new clause :— AA. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in The Constitution Act Amendment Acts or in any other Act— (*a*) any public officer or railways officer who is enrolled on the electors' roll of all public officers and railways officers and having the qualification prescribed in section thirty-five of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 shall be capable of being elected pursuant to this Act to represent public officers and railways officers in the Council, and (*b*) any public officer who is enrolled on the electors' roll of public officers shall be capable of being elected pursuant to this Act to represent public officers in the Assembly, and (*c*) any railways officer who is enrolled on the electors' roll of railways officers shall be capable of being elected pursuant to this Act to represent railways officers in the Assembly. (2) Where a public officer or railways officer is so elected a member of the Council or Assembly, such officer shall be entitled to sit and vote therein and to all the rights and privileges of a member of the Council or Assembly (as the case may be) and shall thereupon without further or other authority than this Act become relieved from acting in the duties of his office in the public service or railways service and shall be deemed to have been granted leave of absence without pay during the tenure of his membership of the Council or Assembly. (3) Any officer elected as aforesaid shall forthwith on ceasing to be a member under this section be entitled to resume his position in the public service or railways service and shall have the like status and pay as he had at the time of his election.	Agreed to with the following amendment: —In paragraph (*a*), after "1890" insert "as amended by this Act."
29. Clause 30, after sub-clause (1) insert— (*a*) Bills which appropriate revenue or moneys for the ordinary annual services of the Government shall deal only with such appropriation. (*b*) Laws imposing taxation shall deal only with the imposition of taxation, and any provision therein dealing with any other matter shall be of no effect. Laws imposing taxation shall deal with one subject of taxation only. 30. " line 40, omit "once." 31. Clause 31, omit this clause. 32. Clause 32, omit this clause. 33. Clause 33, omit this clause. 34. Clause 34, omit this clause.	Disagreed with.
36. Clause 35, omit this clause and the headline. 37. Clause 39, line 34, omit "provinces and." 38. " line 35, omit "the Council and." 39. " line 37, omit "simultaneously" and "respectively." 40. " line 38, omit "the Council and." 41. " line 40, omit "the Council and." 42. " line 42, omit "simultaneously." 43. " line 43, omit "respectively." 44. In the Schedule, under the heading "Extent of Repeal"— Omit "thirty, thirty-two, thirty-three, thirty-four, thirty-six, thirty-seven, thirty-eight, thirty-nine, forty." Omit "two hundred and twenty-one, Third Schedule, Fourth Schedule. In the Fourteenth Schedule the last column headed—'Yearly Value of Rateable Property.'" Omit "(3) Net annual value where Ten pounds and over in the case of owners." Omit "Thirty-third Schedule."	Disagreed with.

Amendment 2, after debate, insisted on.

Amendments 3 to 7 inclusive insisted on.

The Honorable A. Wynne moved, That the Council agree to amendment 8 with the following amendment:—After the word "Council" add "and not more than five of such officers shall at any one time be Members of the Assembly."

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the Council do not insist on amendment 11.

The Honorable J. Balfour moved, as an amendment, That the word "forty-three" be omitted from the amendment of the Council, with a view to insert the word "thirty-seven."

Debate ensued.

Question—That the word proposed to be omitted stand part of the amendment—put and resolved in the affirmative.
Question—That the Council do not insist on amendment 11—put and negatived.
Amendments 12 to 25 inclusive insisted on.
The Honorable Walter S. Manifold moved, That the word " Twenty " be omitted from amendment 26, new clause E, with a view to insert the word " Fifteen."
Debate ensued.
Question—That the word proposed to be omitted stand part of the amendment—put and negatived.
Question—That the word proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and resolved in the affirmative.
Amendment 26, as amended, insisted on.
Amendment 27 insisted on.
The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the Council agree to the amendment made by the Assembly in amendment 28.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
Amendments 29 to 44 inclusive insisted on.
Ordered—That the Bill be returned to the Assembly with a Message acquainting them that the Council insist on some of their amendments disagreed with by the Assembly, agree to one of the amendments made by the Assembly on an amendment of the Council, agree to another of the amendments made by the Assembly on an amendment of the Council with a further amendment, and insist on one of their amendments disagreed with by the Assembly with an amendment, with which they desire the concurrence of the Assembly.

11. Trustee Companies Bill.—On the motion of the Honorable J. Bell, a Bill to amend the Law relating to Trustee Companies was, by leave, read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

12. Adjournment.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the Council, at forty-nine minutes past nine o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 35.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 10TH MARCH, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. PAPERS.—The Honorable J. M. Davies presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor—

Education—Report of the Minister of Public Instruction for the year 1901–2.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk:—

Clause 13 of Regulation No. XXIII. of the Regulations under the *Education Act* 1890 and the *Teachers Act* 1893 rescinded.

Schedule of Swamp Leases containing Special Conditions.

3. APPROPRIATION BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

4 ISSUE OF WRIT.—The President announced that he had, this day, issued a writ for the election of a Member to serve for the Western Province in the place of the late Honorable Nathan Thornley.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to Legitimize Children by Registration under the Registration of Births Deaths and Marriages Acts*," and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

6. LEGITIMATION OF CHILDREN BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

7. RAILWAY ACCIDENT FUND AND RAILWAYS STORES SUSPENSE ACCOUNT BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable F. Brown having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

(600 copies.)

8. Trustee Companies Bill.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

9. Absence of the President.—The Clerk having announced that the Honorable the President was unavoidably absent through illness, the Honorable Sir Henry Cuthbert, on the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, was chosen to fill temporarily the office and perform all the duties of the President during his absence.

The Honorable Sir Henry Cuthbert took the Chair.

And then the Council, at one minute past eight o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 36.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 11TH MARCH, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, returning the Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Reform of the Constitution of Victoria*," and acquainting the Council that the Assembly insist on disagreeing with the amendments made and insisted on by the Council in such Bill, and have agreed to the further amendment of the Council on the amendment of the Assembly on the Council's amendment in Clause 5.

And the said amendments were read, and are as follow :—

Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with.
2. Clause 2, line 15, omit "provinces and."	Disagreed with by Assembly.—Insisted on by Council. — Disagreement insisted on by Assembly.
3. „ page 2, lines 1–3, omit "and on such last-mentioned day the Legislative Council shall without further or other authority than this Act be dissolved and expire and the members thereof shall vacate their seats therein."	
4. Clause 4, lines 12–17, omit— "'General election' where referring to the Council means an election at which all the members of the Council have to be elected, and "'Periodical election' where referring to the Council means an election at which half of the members of the Council have to be elected."	
5. „ line 20, after "every" insert "male."	
6. „ line 25, after "every" insert "male."	
7. „ line 27, after "every" insert "male."	
11. Clause 10, line 25, omit "twenty-eight" and insert "forty-three."	
12. „ line 26, omit "twenty-seven" and insert "forty-two."	
13. „ line 26, omit "representatives of and."	
14. After Clause 10 insert the following new clause :— I. Notwithstanding anything contained in *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 the Council shall by resolution to be passed during the next Session of Parliament after the passing of this Act determine as to the reduction of members from forty-eight to forty-three and the several Provinces in which such reduction shall be made and the members thereof who shall retire and the time when they shall retire. In the event of the Council failing to pass such resolution within the time aforesaid the Governor in Council may make such determination.	
15. Clause 11, omit this clause.	
16. Clause 12, omit this clause.	
17. Clause 13, omit this clause.	
18. Clause 14, omit this clause.	
19. Clause 15, omit this clause.	
20. Clause 16, omit this clause.	
21. Clause 17, omit this clause.	
22. Clause 18, omit this clause.	

(600 copies.)

Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with.
23. Clause 19, lines 34–7, omit "and if he shall for one year previously to such election have been legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold in possession for his own use and benefit in lands or tenements in Victoria of the annual value of."	Disagreed with by Assembly.—Insisted on by Council. — Disagreement insisted on by Assembly.
24. „ lines 37–9, omit "pounds above all charges and encumbrances affecting the same other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment."	
25. „ lines 40–3, omit "words 'Provided that the name of such male person is included in any general or supplementary roll or roll of ratepaying electors for the Legislative Council in force for any division of any province'" and insert "word 'Fifty.'"	
26. Clause 20, omit this clause and insert the following new clause:— E. In section forty-four of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 for the words "Twenty-five" there shall be substituted the word "Twenty."	Disagreed with by Assembly.—Insisted on by Council with an amendment to substitute the word "Fifteen" for the word "Twenty" in new clause E.—Disagreement insisted on by Assembly.
27. Clause 25, omit this clause.	Disagreed with by Assembly.—Insisted on by Council. — Disagreement insisted on by Assembly.
29. Clause 30, after sub-clause (1) insert— (*a*) Bills which appropriate revenue or moneys for the ordinary annual services of the Government shall deal only with such appropriation. (*b*) Laws imposing taxation shall deal only with the imposition of taxation, and any provision therein dealing with any other matter shall be of no effect. Laws imposing taxation shall deal with one subject of taxation only.	
30. „ line 40, omit "once."	
31. Clause 31, omit this clause.	
32. Clause 32, omit this clause.	
33. Clause 33, omit this clause.	
34. Clause 34, omit this clause.	
36. Clause 35, omit this clause and the headline.	
37. Clause 39, line 34, omit "provinces and."	
38. „ line 35, omit "the Council and."	
39. „ line 37, omit "simultaneously" and "respectively."	
40. „ line 38, omit "the Council and."	
41. „ line 40, omit "the Council and."	
42. „ line 42, omit "simultaneously."	
43. „ line 43, omit "respectively."	
44. In the Schedule, under the heading "Extent of Repeal"— Omit "thirty, thirty-two, thirty-three, thirty-four, thirty-six, thirty-seven, thirty-eight, thirty-nine, forty." Omit "two hundred and twenty-one, Third Schedule, Fourth Schedule. In the Fourteenth Schedule the last column headed—'Yearly Value of Rateable Property.'" Omit "(3) Net annual value where Ten pounds and over in the case of owners." Omit "Thirty-third Schedule."	

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the Council do not insist on their amendments disagreed with by the Assembly.

The Honorable A. Wynne moved, That all the words after "That" be omitted, with a view to insert in place thereof the words "the Council insist on their amendments in the Bill intituled '*An Act to provide for the Reform of the Constitution of Victoria*,' and in returning the Bill to the Legislative Assembly invite their special attention to the practice of Parliament as laid down in *May*, page 479, viz.:—'According to established usage, when a Bill has been returned by either House to the other, with amendments which are disagreed to, a Message is sent, or a Conference is desired, by the House which disagrees to the amendment, to acquaint the other with the reasons for such disagreement, in order to reconcile their differences, and, if possible, by mutual concessions to arrive at an ultimate agreement.' The Legislative Council further point out that the foregoing practice was followed by the Legislative Assembly during the present Session so far as regards the Factories and Shops Acts Continuance Bill, and the result of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly meeting in conference on that occasion was the passing of the Bill referred to into law. Further, the Legislative Council inform the Legislative Assembly that, in the event of their requesting a Free Conference in regard to the Constitution Reform Bill, the Legislative Council will be glad to grant it."

Debate ensued.

3. Absence of the President.—The Clerk having announced that the Honorable the President was unavoidably absent through illness, the Honorable F. Brown, on the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, was chosen to fill temporarily the office and perform all the duties of the President during his absence.

The Honorable F. Brown took the Chair.

4. Constitution Reform Bill.—Debate resumed on the motion and the amendment.
Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put and negatived.
Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and resolved in the affirmative.
Question as amended—put and resolved in the affirmative.
Ordered—That the Bill be returned to the Assembly, with a Message acquainting them with the foregoing resolution.

5. Message from the Assembly.—The Acting President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act relating to the Church of England in Victoria,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

6. Church of England Bill.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

7. Message from the Assembly.—The Acting President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act providing for the Transfer to the Consolidated Revenue of the Mallee Land Account,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

8. Mallee Land Account Bill (No. 2).—On the motion of the Honorable W. Pitt, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

9. Message from the Assembly.—The Acting President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act relating to receipts of Income Tax during July and August One thousand nine hundred and three,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

10. Income Tax Receipts Bill.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

11. Postponement of Order of the Day.—Ordered, That the consideration of the following Order of the Day be postponed until to-morrow :—

Legitimation of Children Bill—Second reading.

12. Adjournment.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the Council, at fifty minutes past eight o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 37.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, 12TH MARCH, 1903.

1. The Council met in accordance with adjournment

2. ABSENCE OF THE PRESIDENT.—The Clerk having announced that the Honorable the President was unavoidably absent through illness, the Honorable F. Brown, on the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, was chosen to fill temporarily the office and perform all the duties of the President during his absence.

3. The Honorable F. Brown took the Chair and read the Prayer.

4. CHURCH OF ENGLAND BILL.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That all the Standing Orders relating to Private Bills be suspended in relation to the Church of England Bill, and that all fees be remitted with regard to such Bill.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

The Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, then read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The Acting President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable D. Melville having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

. MALLEE LAND ACCOUNT BILL (No. 2).—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The Acting President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable D. Melville having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

6. INCOME TAX RECEIPTS BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The Acting President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable D. Melville having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

(600 copies.)

7. PATENTS BILL.—The Acting President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, intimating that they have agreed to the Patents Bill without amendment.

8. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The Acting President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, acquainting the Council that they have passed the following resolution in reply to the Message dated 11th March instant, received from the Council, namely :—"That this House, while not agreeing with the view expressed in the Message that only the House disagreeing with amendments should ask for a Conference, and whilst asserting that this has not been the practice hitherto, in its desire to achieve Reform, and in recognition that the Legislative Council has, in effect, invited a Conference, deems it right to waive, at this juncture, all merely formal considerations, and requests a Free Conference between the Houses"; and requesting a Free Conference on the subject-matter of the amendments made by the Council in the Constitution Reform Bill, and acquainting the Council that they have appointed seven Members of the Assembly to be Managers of the said Conference.

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the desire of the Legislative Assembly for a Free Conference on the Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Reform of The Constitution of Victoria*" be complied with.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

The Honorable A. Wynne moved, That the following Members be appointed Managers of the Conference :—The Honorables J. Balfour, Sir H. Cuthbert, Dr. W. H. Embling, N. FitzGerald, N. Levi, D. Melville, and the Mover.

Question—put and, after debate, resolved in the affirmative.

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the Conference meet at half-past seven o'clock this day, in the South Library.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That a Message be sent to the Assembly informing them that the Council have appointed seven Members to confer with a like number of Members of the Assembly on the Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Reform of The Constitution of Victoria*," and have appointed the South Library as the place, and half-past seven o'clock this day as the time, of meeting of such Conference.

9. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—CONFERENCE.—The Managers then went to the Conference, and being returned—

The Council, at forty minutes past nine o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 38.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 17TH MARCH, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same was read by the Honorable the President:—

G. S. CLARKE,
Governor. *Message No.* 12.

Pursuant to the provisions of section 36 of *The Constitution Act,* the Governor transmits to the Legislative Council, for their consideration, the following amendment which he desires to be made in the Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the law concerning Letters Patent for Inventions*":—

Clause 1, line 1, omit "1902" and insert "1903."

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 17th March, 1903.

On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Council agreed to the amendment recommended by His Excellency the Governor, and ordered the Message to be transmitted to the Assembly with a Message requesting their concurrence therein.

3. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same was read by the Honorable the President:—

G. S. CLARKE,
Governor of Victoria. *Message No.* 13.

The Governor informs the Legislative Council that he has, on this day, at the Government Offices, given the Royal Assent to the undermentioned Act of the present Session, presented to him by the Clerk of the Parliaments, viz.:—

"*An Act to declare the Rates of Income Tax for the year ending on the thirty-first day of December One thousand nine hundred and three and to continue and amend the Income Tax Acts.*"

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 5th March, 1903.

4. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—FREE CONFERENCE.—The Managers again proceeded to the Conference, and, being returned—

The Council, at fifty-five minutes past nine o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

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VICTORIA.

No. 39.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 18TH MARCH, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2 MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly intimating that they have agreed to the amendment recommended by His Excellency the Governor in the Patents Bill.

3. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—FREE CONFERENCE.—The Managers again proceeded to the Conference and, being returned—

The Council, at five minutes past eleven o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

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VICTORIA.

No. 40.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, 19TH MARCH, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING.—The Honorable T. H. Payne brought up a Report from the Joint Printing Committee on Parliamentary Printing, together with an Appendix and the Minutes of Evidence.
Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

3. THE LATE SENATOR SIR FREDERICK THOMAS SARGOOD, K.C.M.G.—The President announced that he had received the following letter from Lady Sargood :—

"Rippon Lea," March 19th, 1903.

The President of the Legislative Council.

DEAR SIR HENRY,

Will you accept and convey to the Honorable Members of the Legislative Council my very warm thanks for the record sent to me of the "Motion" in the House on January 20th.

The gift is very valuable and beautiful in itself, but I prize it most of all because it shows the love, esteem, and appreciation felt for my dear husband by those who have, many of them, worked with him for years, and whose opinion of his work and influence has therefore been well tested.

This book will be an heirloom and a constant reminder to future generations in our family to follow in the steps of their ancestor, who did so much for his country and his fellow men.

I am very proud to possess this testimony, and sincerely grateful to those who sent it to me.

With kind regards,
Believe me, dear Sir Henry,
Yours very truly,
JULIA SARGOOD.

4. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—FREE CONFERENCE.—The Managers again proceeded to the Conference, and, being returned—

POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the consideration of the following Order of the Day be postponed until Tuesday next :—

Legitimation of Children Bill—Second reading.

And then the Council, at thirty-five minutes past eight o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

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VICTORIA.

No. 41.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 24TH MARCH, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. RETURN TO WRIT.—The President announced that there had been returned to him the Writ issued for the election of a Member to serve for the Western Province in the place of the Honorable Nathan Thornley, deceased ; and by the indorsement on such Writ it appeared that Robert Blackwood Ritchie had been elected in pursuance thereof.

3. SWEARING-IN OF MEMBER.—The Honorable R. B. Ritchie, being introduced, took and subscribed the oath required by law, and delivered to the Clerk the Declaration required by the thirty-seventh section of the Act No. 1075, as hereunder set forth :—

"In compliance with the provisions of the Act 54 Victoria, No. 1075, I, ROBERT BLACKWOOD RITCHIE, do declare and testify that I am legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold for my own use and benefit in lands or tenements in the colony of Victoria of the yearly value of Three thousand three hundred and fifty-two pounds above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment ; and, further, that such lands or tenements are situated in the municipal district of Mount Rouse, and are known as Blackwood.

"And I further declare that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Mount Rouse are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three thousand three hundred and fifty-two pounds, and that such of the said lands or tenements as are situate in the municipal district of Mount Rouse are rated in the rate-book of such district upon a yearly value of Three thousand three hundred and fifty-two pounds.

"And I further declare that I have not collusively or colorably obtained a title to or become possessed of the said lands or tenements, or any part thereof, for the purpose of enabling me to be returned a Member of the Legislative Council.

"R. B. RITCHIE."

4. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—FREE CONFERENCE.—The Managers again proceeded to the Conference, and, being returned—

The Honorable Sir Henry Cuthbert reported, on behalf of the Managers for the Legislative Council, that they had met the Managers for the Legislative Assembly on the subject-matter of the amendments made and insisted on by the Legislative Council in the Constitution Reform Bill, and that, after deliberation, certain recommendations had been agreed to, as follow :—

1. The initial dissolution of the Council to be as provided for in clauses 2 and 39.
2. The number of members in each House to be—
   (*a*) In the Council, 34 members representing seventeen double provinces ; and one member representing the public and railway services.
   (*b*) In the Assembly, 66 members representing single constituencies ; and two members representing the public and railway services respectively.

(300 copies.)

3. The number of Ministers to be not more than eight; not more than two in the Council, and not more than six in the Assembly.

4. The settlement of differences between the two Houses to be arrived at in the following manner—

   (*a*) On a difference arising a dissolution of the Assembly in consequence thereof to take place not less than six months before the expiration of the Assembly by effluxion of time; and

   (*b*) If the measure upon which disagreement had arisen be again sent up to the Council and difference again arising, the Governor may grant double simultaneous dissolution, not less than nine months and not more than twelve months, from the prior dissolution of the Assembly. This settlement of differences to apply to all matters of legislation, except those included in section 60 of the Constitution Act. Section 61 of the said Act to be amended by providing for a decrease as well as for an increase in the number of members.

5. Suggestions in Money Bills may be made by the Council once at each stage of the Bill.

6. The property qualification of members to be reduced from £100 to £50.

7. The qualification for leasehold electors to be reduced to £15.

The Honorable Sir Henry Cuthbert further reported that the Conference had adjourned until five o'clock to-morrow, in order that the detailed amendments may be drafted to give effect to the foregoing recommendations.

5. Postponement of Order of the Day.—Ordered—That the consideration of the following Order of the Day be postponed until to-morrow :—

Legitimation of Children Bill—Second reading.

And then the Council, at fifty-one minutes past eleven o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 42.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 25TH MARCH, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. PAPERS.—The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

   Census of Victoria, 1901.—
   Part IV.—Religions.
   Part V.—Conjugal Condition.
   Clause 9 of Regulation No. II. and Clause 7 of Regulation No. VII. of the Regulations under the *Education Act* 1890 rescinded.—Regulations made in lieu thereof.
   Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board.—Report for year ending 31st December, 1902.

3. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—FREE CONFERENCE.—The Managers again proceeded to the Conference and, being returned—

   The Honorable A. Wynne announced that the Managers had again met and had considered the form in which the amendments should be drafted; that the only variance from the previous statement made by the Honorable Sir H. Cuthbert was that, on further consideration respecting the representation of the railway servants, it was agreed that, taking the quota of electors for each member, they were entitled to two representatives in the Assembly instead of one, as originally proposed; and that the Conference had adjourned until to-morrow, to finally deal with the printed draft of the amendments.

4. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the consideration of the following Order of the Day be postponed until to-morrow:—

   Legitimation of Children Bill—Second reading.

And then the Council, at ten minutes past nine o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

(300 copies.)

VICTORIA.

No. 43.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, 26TH MARCH, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. PAPERS.—The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

   Bank Assets and Liabilities.—General Abstracts and Statements furnished by the Banks for the Quarter ended 31st December, 1902.

   Water Act 1890.—Swan Hill Waterworks Trust.—Additional Loan of £1,000.

3. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—FREE CONFERENCE.—The Managers again proceeded to the Conference, and, being returned—

   The Honorable A. Wynne reported that the Conference had finished its negotiations, that all matters in dispute had been settled, and that the proposed amendments embodying the results of the Conference would be printed and circulated.

And then the Council, at fourteen minutes past six o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

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VICTORIA.

No. 44.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 31st MARCH, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. Railway Inquiry Board.—The Honorable W. Cain moved, That there be laid before this House a copy of the Epitome of the Evidence as to a Board of Direction or Control, and also relating to Political Interference or Influence, taken before the Board appointed by His Excellency the Governor on the 25th February, 1895, to inquire into the Working and Management of the Victorian Railways.
   Debate ensued.
   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

3. Paper.—The Honorable J. M. Davies presented—
   Railway Inquiry Board—Return to the foregoing Order.
   Ordered to lie on the Table.
   The Honorable W. Cain moved, That the Return be printed.
   Debate ensued.
   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

4. Message from the Assembly.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Appointment of three Victorian Railways Commissioners instead of one Commissioner,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

5. Railways Commissioners Appointment Bill.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

6. Trustee Companies Bill.—The Honorable J. Bell moved, That the Trustee Companies Bill be further considered in Committee this day.
   Debate ensued.
   The Honorable J. Sternberg moved, That the debate be now adjourned.
   Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and resolved in the affirmative.
   Ordered—That the debate be adjourned until to-morrow.

7. Legitimation of Children Bill.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.
   The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That the Honorable A. O. Sachse perform the duties of Chairman of Committees during this evening.
   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
   House in Committee.
   The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable A. O. Sachse reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with amendments.
   Ordered—That the Bill, as amended, be printed and taken into consideration to-morrow.

And then the Council, at twenty-one minutes past eight o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

(300 copies.)

VICTORIA.

No. 45.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 1st APRIL, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly returning the Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Reform of The Constitution of Victoria*," and acquainting the Council that the Assembly have agreed to the recommendations of the Free Conference on the subject-matter of the amendments made by the Council in the Bill, with which the Assembly desire the concurrence of the Council.

The Honorable Sir H. Cuthbert moved, That the Message be now taken into consideration.

Question—put and, after debate, resolved in the affirmative.

And the said recommendations were read, and are as follow :—

Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with.	Recommendations of Free Conference.
2. Clause 2, line 15, omit "provinces and."	Disagreed with by Assembly.—Insisted on by Council. — Disagreement insisted on by Assembly.—Still insisted on by Council.	2. Disagreement with Council's amendment to omit "provinces" to be still insisted on by Assembly; amendment to omit "and" to be agreed to, and the following words to be inserted in the clause after "provinces":—"or on the day of the commencement of an Act passed for determining the boundaries and divisions of the electoral."
3. Clause 2, page 2, lines 1-3, omit "and on such last-mentioned day the Legislative Council shall without further or other authority than this Act be dissolved and expire and the members thereof shall vacate their seats therein."		3. Disagreement to be still insisted on by Assembly, and Council not to insist on their amendments in clause 2, page 2, and in clause 4.
4. Clause 4, lines 12–17, omit— "'General election' where referring to the Council means an election at which all the members of the Council have to be elected, and "'Periodical election' where referring to the Council means an election at which half of the members of the Council have to be elected."		4.
5. Clause 4, line 20, after "every" insert "male."		5. Disagreement to be still insisted on by Assembly, but the following consequential amendments to be made in clause 26 of the Bill, viz.:—Before "qualified," in lines 31 and 38, page 6, and line 3, page 7, insert "capable of voting and."
6. Clause 4, line 25, after "every" insert "male."		6.
7. Clause 4, line 27, after "every" insert "male."		7.

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Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with.	Recommendations of Free Conference.
11. Clause 10, line 25, omit "twenty-eight" and insert "forty-three." 12. Clause 10, line 26, omit "twenty-seven" and insert "forty-two."	Disagreed with by Assembly.—Insisted on by Council. — Disagreement insisted on by Assembly.—Still insisted on by Council.	11. Disagreement not now to be insisted on by Assembly, but Council's amendments agreed to with the following amendments, viz.:—Omit "forty-three" and insert "thirty-five," and omit "forty-two" and insert "thirty-four." And the following consequential amendments to be made, viz.:— In clause 5 of the Bill, line 35, omit "seven" and insert "eight." In same clause (in the words added to the clause by the Council), omit "five" and insert "six." In clause 7 of the Bill, line 6, omit "Seven" and insert "Eight." In clause 21 of the Bill, line 32, after "shall" insert "subject to the provision hereinafter contained"; omit "fifty-six" and insert "sixty-eight." Line 33, omit "fifty-four" and insert "sixty-five." Line 36, after the first word "and" insert "subject as aforesaid"; omit "one member" and insert "two members"; omit "a representative" and insert "representatives." 12. After clause 21 insert new clause CC, viz.:— CC. (1) If at any time the number of officers on the roll of railways officers does not exceed the quota by one-half, it shall be the duty of the Under-Secretary so to certify to the Governor and to the Speaker of the Assembly. So soon thereafter as either or both the seats of the representatives of the railways officers shall become vacant, one member only shall be the representative of the said railways officers, and the total number of members of the Assembly shall be reduced accordingly. (2) The quota shall be ascertained by dividing the total number of electors on the electoral rolls for the Assembly by sixty-eight. In clause 22 of the Bill, line 38, omit "fifty-four" and insert "sixty-five." Line 41, after "shall" insert "subject as aforesaid"; and omit "one member" and insert "two members."

Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with.	Recommendations of Free Conference.
11. Clause 10, line 25, omit "twenty-eight" and insert "forty-three." 12. Clause 10, line 26, omit "twenty-seven" and insert "forty-two."		11. 12. In clause 26, page 7, line 6, after "member" insert "or members." In clause 27, line 22, after "member" insert "or members." In clause 28, after "*(as the case may be)*" insert "of a member or members to represent." In clause 29, line 9, omit "one member" and insert "any member or members"; in line 15, after "member" insert "or members"; in line 19, after "member" insert "or members."
13. Clause 10, line 26, omit "representatives of and."		13. Disagreement to be still insisted on by Assembly, and Council not to insist on their amendment.
14. After clause 10 insert the following new clause :— I. Notwithstanding anything contained in *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 the Council shall by resolution to be passed during the next Session of Parliament after the passing of this Act determine as to the reduction of members from forty-eight to forty-three and the several provinces in which such reduction shall be made and the members thereof who shall retire and the time when they shall retire. In the event of the Council failing to pass such resolution within the time aforesaid the Governor in Council may make such determination.	Disagreed with by Assembly.—Insisted on by Council. — Disagreement insisted on by Assembly.—Still insisted on by Council.	14. Disagreement to be still insisted on by Assembly, and Council not to insist on new clause I.
15. Clause 11, omit this clause.		15. Disagreement to be still insisted on by Assembly, but the following amendments to be made in clause 11, viz. :—Omit "twenty-seven" and insert "seventeen," and omit "one member" and insert "two members."
16. Clause 12, omit this clause. 17. Clause 13, omit this clause.		16. 17. Disagreement to be still insisted on by Assembly, but the following amendment to be made in clause 13:—After "six years" insert "only," and Council not to insist on their amendments to omit clauses 12 and 13.
18. Clause 14, omit this clause.		18. Disagreement not now to be insisted on by Assembly, but the following proviso to be added to clause 13, viz. :—"AA. Provided that of members elected for any province at any general election as aforesaid the member who may at his election have received the least number of votes shall first so retire, and in case of an equality of votes or of no polling having taken place at such election it shall be decided by lot which member shall so retire."

Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with.	Recommendations of Free Conference.
19. Clause 15, omit this clause.	Disagreed with by Assembly.—Insisted on by Council. — Disagreement insisted on by Assembly.—Still insisted on by Council.	19. Disagreement to be still insisted on by Assembly, but the following amendments to be made in clause 16, viz.:—In line 12, omit "consequent on"; in lines 12 and 13, omit "or expiration of the Assembly" and insert "of the Council"; and Council not to insist on omitting clauses 15 and 16.
20. Clause 16, omit this clause.		20.
21. Clause 17, omit this clause.		21. Disagreement to be still insisted on by Assembly, but the following amendments to be made in clause 17, viz.:—Line 17, omit "and at every periodical election for such members." Line 18, omit "dates" and insert "date." Line 20, omit "or periodical election."
22. Clause 18, omit this clause.		22. Disagreement to be still insisted on by Assembly, and Council not to insist on their amendment to omit clause 18.
23. Clause 19, lines 34–7, omit "and if he shall for one year previously to such election have been legally or equitably seised of or entitled to an estate of freehold in possession for his own use and benefit in lands or tenements in Victoria of the annual value of."		23. Disagreement not now to be insisted on by Assembly, but Council's amendments in clause 19 to be agreed to.
24. Clause 19, lines 37–9, omit "pounds above all charges and encumbrances affecting the same other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment."		24.
25. Clause 19, lines 40–3, omit "words 'Provided that the name of such male person is included in any general or supplementary roll or roll of ratepaying electors for the Legislative Council in force for any division of any province'" and insert "word 'Fifty.'"		25.
26. Clause 20, omit this clause and insert the following new clause:— E. In section forty-four of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 for the words "Twenty-five" there shall be substituted the word "Twenty."	Disagreed with by Assembly.—Insisted on by Council with an amendment to substitute the word "Fifteen" for the word "Twenty" in new clause E.—Disagreement insisted on by Assembly.—Still insisted on by Council.	26. Disagreement not now to be insisted on by Assembly, but Council's amendment to insert new clause E, as further amended by substituting "Fifteen" for "Twenty," agreed to with the following further amendments in new clause E:—Omit "section forty-four" and insert "sections forty-four forty-five and one hundred and five," and after the words "Twenty-five" insert "wherever occurring"; and at end of clause insert —"(2) Wherever in The Constitution Act Amendment Acts the yearly value of lands and tenements or rateable property qualifying or entitling an owner lessee or occupying tenant to be an elector for any province and to vote therein whether by virtue of an elector's right or as a ratepaying elector, is fixed or referred to as Twenty-five pounds, there shall instead of such sum be substituted the sum of Fifteen pounds."

Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with.	Recommendations of Free Conference.
27. Clause 25, omit this clause.		27. Disagreement not now to be insisted on by Assembly, and amendment of the Council to omit clause 25 to be agreed to.
29. Clause 30, after sub-clause (1) insert— (*a*) Bills which appropriate revenue or moneys for the ordinary annual services of the Government shall deal only with such appropriation. (*b*) Laws imposing taxation shall deal only with the imposition of taxation, and any provision therein dealing with any other matter shall be of no effect. Laws imposing taxation shall deal with one subject of taxation only.		29. Disagreement to be still insisted on by Assembly, and Council not to insist on their amendment to insert new paragraphs (*a*) and (*b*).
30. Clause 30, line 40, omit "once."	Disagreed with by Assembly.—Insisted on by Council. — Disagreement insisted on by Assembly.—Still insisted on by Council.	30. Disagreement to be still insisted on by Assembly, but the following amendments to be made in clause 30, sub-section (2), line 40, viz.:—Omit "any stage" and insert "each of the undermentioned stages," and at the end of the clause insert— (3) The stages of a Bill at which the Council may return the Bill with a message as aforesaid shall be— (*a*) The consideration of the Bill in Committee; (*b*) The consideration of the Report of the Committee; and (*c*) The consideration of the question that the Bill be read a third time.
31. Clause 31, omit this clause. 32. Clause 32, omit this clause. 33. Clause 33, omit this clause. 34. Clause 34, omit this clause.		31. 32. 33. 34. Disagreement not now to be insisted on by Assembly, but the following new clause to be inserted in place of clauses 31 to 34 inclusive, viz.:— DD. (1) If the Assembly passes any Bill and the Council rejects or fails to pass it, or passes it with amendments to which the Assembly will not agree, and, if not later than six months before the date of the expiry of the Assembly by effluxion of time, the Assembly is dissolved by the Governor by a proclamation declaring such dissolution to be granted in consequence of the disagreement between the two Houses as to such Bill, and the Assembly again passes the Bill with or without any amendments which have been made suggested or agreed to by the Council, and the Council rejects or fails to pass it or passes it with amendments to which the Assembly will not agree, the Governor at any time not being less than nine months nor more than twelve months after the

Amendments made by the Legislative Council.	How dealt with.	Recommendations of Free Conference.
		said dissolution may notwithstanding anything contained in The Constitution Act dissolve the Council and the Assembly simultaneously. (2) The Council shall be deemed to have failed to pass a Bill if the Bill is not returned to the Assembly within three months after its transmission to the Council, and the Session continue during such period. (3) Any Bill by which an alteration may be made in the constitution of the Council or Assembly or in Schedule D to The Constitution Act (other than such alterations as are referred to in section sixty-one of the said Act) shall not be within the operation of the foregoing provisions of this section. (4) In section sixty-one of The Constitution Act, after the words "or increase" there shall be inserted the words "or decrease."
36. Clause 35, omit this clause and the headline.	Disagreed with by Assembly.—Insisted on by Council. — Disagreement insisted on by Assembly.—Still insisted on by Council.	36. Disagreement not now to be insisted on by Assembly, and Council's amendment to omit clause 35 and headline to be agreed to.
37. Clause 39, line 34, omit "provinces and."		37. Disagreement with Council's amendment to omit "provinces" to be still insisted on by Assembly; amendment to omit "and" to be agreed to, and the following words to be inserted in the clause after "provinces":—"or after the day on which an Act is passed for determining the boundaries and divisions of electoral."
38. Clause 39, line 35, omit "the Council and."		38. Disagreement to be still insisted on by Assembly, and Council not to insist on their other amendments in clause 39.
39. Clause 39, line 37, omit "simultaneously" and "respectively."		39.
40. Clause 39, line 38, omit "the Council and."		40.
41. Clause 39, line 40, omit "the Council and."		41.
42. Clause 39, line 42, omit "simultaneously."		42.
43. Clause 39, line 43, omit "respectively."		43.
44. In the Schedule, under the heading "Extent of Repeal"— Omit "thirty, thirty-two, thirty-three, thirty-four, thirty-six, thirty-seven, thirty-eight, thirty-nine, forty." Omit "two hundred and twenty-one, Third Schedule, Fourth Schedule. In the Fourteenth Schedule the last column headed—'Yearly Value of Rateable Property.'" Omit "(3) Net annual value where Ten pounds and over in the case of owners." Omit "Thirty-third Schedule."		44. Disagreement to be still insisted on by Assembly, but all words in the third column of Schedule except last line to be omitted, and the following words to be substituted, viz.:—"Sections thirteen, fourteen, thirty, thirty-one, thirty-two, thirty-three, thirty-four, one hundred and twenty-two, and one hundred and twenty-three." Third Schedule, Seventeenth Schedule. And, after last line, insert "No. 1427: *Electoral Districts Boundaries Amendment Act* 1896: The whole.'

The Honorable Sir H. Cuthbert moved, That this House concur with the Legislative Assembly in agreeing with the whole of the recommendations of the Free Conference in respect to the Bill for the Reform of the Constitution of Victoria.

Debate ensued.

The Honorable Walter S. Manifold moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the word "That" be omitted with a view to insert in place thereof the words "the Report of the Managers for the Council in the Free Conference on the Reform Bill is unsatisfactory, as no Report embodying the dissolubility of the Council for legislative purposes will be acceptable to this House unless the said Report also embodies the acceptance of the Council's amendments to clause 30 of the said Bill, and, further, that in all other directions the said Report has reached the limit of concession."

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

Council divided.

Ayes, 35.	Noes, 5.
The Hon. J. H. Abbott	The Hon. D. Ham
W. L. Baillieu	N. Levi
J. Balfour	D. Melville.
J. Bell	
S. G. Black	*Tellers.*
T. Brunton	Walter S. Manifold
W. Cain	E. E. Smith.
J. C. Campbell	
T. Comrie	
E. J. Crooke	
Sir H. Cuthbert	
J. M. Davies	
Dr. W. H. Embling	
N. FitzGerald	
G. Godfrey	
W. B. Gray	
F. S. Grimwade	
C. J. Ham	
H. W. H. Irvine	
D. E. McBryde	
W. McCulloch	
J. Y. McDonald	
E. Miller	
E. Morey	
W. Orr	
T. H. Payne	
J. M. Pratt	
R. B. Ritchie	
A. O. Sachse	
Sir A. Snowden	
J. Sternberg	
H. Williams	
A. Wynne.	
Tellers.	
S. Austin	
W. Pitt.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That this House concur with the Legislative Assembly in agreeing with the whole of the recommendations of the Free Conference in respect to the Bill for the Reform of the Constitution of Victoria—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That a Message be sent to the Assembly acquainting them that the Council have concurred with the Assembly in agreeing to the recommendations of the Free Conference on the said Bill.

3. Message from the Assembly.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly intimating that they have agreed to the University Act 1890 Amendment Bill without amendment.

4. Message from the Assembly.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act relating to Legal Charges for obtaining Probate or Letters of Administration,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

5. Administration and Probate (Legal Charges) Bill—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time to-morrow.

6. Message from the Assembly.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly returning the Coroners Act 1890 further Amendment Bill with amendments, and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration to-morrow.

7. TRUSTEE COMPANIES BILL.—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Trustee Companies Bill be further considered in Committee this day, having been read—

The President said—"I desire to say in regard to this Bill that I have considered the point which was taken yesterday by Mr. Wynne. I have no doubt, on looking at the Principal Act and at this Bill, that this is a public Bill. It deals with trustee companies generally, and not with any one in particular, and it also deals with the general public. It affects the general public, and there is no doubt that it is a public Bill."

Debate resumed.

The Honorable D. Melville moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Debate continued.

Question, That the debate be now adjourned—put and negatived.

Question, That this Bill be further considered in Committee this day—put and resolved in the affirmative.

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, that the Honorable D. Melville perform the duties of Chairman of Committees during this evening.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable D. Melville reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move, That the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Resolved—That the Committee will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

8. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the consideration of the following Orders of the Day be postponed until to morrow :—

Legitimation of Children Bill.—Consideration of Report.
Railways Commissioners Appointment Bill.—Second Reading.

And then the Council, at forty-seven minutes past eleven o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 46.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THURSDAY, 2ND APRIL, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. CORRECTION IN UNIVERSITY ACT 1890 AMENDMENT BILL.—The President announced that he had received the following report from the Clerk :—

Parliament House,
Melbourne, 2nd April, 1903.

SIR,

I do myself the honour to report, in conformity with the Joint Standing Order No. 21, that the following clerical error has been discovered in the Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the University Act* 1890":—

In clause 1 the figures "1902" have been inserted instead of the figures "1903."

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

The Honorable the President
of the Legislative Council, &c., &c., &c.

On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Council agreed that the said error be corrected by the omission of the figures "1902," and the insertion of the figures "1903" in place thereof.

Ordered—That the letter of the Clerk of the Parliaments be transmitted to the Assembly, with a Message requesting their concurrence in the correction of the said error.

3. PAPERS.—The following Papers, pursuant to the directions of several Acts of Parliament, were laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

Public Service Act 1890.—Regulations.

Report of the Country Fire Brigades Board for the year ended 31st December, 1902, together with Statement of Receipts and Expenditure and Assets and Liabilities for that period.

4. ADDITIONAL DAY OF BUSINESS.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, pursuant to amended notice, That during the remainder of the Session the Council shall meet for the despatch of business on Friday, and that half-past two o'clock be the hour of meeting.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

5. RAILWAYS COMMISSIONERS APPOINTMENT BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That the Honorable J. Balfour perform the duties of Chairman of Committees during this evening.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable J. Balfour having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, returning the communication from the Clerk of the Parliaments calling attention to a clerical error in the University Act 1890 Amendment Bill, and acquainting the Council that the Assembly have concurred in the correction of the said error by the insertion of the figures "1903" in clause 1, line 5, instead of the figures "1902."

(300 copies.)

7. ADMINISTRATION AND PROBATE (LEGAL CHARGES) BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable J. Balfour having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

8. CORONERS ACT 1890 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL.—The Order of the Day for the consideration of the amendments made in this Bill by the Assembly having been read—

The said amendments were read, and are as follow:—

Clause 1, line 5, omit "1902" and insert "1903."

Clause 2, at end of the clause add—

"Provided that where the inquest is on the death of any person if a request in writing for a jury shall have been made by any relative of the deceased or person knowing the circumstances leading up to the death of the deceased person or any member of the police force the coroner shall if he holds the inquest without jurors set forth in writing his reasons for so holding it and transmit the same forthwith to the Attorney-General."

On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Council agreed to the several amendments made in the Bill by the Assembly, and ordered a Message to be sent to the Assembly acquainting them therewith.

9. TRUSTEE COMPANIES BILL.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole having been read—the President left the Chair.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable J. Balfour reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill and agreed to the same with amendments.

On the motion of the Honorable J. Bell, this Bill was recommitted to a Committee of the whole in respect of Clause 2.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable J. Balfour reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that he was directed to move that the Committee may have leave to sit again.

Resolved—That the Council will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

10. LEGITIMATION OF CHILDREN BILL.—The Order of the day for the consideration of the Report from the Committee of the whole having been read—

Ordered—That the said order be discharged.

On the motion of the Honorable D. Melville, this Bill was recommitted to a Committee of the whole in respect of clauses 2 and 5 and the Schedule.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable J. Balfour reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with further amendments, whereupon the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Bill be returned to the Assembly with a Message acquainting them that the Council have agreed to the Bill with amendments, and requesting their concurrence therein.

And then the Council, at eight minutes past eleven o'clock, adjourned until to-morrow

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 47.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

FRIDAY, 3RD APRIL, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair and read the Prayer.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting amendments recommended by His Excellency the Governor (pursuant to the provisions of section 36 of The Constitution Act) in The Constitution Reform Bill, to which the Assembly have agreed, and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

   The said amendments were read, and are as follow :—

   In clause 4, after the words " half of the members of the Council " insert " for provinces."

   In clause 13, after the words " one-half of the members who are elected " insert " for provinces."

   On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Council agreed to the amendments recommended by His Excellency the Governor, and ordered that the Assembly be acquainted therewith.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act relating to The Necropolis, Spring Vale,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

4. SPRING VALE NECROPOLIS BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and, by leave, to be read a second time this day.

5. PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the Joint Report from the Printing Committee of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly on Parliamentary Printing be agreed to.

   Debate ensued.

   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

6. TRUSTEE COMPANIES BILL.—The Order of the Day for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole having been read—

   The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, that the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling perform the duties of Chairman of Committees during this evening.

   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

   House in Committee.

   The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without further amendment, the House ordered the Report to be taken into consideration this day, whereupon the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

   Ordered—That the Bill be sent to the Assembly with a Message desiring their concurrence therein.

7. SPRING VALE NECROPOLIS BILL.—This Bill was, according to Order, and after debate, read a second time, and committed to a Committee of the whole.

   House in Committee.

   The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with an amendment, the House ordered the Report to be taken into consideration this day, whereupon the House adopted the Report.

   The Honorable A. O. Sachse moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

   Debate ensued.

   Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a third time and passed.

   Ordered—That the Bill be returned to the Assembly with a Message acquainting them that the Council have agreed to the Bill with an amendment, and requesting their concurrence therein.

(300 copies.)

8. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to amend Part I. of the 'Unlawful Assemblies and Processions Act* 1890,'" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

9. UNLAWFUL ASSEMBLIES ACT 1890 AMENDMENT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time and ordered to be printed and, by leave, was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

10. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to further amend the 'Mildura Irrigation Trusts Act* 1895' *and for other purposes,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

11. MILDURA IRRIGATION TRUSTS ACT 1895 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, and ordered to be printed and, by leave, was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with an amendment, the House ordered the Report to be taken into consideration this day, whereupon the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.
Ordered—That the Bill be returned to the Assembly with a Message acquainting them that the Council have agreed to the Bill with an amendment, and requesting their concurrence therein.

12. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Sale of the Yea Race-course and Public Recreation Reserve and for the Purchase of other Land in lieu thereof,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

13. YEA RACE-COURSE RESERVE SALE BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time and ordered to be printed and, by leave, was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

14. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly, transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act relating to the Selection and Purchase of Crown Land,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

15. CROWN LANDS SELECTION AND PURCHASE BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time and ordered to be printed and, by leave, and after debate, was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

16. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to amend the Water Acts so far as relates to the Condah Swamp Lands,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

17. WATER ACTS AMENDMENT (CONDAH SWAMP LANDS) BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time and ordered to be printed and, by leave, was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.
The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.
Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

18. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to revoke the permanent reservation of certain Crown Land in the County of Polwarth, Town of Colac,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

19. COLAC LAND RESERVE REVOCATION BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time and ordered to be printed and, by leave, was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.
House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair, and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

20. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to authorize the sale of certain Land reserved as a Site for a Public Library and Reading Room at Colac and for other purposes,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

21. COLAC PUBLIC LIBRARY SITE SALE BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time and ordered to be printed and, by leave, was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

22. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly returning the Legitimation of Children Bill, and notifying their agreement to the amendments of the Council.

23. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly returning the Insolvency Bill with an amendment, and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

And the said amendment was read and is as follows :—

Clause 1, line 5, omit "1902" and insert "1903."

On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Council agreed to the amendment made in the Bill by the Assembly, and ordered a Message to be sent to the Assembly acquainting them therewith.

24. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to remove some Anomalies in the Law relating to Women,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

25. WOMEN'S DISABILITIES REMOVAL BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable D. Melville, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time and ordered to be printed and, by leave, was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

26. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to revoke the Proclamation as a Public Road of certain Land in the Town of Benalla and to vest such Land in the Country Fire Brigades Board,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

27. BENALLA PUBLIC ROAD REVOCATION BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time and ordered to be printed and, by leave, was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

28. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to revoke the Permanent Reservation and Grant of certain Land at St. Arnaud,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

29. ST. ARNAUD LAND BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time and ordered to be printed and, by leave, was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair ; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

30. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intituled "*An Act to provide for the Restriction of Transfer of Debentures held by the Melbourne Tramways Trust,*" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

31. MELBOURNE TRAMWAYS TRUST DEBENTURES BILL.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That all the Standing Orders relating to Private Bills be suspended in relation to this Bill, and that all fees be remitted with regard to such Bill.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time, ordered to be printed, and read a second time this day.

The Honorable J. M. Pratt moved, by leave, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill with amendments, the House ordered the Report to be taken into consideration this day, whereupon the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Bill be returned to the Assembly with a Message acquainting them that the Council have agreed to the Bill with amendments, and requesting their concurrence therein.

32. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly transmitting a Bill intitnled "*An Act to further amend the 'Dairying Companies Act* 1900,'" and desiring the concurrence of the Council.

33. DAIRYING COMPANIES ACT 1900 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL.—On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse, the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message was read a first time and ordered to be printed and, by leave, and after debate, was read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Commiftee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

34. PAPER.—The Honorable J. M. Davies presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor—

Evidence taken by the Royal Commission appointed to investigate and report on the operation of the Factories and Shops Law of Victoria.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

35. MELBOURNE TRAMWAYS TRUST DEBENTURES BILL.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That all proceedings subsequent to the first reading of this Bill be rescinded.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

On the motion of the Honorable J. M. Davies this Bill was, by leave, read a second time and committed to a Committee of the whole.

House in Committee.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Honorable Dr. W. H. Embling having reported that the Committee had agreed to the Bill without amendment, the Report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

Ordered—That the Assembly be informed that the Council have agreed to the Bill without amendment.

36. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly returning the *Mildura Irrigation Trusts Act* 1895 *further Amendment Bill*, and notifying their agreement to the amendment of the Council.

37. MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY.—The President announced the receipt of a Message from the Assembly returning the Spring Vale Necropolis Bill, and notifying that they have agreed to the amendment made in such Bill by the Council with an amendment, with which the Assembly desire the concurrence of the Council.

And the said amendment was read and is as follows:—

Amendment made by the Council.	How dealt with by the Assembly.
Clause 2, add—	
(2) The present trustees shall be the first trustees and one-half of them shall retire at the expiration of three years from the passing of this Act and shall be eligible for re-appointment by the Governor in Council.	Agreed to with the following amendment:—After "them" insert "to be determined by lot."

On the motion of the Honorable A. O. Sachse the Council, after debate, agreed to the amendment made by the Assembly on the amendment of the Council, and ordered a Message to be sent to the Assembly acquainting them therewith.

38. ADJOURNMENT.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next, at half-past one o'clock.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the Council, at forty-four minutes past six o'clock, adjourned until Tuesday next.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

No. 48.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 7TH APRIL, 1903.

1. The President took the Chair.

2. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was presented by the Honorable J. M. Davies, and the same was read by the Honorable the President :—

G. S. CLARKE,
Governor of Victoria. *Message No.* 14.

The Governor informs the Legislative Council that he has, on this day, at the Government Offices, given the Royal Assent to the undermentioned Acts of the present Session, presented to him by the Clerk of the Parliaments, viz.:—

"*An Act relating to receipts of Income Tax during July and August One thousand nine hundred and three.*"
"*An Act relating to the Railway Accident Fund and to the Railways Stores Suspense Account.*"
"*An Act relating to the Church of England in Victoria.*"
"*An Act providing for the Transfer to the Consolidated Revenue of the Mallee Land Account.*"
"*An Act to amend the Law concerning Letters Patent for Inventions.*"
"*An Act to provide for the appointment of three Victorian Railways Commissioners instead of one Commissioner.*"
"*An Act to amend the 'University Act* 1890.'"
"*An Act relating to Legal Charges for obtaining Probate or Letters of Administration.*"
"*An Act to further amend the 'Coroners Act* 1890.'"
"*An Act to amend Part I. of the 'Unlawful Assemblies and Processions Act* 1890.'"
"*An Act to provide for the Sale of the Yea Race-course and Public Recreation Reserve and for the Purchase of other Land in lieu thereof.*"
"*An Act relating to the Selection and Purchase of Crown Land.*"
"*An Act to amend the Water Acts so far as relates to the Condah Swamp Lands.*"
"*An Act to revoke the permanent reservation of certain Crown Land in the County of Polwarth, Town of Colac.*"
"*An Act to authorize the Sale of certain Land reserved as a Site for a Public Library and Reading Room at Colac and for other purposes.*"
"*An Act to Legitimize Children by Registration under the Registration of Births Deaths and Marriages Acts.*"
"*An Act to amend the Law relating to Insolvency.*"
"*An Act to remove some Anomalies in the Law relating to Women.*"
"*An Act to revoke the Proclamation as a Public Road of certain Land in the Town of Benalla and to vest such Land in the Country Fire Brigades Board.*"
"*An Act to revoke the Permanent Reservation and Grant of certain Land at St. Arnaud.*"
"*An Act to further amend the Dairying Companies Act* 1900."
"*An Act to provide for the Restriction of Transfer of Debentures held by the Melbourne Tramways Trust.*"
"*An Act to further amend the 'Mildura Irrigation Trusts Act* 1895' *and for other purposes.*"
"*An Act relating to The Necropolis, Spring Vale.*"

Government Offices,
Melbourne, 6th April, 1903.

3. PAPERS.—The Honorable J. M. Davies presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor—

Statistical Register of the Colony of Victoria for the Year 1901—
Part VII.—Population.
Part VIII.—Accumulation.

Statistical Register of the State of Victoria for the Year 1901—
Part IX.—Social Condition.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

(300 copies.)

4 Approach of His Excellency the Governor.—The approach of His Excellency the Governor was announced by the Usher.

5. Royal Assent to Bill.—His Excellency the Governor came into the Council chamber and commanded the Usher to desire the attendance of the Legislative Assembly, who, being come with their Speaker, he, after a short speech His Excellency, delivered the Appropriation Bill to the Clerk of the Parliaments, who brought it to the Table.

His Excellency was then pleased to assent to the following Bill :—

"An Act to apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue to the Service of the year ending on the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and three and to appropriate the Supplies granted in this and the last preceding Session of Parliament."

To this Bill the Royal Assent was pronounced by the Clerk of the Parliaments in these words :—

"In the name and on behalf of His Majesty I assent to this Act."

6. Reservation of Bill for Signification of His Majesty's Pleasure.—His Excellency was pleased to reserve for the signification of His Majesty's pleasure the following Bill :—

"An Act to provide for the Reform of The Constitution of Victoria."

7. His Excellency was then pleased to speak as follows :—

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly :

I am happy to be able to release you from your labours, after an unusually protracted Session, and I congratulate you upon the valuable results of your deliberations.

The settlement which has been effected of the important question of Constitutional Reform is certain to prove of permanent benefit to the State, by increasing the representative character of the Legislative Council, and by facilitating in many ways the harmonious action of both Houses. The public demand that the State Parliament should be reduced in numbers as a consequence of certain of its functions having passed to the Commonwealth, has been met by a reduction of approximately one-third in the membership of each House. The new Constitution also includes important machinery, by means of which, if differences of a serious character arise in the future between the two Chambers of the Legislature in relation to ordinary matters of legislation, or to any further constitutional changes so far as they affect the qualifications of members or electors or the character of the electorates of either House, the questions in dispute may be determined by the electors on a dissolution of both Houses. I confidently anticipate that these constitutional changes will conduce to sounder conditions of government both in legislation and administration.

Since I called you together in October last, the large deficiency which was then anticipated in the finances of the current year has, owing to the failure of the harvest, and other causes which could not be foreseen, assumed still greater proportions, and, but for the steps which you have sanctioned, would have approached the amount of one million sterling. The fact that, by various measures of economy and taxation, you have made full provision to extinguish this very large deficit will assuredly result in maintaining and enhancing the credit of the State. Whatever immediate inconvenience or sacrifice has been entailed on the people by these measures will, I feel confident, be more than compensated for by the knowledge that the complete adjustment of the public accounts, in a year of drought quite unparalleled in Australian history, affords the clearest proof not only of the great resource and vitality of this State, but also of the determination of its people that no effort necessary to insure the prompt and complete fulfilment of its obligations shall be wanting.

The stress of the drought has now happily diminished over the whole of the State, and has, indeed, in the larger part thereof, been entirely removed. The hopes of the struggling farmers have been revived by the recent rainfalls, and there are indications that the adverse circumstances which have so long prevailed throughout the whole of Australia will give place to a period of normal conditions and of increased prosperity.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly :

I thank you in His Majesty's name for the provision which you have made for the requirements of the State.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council :

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly :

The Act which you have passed for vesting the management of the Railways in three Commissioners will admit of a more effective control than has recently been maintained, and will, I trust, result in greater efficiency and in a largely increased revenue. The gentleman who has been appointed to the important post of chairman, and also the other two Commissioners, have been chosen after the fullest inquiry and upon the best obtainable testimony, and there is every reason to believe that a wise selection has been made.

I hope that, under the blessing of Divine Providence, your labours will conduce to the prosperity and progress of the people.

I now, in His Majesty's name, declare this Parliament to be prorogued to Tuesday, the 19th of May next, and it is prorogued accordingly.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

SELECT COMMITTEES.

PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS (JOINT).

APPOINTED (UNDER ACT No. 1350) 22ND OCTOBER, 1902.

The Hon. J. H. Abbott
D. Melville

The Hon. E. Morey.

APPOINTED DURING THE SESSION 1902–3.

No. 1.—ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE OPENING SPEECH OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

Appointed 15th October, 1902.

The Hon. W. L. Baillieu
S. G. Black
G. Godfrey
W. B. Gray
The Hon. T. C. Harwood
W. Orr
H. Williams.

No. 2.—STANDING ORDERS.

Appointed 21st October, 1902.

The Hon. the President
J. H. Abbott
S. Austin
J. Balfour
J. M. Davies
The Hon. N. FitzGerald
G. Godfrey
D. E. McBryde
Sir A. Snowden
N. Thornley.*

* Deceased, 1st March, 1903.

No. 3.—PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS (JOINT).

Appointed 21st October, 1902.

The Hon. the President
Walter S. Manifold
W. Orr
The Hon. W. Pitt
A. O. Sachse.

No. 4.—LIBRARY (JOINT).

Appointed 21st October, 1902.

The Hon. the President
S. G. Black
Sir H. Cuthbert
The Hon. C. J. Ham
D. Melville.

No. 5.—REFRESHMENT ROOMS (JOINT).

Appointed 21st October, 1902.

The Hon. J. Bell
W. B. Gray
J. M. Pratt
The Hon. G. Simmie
J. Sternberg.

No. 6.—PRINTING.

Appointed 21st October, 1902.

The Hon. the President
T. Brunton
T. Comrie
T. Dowling
D. Ham
The Hon. N. Levi
J. Y. McDonald
T. H. Payne
R. Reid*
E. E. Smith.

* Resigned his seat, 27th January, 1903.

No. 7.—ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS.

Appointed (by President's Warrant) 29th October, 1902

The Hon. J. Balfour
S. G. Black
Sir H. Cuthbert
J. M. Davies
The Hon. T. C. Harwood
T. H. Payne
N. Thornley.*

* Deceased, 1st March, 1903.

VICTORIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SECOND SESSION 1902.

WEEKLY REPORT OF DIVISIONS

IN

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL.

No. 1.

Extracted from the Minutes.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH OCTOBER, 1902.

No. 1.—FACTORIES AND SHOPS ACTS CONTINUANCE BILL.—Clause 4 (amended) :—

Subject to the conditions and exceptions hereinafter contained every Order in Council appointment regulation by-law order registration application declaration record or determination made or price or rate fixed or petition presented or account kept or notice notification approval authority direction or certificate given or licence or permit or suspension granted or resolution passed or power exercised or proceeding taken or thing commenced or done on or before the said ninth day of September under pursuant to or by virtue of any of the enactments hereby continued shall be deemed and taken to have the same force and effect as if the said enactments had not expired.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)

Question—That the clause as amended stand part of the Bill—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 16.	Noes, 15.
The Hon. J. H. Abbott	The Hon. S. Austin
W. L. Baillieu	S. G. Black
J. Balfour	T. Comrie
J. M. Davies	T. Dowling
N. FitzGerald	Dr. W. H. Embling
W. B. Gray	T. C. Harwood
Walter S. Manifold	H. W. H. Irvine
W. Orr	N. Levi
W. Pitt	W. McCulloch
R. Reid	J. Y. McDonald
A. O. Sachse	D. Melville
Sir A. Snowden	T. H. Payne
J. Sternberg	E. E. Smith.
N. Thornley.	
Tellers.	*Tellers.*
G. Godfrey	J. Bell
J. M. Pratt.	A. Wynne.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SECOND SESSION 1902.

WEEKLY REPORT OF DIVISIONS

IN

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL.

No. 2.

Extracted from the Minutes.

TUESDAY, 16TH DECEMBER, 1902.

No. 1.—EDUCATION ACT 1901 AMENDMENT BILL.—Proposed new clause A :—

Notwithstanding the provisions of section eleven of the *Education Act* 1890, it shall be lawful, during the time when voluntary religious instruction is being given in accordance with any regulations made under this Act, to retain for secular instruction those children who do not attend such voluntary religious instruction, provided that such religious instruction shall not be given in the room in which the children are receiving secular instruction.—(*Hon. J. Balfour.*)

Motion made and question put—That the Chairman do report progress, and ask leave to sit again.—(*Hon. S. G. Black.*)

Committee divided.

Ayes, 12.	Noes, 14.
The Hon. S. G. Black	The Hon. W. L. Baillieu
T. Dowling	J. Balfour
N. FitzGerald	J. M. Davies
W. B. Gray	Dr. W. H. Embling
N. Levi	D. Ham
W. McCulloch	T. C. Harwood
D. Melville	W. Orr
T. H. Payne	W. Pitt
E. E. Smith	J. M. Pratt
A. Wynne.	R. Reid
	Sir A. Snowden
	H. Williams.
Tellers.	*Tellers.*
H. W. H. Irvine	T. Comrie
Walter S. Manifold.	A. O. Sachse.

And so it passed in the negative.

No. 2.—*Education Act* 1901 *Amendment Bill.*—Proposed new clause A.

Notwithstanding the provisions of section eleven of the *Education Act* 1890 it shall be lawful during the time when voluntary religious instruction is being given, in accordance with any regulations made under this Act, to retain for secular instruction those children who do not attend such voluntary religious instruction, provided that such religious instruction shall not be given in the room in which the children are receiving secular instruction.—(*Hon J. Balfour.*)

Question—That the proposed new clause stand part of the Bill—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 15.	Noes, 11.
The Hon. T. Comrie	The Hon. N. Fitzgerald
J. M. Davies	W. B. Gray
T. Dowling	H. W. H. Irvine
Dr. W. H. Embling	N. Levi
D. Ham	Walter S. Manifold
T. C. Harwood	W. McCulloch
W. Orr	D. Melville
W. Pitt	T. H. Payne
J. M. Pratt	E. E. Smith.
R. Reid	*Tellers.*
A. O. Sachse	S. G. Black
Sir A. Snowden	A. Wynne.
H. Williams.	
Tellers.	
W. L. Baillieu	
J. Balfour.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SECOND SESSION 1902.

WEEKLY REPORT OF DIVISIONS

IN

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL.

No. 3.

Extracted from the Minutes.

TUESDAY, 23RD DECEMBER, 1902.

No. 1.—ADMINISTRATION AND PROBATE ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.—Clause 6 :—

No order shall be made by the Master under section one hundred and six of the Principal Act for the return of any amount overpaid as duty unless such order is made within three years after the date when such overpayment was made.—(*Hon J. M. Davies.*)

Question—That clause 6 stand part of the Bill—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 9.	Noes, 13.
The Hon. W. L. Baillieu	The Hon. T. Brunton
J. Balfour	Sir H. Cuthbert
S. G. Black	Dr. W. H. Embling
J. M. Davies	N. FitzGerald
D. Ham	J. Y. McDonald
W. Pitt	D. Melville
R. Reid.	E. Morey
	E. E. Smith
Tellers.	Sir A. Snowden
D. E. McBryde	J. Sternberg
J. M. Pratt.	A. Wynne.
	Tellers.
	G. Godfrey
	T. H. Payne.

And so it passed in the negative.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SESSION 1902-3.

WEEKLY REPORT OF DIVISIONS

IN

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL.

No. 4.

Extracted from the Minutes.

THURSDAY, 22ND JANUARY, 1903.

No. 1.—ADMINISTRATION AND PROBATE ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.—Clause 8 :—

For the purposes of this Act or Part V. of the Principal Act—

"Settlement" includes every conveyance, transfer, appointment under power, declaration of trust, or other document or non-testamentary disposition of property made by any person containing trusts or dispositions to take effect or which shall or may take effect upon the death of such person or of any other person.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)

Question—That clause 8 stand part of the Bill—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 14.	Noes, 18.
The Hon. J. H. Abbott	The Hon. J. C. Campbell
S. G. Black	T. Comrie
E. J. Crooke	Sir H. Cuthbert
J. M. Davies	Dr. W. H. Embling
Walter S. Manifold	N. FitzGerald
W. Orr	D. Ham
W. Pitt	T. C. Harwood
J. M. Pratt	N. Levi
R. Reid	D. E. McBryde
A. O. Sachse	W. McCulloch
J. Sternberg	D. Melville
H. Williams.	E. Morey
	T. H. Payne
Tellers.	E. E. Smith
W. L. Baillieu	Sir A. Snowden
J. Balfour.	A. Wynne.
	Tellers.
	J. Bell
	G. Godfrey.

And so it passed in the negative.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SESSION 1902-3.

WEEKLY REPORT OF DIVISIONS

IN

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL.

No. 5.

Extracted from the Minutes.

TUESDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY, 1903.

No. 1.—CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—Clause 2:—

(1) For the purpose of preparing all lists and rolls of electors under this Act, such of the provisions of this Act as relate to electors or to procedure for becoming electors shall come into force on the day on which the Governor shall signify that His Majesty has been pleased to assent to this Act or on the day of the commencement of an Act passed for determining the boundaries and divisions of the electoral provinces and districts hereinafter referred to, whichever shall last happen, and thereupon all such lists and rolls may be prepared accordingly.

(2) All other provisions of this Act shall come into force on the day of the dissolution or expiration of the Legislative Assembly occurring next after the coming into force of the aforesaid provisions; and on such last-mentioned day the Legislative Council shall, without further or other authority than this Act be dissolved and expire and the members thereof shall vacate their seats therein.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)

Amendment proposed—That the words "provinces and" in line 5, be omitted.—(*Hon. E. E. Smith.*)

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 12.	Noes, 24.
The Hon. J. Balfour	The Hon. J. H. Abbott
S. G. Black	S. Austin
J. M. Davies	T. Brunton
W. B. Gray	T. Comrie
Walter S. Manifold	Sir H. Cuthbert
W. McCulloch	T. Dowling
W. Pitt	Dr. W. H. Embling
A. O. Sachse	N. FitzGerald
Sir A. Snowden	D. Ham
H. Williams.	T. C. Harwood
	N. Levi
Tellers.	D. E. McBryde
W. L. Baillieu	J. Y. McDonald
G. Godfrey.	D. Melville
	E. Miller
	E. Morey
	W. Orr
	T. H. Payne
	J. M. Pratt
	E. E. Smith
	J. Sternberg
	A. Wynne.
	Tellers.
	J. Bell
	H. W. H. Irvine.

And so it passed in the negative.

WEDNESDAY, 4TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

No. 2.—CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—Clause 2:—

* * * * * * * * * * * *

(2) All other provisions of this Act shall come into force on the day of the dissolution or expiration of the Legislative Assembly occurring next after the coming into force of the aforesaid provisions; and on such last-mentioned day the Legislative Council shall without further or other authority than this Act be dissolved and expire, and the members thereof shall vacate their seats therein.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)

Amendment proposed—That the words "and on such last-mentioned day the Legislative Council shall, without further or other authority than this Act be dissolved and expire and the members thereof shall vacate their seats therein" be omitted.—(*Hon. E. E. Smith.*)

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 16.	Noes, 23.
The Hon. J. H. Abbott	The Hon. J. Bell
J. Balfour	J. C. Campbell
S. G. Black	T. Comrie
T. Brunton	Sir H. Cuthbert
E. J. Crooke	T. Dowling
J. M. Davies	N. FitzGerald
G. Godfrey	W. B. Gray
Walter S. Manifold	D. Ham
D. E. McBryde	T. C. Harwood
W. McCulloch	J. Hoddinott
W. Orr	H. W. H. Irvine
A. O. Sachse	N. Levi
J. Sternberg	J. Y. McDonald
H. Williams.	D. Melville
	E. Morey
Tellers.	T. H. Payne
W. L. Baillieu	W. Pearson
W. Pitt.	J. M. Pratt
	E. E. Smith
	Sir A. Snowden
	A. Wynne.
	Tellers.
	S. Austin
	Dr. W. H. Embling.

And so it passed in the negative.

No. 3.—Constitution Reform Bill.—Clause 10:—

The Council shall consist of twenty-eight members, of whom twenty-seven members shall be representatives of and elected by the electors of the respective electoral provinces, and one member shall be a representative of and elected by public officers and railways officers as hereinafter provided.—(*Hon J. M. Davies.*)

Amendment proposed—That the words "twenty-eight" be omitted with a view to insert in place thereof the words "forty-two."—(*Hon. A. Wynne.*)

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 6.	Noes, 34.
The Hon. J. M. Davies	The Hon. J. H. Abbott
T. H. Payne	S. Austin
W. Pitt	W. L. Baillieu
H. Williams.	J. Balfour
	J. Bell
Tellers.	S. G. Black
Walter S. Manifold	T. Brunton
A. O. Sachse.	J. C. Campbell
	T. Comrie
	Sir H. Cuthbert
	T. Dowling
	Dr. W. H. Embling
	N. FitzGerald
	W. B. Gray
	D. Ham
	T. C. Harwood
	J. Hoddinott
	H. W. H. Irvine
	N. Levi
	D. E. McBryde
	W. McCulloch
	J. Y. McDonald
	D. Melville
	E. Miller
	E. Morey
	W. Orr
	W. Pearson
	J. M. Pratt
	E. E. Smith
	Sir A. Snowden
	J. Sternberg.
	A. Wynne.
	Tellers.
	E. J. Crooke
	G. Godfrey.

And so it passed in the negative.

THURSDAY, 5TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

No. 4.—CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—Clause 10 (amended) :—

The Council shall consist of members, of whom twenty-seven members shall be representatives of and elected by the electors of the respective electoral provinces, and one member shall be a representative of and elected by public officers and railways officers as hereinafter provided.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies*).

Motion made and question put—That the clause be postponed.—(*Hon. D. Ham.*)

Committee divided.

Ayes, 5.

The Hon. J. H. Abbott
W. B. Gray
D. Ham.

Tellers.

W. L. Baillieu
H. W. H. Irvine.

Noes, 32.

The Hon. J. Balfour
J. Bell
S. G. Black
T. Brunton
J. C. Campbell
T. Comrie
E. J. Crooke
Sir H. Cuthbert
J. M. Davies
T. Dowling
Dr. W. H. Embling
N. FitzGerald
T. C. Harwood
N. Levi
Walter S. Manifold
D. E. McBryde
W. McCulloch
D. Melville
E. Miller
E. Morey
W. Orr
T. H. Payne
W. Pearson
W. Pitt
J. M. Pratt
A. O. Sachse
E. E. Smith
Sir A. Snowden
J. Sternberg
A. Wynne.

Tellers.

S. Austin
G. Godfrey.

And so it passsed in the negative.

No. 5.—CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL—Clause 10 (amended) :—

The Council shall consist of members, of whom twenty-seven members shall be representatives of and elected by the electors of the respective electoral provinces, and one member shall be a representative of and elected by public officers and railways officers as hereinafter provided.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)

Amendment proposed—That the words " thirty-six " be inserted in the blank.—(*Hon. S. G. Black.*)

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 14.	Noes, 23.
The Hon. W. L. Baillieu	The Hon. J. H. Abbott
J. Balfour	S. Austin
E. J. Crooke	J. Bell
J. M. Davies	T. Brunton
G. Godfrey	J. C. Campbell
W. B. Gray	T. Comrie
D. Ham	Sir H. Cuthbert
H. W. H. Irvine	T. Dowling
T. H. Payne	Dr. W. H. Embling
W. Pitt	N. FitzGerald
A. O. Sachse	T. C. Harwood
J. Sternberg.	N. Levi
	D. E. McBryde
Tellers.	W. McCulloch
S. G. Black	D. Melville
Walter S. Manifold.	E. Miller
	E. Morey
	W. Pearson
	J. M. Pratt
	Sir A. Snowden
	A. Wynne.
	Tellers.
	W. Orr
	E. E. Smith.

And so it passed in the negative.

No. 6. CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—Clause 10 (amended) :—

The Council shall consist of forty-two members elected by the electors of the respective electoral provinces, and one member shall be a representative of and elected by public officers and railways officers as hereinafter provided.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)

Amendment proposed—That the words " and one member shall be a representative of and elected by public officers and railways officers as hereinafter provided."—(*Hon. A. Wynne.*)

Question that the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 24.	Noes, 13.
The Hon. S. Austin	The Hon. J. H. Abbott
J. Balfour	W. L. Baillieu
S. G. Black	T. Dowling
T. Brunton	N. FitzGerald
J. C. Campbell	G. Godfrey
T. Comrie	W. B. Gray
E. J. Crooke,	T. C. Harwood
Sir H. Cuthbert	H. W. H. Irvine
J. M. Davies	N. Levi
Dr. W. H. Embling	W. Pearson
D. Ham	J. Sternberg.
Walter S. Manifold	
D. E. McBryde	*Tellers.*
W. McCulloch	E. Miller
D. Melville	A. Wynne.
E. Morey	
W. Orr	
T. H. Payne	
W. Pitt	
J. M. Pratt	
E. E. Smith	
Sir A. Snowden.	
Tellers.	
J. Bell	
A. O. Sachse.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

No. 7.—Constitution Reform Bill—Clause 19 :—

In section thirty-five of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 for the words "and if he shall for one year previously to such election have been legally or equitably seized of or entitled to an estate of freehold in possession for his own use and benefit in lands or tenements in Victoria of the annual value of one hundred pounds above all charges and encumbrances affecting the same other than any public or parliamentary tax or municipal or other rate or assessment," there shall be substituted the words "Provided that the name of such male person is included in any general or supplementary roll or roll of ratepaying electors for the Legislative Council in force for any division of any province.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)

Amendment proposed—That the words "and if he shall for one year previously to such election have been legally or equitably seized of or entitled to an estate of freehold in possession for his own use and benefit in lands or tenements in Victoria of the annual value of" be omitted.—(*Hon. D. Melville.*)

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 7.	Noes, 29.
The Hon. W. L. Baillieu	The Hon. J. H. Abbott
J. M. Davies	J. Balfour
G. Godfrey	S. G. Black
W. Pitt	T. Brunton
A. O. Sachse.	J. C. Campbell
	T. Comrie
Tellers.	E. J. Crooke
W. B. Gray	Sir H. Cuthbert
J. Sternberg.	T. Dowling
	Dr. W. H. Embling
	N. FitzGerald
	D. Ham
	T. C. Harwood
	N. Levi
	Walter S. Manifold
	D. E. McBryde
	W. McCulloch
	D. Melville
	E. Miller
	E. Morey
	W. Orr
	T. H. Payne
	W. Pearson
	J. M. Pratt
	E. E. Smith
	Sir A. Snowden
	A. Wynne.
	Tellers.
	S. Austin
	J. Bell.

And so it passed in the negative.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SESSION 1902-3.

WEEKLY REPORT OF DIVISIONS

IN

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL.

No. 6.

Extracted from the Minutes.

TUESDAY, 10TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

No. 1.—CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—Clause 20:—

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in The Constitution Act Amendment Acts and save as is otherwise provided in this Act every man and every woman whether married or single whose name is entered upon any municipal roll or municipal rolls (including any separate voters' list prepared in accordance with section sixty-six of the *Local Government Act* 1890) in respect of rateable property situated within any division of any province and who is of the full age of twenty-one years and is not subject to any legal incapacity and is not disqualified under the provisions of section fifty-one of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 shall subject to the provisions of the said Acts be entitled to be included in the Roll of Ratepaying Electors for the Council for such division of such province.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)

Amendment proposed—That the words "and every woman whether married or single," in line 2, be omitted.—(*Hon. J. Bell.*)

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 16.	Noes, 19.
The Hon. J. H. Abbott	The Hon. W. L. Baillieu
J. Balfour	J. Bell
T. Brunton	S. G. Black
T. Comrie	J. C. Campbell
E. J. Crooke	Dr. W. H. Embling
Sir H. Cuthbert	N. FitzGerald
J. M. Davies	W. B. Gray
G. Godfrey	T. C. Harwood
D. Ham	N. Levi
W. McCulloch	Walter S. Manifold
D. Melville	D. E. McBryde
W. Orr	J. Y. McDonald
G. Simmie	E. Miller
Sir A. Snowden.	E. Morey
	W. Pearson
Tellers.	E. E. Smith
H. W. H. Irvine	J. Sternberg.
W. Pitt.	
	Tellers.
	S. Austin
	T. H. Payne.

And so it passed in the negative.

No. 2.—CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—Clause 20 (as amended):—

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in The Constitution Act Amendment Acts and save as is otherwise provided in this Act every man whose name is entered upon any municipal roll or municipal rolls (including any separate voters' list prepared in accordance with section sixty-six of the *Local Government Act* 1890) in respect of rateable property situated within any division of any province and who is of the full age of twenty-one years and is not subject to any legal incapacity and is not disqualified under the provisions of section fifty-one of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 shall subject to the provisions of the said Acts be entitled to be included in the Roll of Ratepaying Electors for the Council for such division of such province.

(2) For the purposes of this section the following amendments are hereby made in *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890, namely :—

(*a*) in section one hundred and four the following words shall be repealed, namely :—

"the amount at which the rateable property in respect of which he is included in such roll is rated and also."

(*b*) and in section one hundred and five the following words shall be repealed, namely :—

"and rated to any municipal district or districts in such division as owners upon a yearly value of not less than ten pounds or as lessees assignees or occupying tenants upon a yearly value of not less than twenty-five pounds."—(*Hon J. M. Davies.*)

Question—That clause 20 as amended stand part of the Bill—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 12.	Noes, 25.
The Hon. J. H. Abbott	The Hon. S. Austin
E. J. Crooke	J. Balfour
J. M. Davies	J. Bell
G. Godfrey	T. Brunton
W. B. Gray	J. C. Campbell
W. McCulloch	T. Comrie
W. Pitt	Sir H. Cuthbert
A. O. Sachse	N. FitzGerald
G. Simmie	D. Ham
J. Sternberg.	T. C. Harwood
	H. W. H. Irvine
Tellers.	N. Levi
W. L. Baillieu	D. E. McBryde
S. G. Black.	J. Y. McDonald
	D. Melville
	E. Miller
	E. Morey
	W. Orr
	W. Pearson
	J. M. Pratt
	E. E. Smith
	Sir A. Snowden
	A. Wynne.
	Tellers.
	Dr. W. H. Embling
	Walter S. Manifold.

And so it passed in the negative.

No. 3.—Constitution Reform Bill.—Proposed new clause E :—

E. In section forty-four of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 for the words "Twenty-five" there shall be substituted the word "Twenty."—(*Hon. T. C. Harwood.*)

Amendment proposed—That the word "Twenty" be omitted.—(*Hon. N. FitzGerald.*)

Question—That the word proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 19.	Noes, 19.
The Hon. S. Austin	The Hon. J. H. Abbott
T. Brunton	W. L. Baillieu
J. C. Campbell	J. Balfour
T. Comrie	S. G. Black
Sir H. Cuthbert	J. M. Davies
Dr. W. H. Embling	N. FitzGerald
D. Ham	W. B. Gray
T. C. Harwood	H. W. H. Irvine
N. Levi	Walter S. Manifold
J. Y. McDonald	D. E. McBryde
D. Melville	W. McCulloch
E. Miller	W. Orr
E. Morey	T. H. Payne
W. Pearson	W. Pitt
G. Simmie	J. M. Pratt
E. E. Smith	A. O. Sachse
Sir A. Snowden.	J. Sternberg.
Tellers.	*Tellers.*
J. Bell	E. J. Crooke
A. Wynne.	G. Godfrey.

The Tellers having declared the numbers for the Ayes and for the Noes to be respectively Nineteen or equal—the Chairman gave his vote with the Ayes in order to allow of further consideration of the subject, and declared the question to have been resolved in the affirmative.

No. 4.—CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL—Clause 25 :—

(1) In section one hundred and twenty-eight and all subsequent sections in Part IV. of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 and also in the *Purification of Rolls Act* 1891 and any Act amending the same and also in section two of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1893 and also in the *Melbourne and Geelong Parliamentary Elections Act* 1897 and also in *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1898 and also in the *Voting by Post Act* 1900 and any Act amending the same

(*a*) the word "male" wherever it occurs shall be repealed, and

(*b*) the word "person" wherever it occurs in reference to electors shall be deemed to include women, whether married or single, and

(*c*) generally all words importing or applicable to the masculine gender shall where used in reference to electors or to procedure for becoming electors be deemed to include the feminine gender.

(2) In any certificates in the form contained in the Nineteenth Schedule to the said first-mentioned Act for the word "manhood" wherever it occurs the word "womanhood" shall be substituted when an elector's right is issued to a woman, whether married or single.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)

Question—That clause 25 stand part of the Bill—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 12.	Noes, 23.
The Hon. J. H. Abbott	The Hon. J. Bell
J. Balfour	S. G. Black
T. Comrie	T. Brunton
J. M. Davies	J. C. Campbell
G. Godfrey	Dr. W. H. Embling
D. Ham	N. FitzGerald
W. McCulloch	W. B. Gray
D. Melville	T. C. Harwood
G. Simmie	H. W. H. Irvine
Sir A. Snowden.	N. Levi
	Walter S. Manifold
Tellers.	D. E. McBryde
E. J. Crooke	J. Y. McDonald
W. Pitt.	E. Miller
	E. Morey
	W. Orr
	T. H. Payne
	W. Pearson
	J. M. Pratt
	E. E. Smith
	J. Sternberg.
	Tellers.
	S. Austin
	W. L. Baillieu.

And so it passed in the negative.

WEDNESDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

No. 5.—CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—Clause 31 :—

If the Council or Assembly passes any Bill and the Assembly or Council rejects or fails to pass it, or passes it with amendments to which the Council or Assembly will not agree, and if after an interval of six months the Council or Assembly in the same or the next Session again passes the Bill with or without any amendments which have been made suggested or agreed to by the Assembly or Council, and the Assembly or Council rejects or fails to pass it or passes it with amendments to which the Council or Assembly will not agree, the Governor may if he think fit by proclamation or otherwise notwithstanding anything contained in The Constitution Act dissolve the Council and the Assembly simultaneously; but such dissolution shall not take place within one year before the date of the expiry of the Assembly by effluxion of time.—(*Hon. J. M. Davies.*)

Question—That clause 31 stand part of the Bill—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 6.

The Hon. J. M. Davies
G. Godfrey
Walter S. Manifold
W. Pitt.

Tellers.

W. McCulloch
A. O. Sachse.

Noes, 34.

The Hon. J. H. Abbott
S. Austin
J. Balfour
J. Bell
S. G. Black
T. Brunton
J. C. Campbell
T. Comrie
E. J. Crooke
Sir H. Cuthbert
T. Dowling
Dr. W. H. Embling
N. FitzGerald
W. B. Gray
D. Ham
T. C. Harwood
H. W. H. Irvine
N. Levi
D. E. McBryde
J. Y. McDonald
D. Melville
E. Miller
E. Morey
W. Orr
T. H. Payne
W. Pearson
J. M. Pratt
G. Simmie
E. E. Smith
Sir A. Snowden
H. Williams
A. Wynne.

Tellers.

W. L. Baillieu
J. Sternberg.

And so it passed in the negative.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SESSION 1902-3.

WEEKLY REPORT OF DIVISIONS

IN

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL.

No. 7.

Extracted from the Minutes.

TUESDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

No. 1.—CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—Clause E (amended) :—

E. In section forty-four of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 for the words "Twenty-five" there shall be substituted the word "Fifteen."—(*Hon. T. C. Harwood.*)

Amendment proposed—That the word "Fifteen" be omitted with a view to insert in place thereof the word "Twenty."—(*Hon. N. Levi.*)

Question—That the word proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 14.	Noes, 15.
The Hon. J. H. Abbott	The Hon. T. Brunton
J. Balfour	J. C. Campbell
E. J. Crooke	T. Comrie
J. M. Davies	Sir H. Cuthbert
G. Godfrey	T. Dowling
W. B. Gray	Dr. W. H. Embling
D. E. McBryde	D. Ham
W. Orr	J. Y. McDonald
T. H. Payne	D. Melville
W. Pitt	E. Miller
J. M. Pratt	E. Morey
A. O. Sachse.	E. E. Smith
	Sir A. Snowden.
Tellers.	*Tellers.*
S. G. Black	N. Levi
Walter S. Manifold.	A. Wynne.

And so it passed in the negative.

No. 2.—CONSTITUTION REFORM BILL.—Proposed New Clause I :—

Notwithstanding anything contained in *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1890 the Council shall by resolution to be passed during the next Session of Parliament after the passing of this Act determine as to the reduction of members from forty-eight to forty-three and the several Provinces in which such reduction shall be made and the members thereof who shall retire and the time when they shall retire.

In the event of the Council failing to pass such resolution within the time aforesaid the Governor in Council may make such determination.—(*Hon. A. Wynne.*)

Question—That new Clause I be added to the Bill—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 16.	Noes, 12.
The Hon. T. Brunton	The Hon. J. H. Abbott
T. Comrie	W. L. Baillieu
Sir H. Cuthbert	J. Balfour
Dr. W. H. Embling	S. G. Black
W. B. Gray	J. M. Davies
D. Ham	Walter S. Manifold
N. Levi	J. Y. McDonald
D. Melville	W. Orr
E. Miller	W. Pitt
E. Morey	A. O. Sachse.
J. M. Pratt	
E. E. Smith	*Tellers.*
Sir A. Snowden	E. J. Crooke
A. Wynne.	G. Godfrey.
Tellers.	
D. E. McBryde	
T. H. Payne.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SESSION 1902-3.

WEEKLY REPORT OF DIVISIONS

IN

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL.

No. 8.

Extracted from the Minutes.

TUESDAY, 10TH MARCH, 1903.

No. 1.—TRUSTEE COMPANIES BILL—Clause 2:—

(1) Any persons or person named expressly or especially or by implication as executors or executor who would be entitled to obtain probate of the will of any testator jointly with any other person or persons or company or companies may, any law or custom to the contrary notwithstanding, instead of themselves or himself applying for "probate," authorize any trustee company to apply to the Supreme Court for probate of such will either alone with leave reserved for any person or persons or company or companies to come in and prove the same or jointly with any other person or persons company or companies entitled to apply for probate in the same manner as if the said trustee company so authorized as aforesaid had been originally named in the said will in the place of the person or persons authorizing such application.

(2) Such application may if the court thinks fit be granted unless the testator shall by his will have expressed his desire that the office of executor is not to be delegated or that the trustee company so applying is not to act in the trusts of his will.—(*Hon. J. Bell.*)

Amendment proposed—That the words "with the consent in writing of the other executors or executor (if any)" be inserted after the word "probate," in line 4.—(*Hon. Sir A. Snowden.*)

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 16.	Noes, 13.
The Hon. S. G. Black	The Hon. J. H. Abbott
J. C. Campbell	J. Balfour
T. Comrie	J. Bell
E. J. Crooke	W. Cain
W. B. Gray	Sir H. Cuthbert
D. Ham	J. M. Davies
N. Levi	Dr. W. H. Embling
Walter S. Manifold	N. FitzGerald
D. E. McBryde	W. McCulloch
D. Melville	W. Pitt
E. E. Smith	A. O. Sachse.
Sir A. Snowden	
J. Sternberg	*Tellers.*
H. Williams.	G. Godfrey
	H. W. H. Irvine.
Tellers.	
T. H. Payne	
A. Wynne.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

By Authority: ROBT. S. BRAIN, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

SESSION 1902-3.

WEEKLY REPORT OF DIVISIONS

IN

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE COUNCIL.

No. 9.

Extracted from the Minutes.

WEDNESDAY, 1st APRIL, 1903.

No. 1.—TRUSTEE COMPANIES BILL—Clause 2 (amended) :—

(1) Any persons or person named expressly or especially or by implication as executors or executor who would be entitled to obtain probate of the will of any testator jointly with any other person or persons or company or companies may, any law or custom to the contrary notwithstanding, instead of themselves or himself applying for probate, with the consent in writing of the other executors or executor (if any), authorize any trustee company to apply to the Supreme Court for probate of such will either alone with leave reserved for any person or persons or company or companies to come in and prove the same or jointly with any other person or persons entitled to apply for probate in the same manner as if the said trustee company so authorized as aforesaid had been originally named in the said will in the place of the person or persons authorizing such application.

(2) Such application may if the court thinks fit be granted unless the testator shall by his will have expressed his desire that the office of executor is not to be delegated or that the trustee company so applying is not to act in the trusts of his will.—(*Hon. J. Bell.*)

Amendment proposed—That the words "Provided that if there are more than two persons named as executors the authority to any trustee company to apply as aforesaid must be given by a majority of such persons" be inserted after the word "application" in line 20.—(*Hon. J. Bell.*)

Further amendment proposed—That the word "are" be omitted from the proposed amendment with the view to insert in place thereof the word "be."—(*Hon. A. Wynne.*)

Question—That the word proposed to be omitted stand part of the proposed amendment—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 17.	Noes, 9.
The Hon. J. H. Abbott	The Hon. S. G. Black
J. Balfour	N. Levi
J. Bell	T. H. Payne
T. Comrie	R. B. Ritchie
J. M. Davies	E. E. Smith
N. FitzGerald	Sir A. Snowden
G. Godfrey	A. Wynne.
W. B. Gray	
D. Ham	*Tellers.*
W. McCulloch	E. J. Crooke
J. Y. McDonald	Walter S. Manifold.
E. Miller	
W. Pitt	
J. M. Pratt	
A. O. Sachse.	
Tellers.	
S. Austin	
W. L. Baillieu	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

THURSDAY, 2ND APRIL, 1903.

No. 2.—TRUSTEE COMPANIES BILL.—Proposed new clause A :—

Notwithstanding anything contained in any of the Trustee Companies Acts a trustee company shall be entitled to receive commission only from time to time on such parts of any estate committed to the management of such company as executor administrator trustee receiver or committee of the estate under the Lunacy Act as shall be realized or distributed.—(*Hon. A. Wynne*).

Question—That the proposed new clause be added to the Bill—put.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 11.	Noes, 13.
The Hon. N. Levi	The Hon. J. Bell
Walter S. Manifold	T. Comrie
D. Melville	J. M. Davies
E. Miller	N. FitzGerald
W. Pearson	G. Godfrey
R. B. Ritchie	W. B. Gray
Sir A. Snowden	C. J. Ham
J. Sternberg	E. Morey
A. Wynne.	W. Pitt
	J. M. Pratt
Tellers.	E. E. Smith.
E. J. Crooke	
T. H. Payne.	*Tellers.*
	W. Orr
	A. O. Sachse.

And so it passed in the negative.

No. 3.—TRUSTEE COMPANIES BILL.—Clause 2 as amended (on recommittal) :—

(1) Any persons or person named expressly or especially or by implication as executors or executor who would be entitled to obtain probate of the will of any testator jointly with any other person or persons or company or companies may, any law or custom to the contrary notwithstanding, instead of themselves or himself applying for probate, with the consent in writing of the other executors or executor (if any), authorize any trustee company to apply to the Supreme Court for probate of such will either alone with leave reserved for any person or persons or company or companies to come in and prove the same or jointly with any other person or persons entitled to apply for probate in the same manner as if the said trustee company so authorized as aforesaid had been originally named in the said will in the place of the person or persons authorizing such application. Provided that if there are more than two persons named as executors the authority to any trustee company to apply as aforesaid must be given by a majority of such persons.

(2) Such application may if the court thinks fit be granted unless the testator shall by his will have expressed his desire that the office of executor is not to be delegated or that the trustee company so applying is not to act in the trusts of his will.—(*Hon. J. Bell.*)

Amendment proposed—That the words "with the consent in writing of the other executors or executor (if any)" be omitted.—(*Hon. J. Bell*).

Motion made and question put—That the Chairman report progress and ask leave to sit again.—(*Hon. J. Sternberg.*)

Committee divided.

Ayes, 14.	Noes, 12.
The Hon. S. G. Black	The Hon. J. Bell
E. J. Crooke	T. Comrie
N. Levi	J. M. Davies
D. Melville	N. FitzGerald
E. Miller	W. B. Gray
W. Orr	C. J. Ham
T. H. Payne	E. Morey
W. Pearson	J. M. Pratt
R. B. Ritchie	A. O. Sachse
Sir A. Snowden	E. E. Smith.
J. Sternberg	
H. Williams.	*Tellers.*
	G. Godfrey
Tellers.	W. Pitt.
Walter S. Manifold	
A. Wynne.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

FRIDAY, 3RD APRIL, 1903.

No. 4.—SPRING VALE NECROPOLIS BILL.—Clause 2 :—

The persons who for the time being are the trustees of the cemetery known as The Necropolis, Spring Vale, shall be and from the date of the first meeting of such trustees on the sixth day of March One thousand nine hundred and one shall be deemed to have been a body corporate by the name of "The Trustees of the Necropolis, Spring Vale," and by that name such

body corporate shall have perpetual succession and a common seal and be capable in law of suing and being sued and shall have power to hold lands tenements and hereditaments goods and chattels and other property for any of the purposes of the *Cemeteries Act* 1890.—(*Hon. A. O. Sachse.*)

Amendment proposed—That the following sub-clause be added to the clause :—

(2) The present trustees shall be the first trustees and one-half of them shall retire at the expiration of three years from the passing of this Act and shall be eligible for re-appointment by the Governor in Council.—(*Hon. G. Godfrey.*)

Question—That the proposed sub-clause be added to the clause—put.
Committee divided.

Ayes, 10.	Noes, 7.
The Hon. W. Cain	The Hon. J. Bell
J. C. Campbell	J. M. Davies
G. Godfrey	N. FitzGerald
N. Levi	Walter S. Manifold
D. Melville	H. Williams.
J. M. Pratt	*Tellers.*
E. E. Smith	S. G. Black
Sir A. Snowden.	A. O. Sachse.
Tellers.	
D. E. McBryde	
A. Wynne.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

1902–3.

VICTORIA.

RAILWAY INQUIRY BOARD.

RETURN to an Order of the *Legislative Council*
Dated 31st March, 1903, *for*—

A COPY of the Epitome of the Evidence as to a Board of Direction or Control, and also relating to Political Interference or Influence, taken before the Board appointed by His Excellency the Governor on the 25th February, 1895, to inquire into the Working and Management of the Victorian Railways.

(*The Honorable W. Cain.*)

(*Ordered by the Legislative Council to be printed,* 31*st March,* 1903.

EPITOME OF EVIDENCE AS TO A BOARD OF DIRECTION OR CONTROL.

J. Syder, Chairman Acting Railways Commissioners.

Q. 274–9. Management by Commissioners is best suited to a State railway system, and should be continued on a permanent basis. Board of direction and general manager not applicable.

W. Conyers, Civil and Mechanical Engineer, formerly Commissioner of Railways. New Zealand.

Q. 683. Is strongly opposed to management by Commissioners. Would have a general manager with knowledge of locomotive engineering and traffic, and colonial training.——Q. 704 *et seq.* He should be subject to Minister of Railways, and have a competent assistant to take his place when necessarily often absent from Melbourne inspecting lines and traffic.——Q.717–21. Recommends board of advice of three commercial men, with Minister of Railways as Chairman, to advise general manager on rates and charges. Such a board would assist in guiding policy of Department, and see that manager and staff did their work. General manager should have absolute power in management of staff and in working of traffic.——Q. 831. Board of control would take a good deal of onus from Minister and general manager.

T. H. Woodroffe, Acting Commissioner.

Q. 871 *et seq.* Management by three Commissioners (Chairman and two assistants) is the best plan. Absolutely necessary they should be free from Ministerial and political control as regards details of management. Parliamentary control or check should only be exercised in extreme cases.——Q. 1074–83. Commissioners have not sufficient power under Amending Act (1250). Illustrates by section 24, which gives power to Minister to interfere in management in certain cases, under plea of "general policy." Considers they cannot manage railways to best advantage under this Act. Mentions coal supply as an instance.

R. Lochhead, Acting Commissioner.

Q. 1379–98. Management by Commissioners does not give the best results. General manager with subordinate assistants the best method. They should be controlled by a board of directors of three commercial men, who should act directly under Parliament. Minister of Railways should be medium of communication between Parliament and board. The Chairman should have no more power than his fellow directors, and should be appointed as such by board. All officers should be appointed by board, and no power of appeal from staff permitted beyond that body. Board should have full executive powers and a check over all expenditure, as well as rates and fares. General Manager should have absolute immediate control over his staff.

C 1.—[9d.]—3026A.

W. F. FITZPATRICK, Deputy Traffic Manager.

Q. 1917–26. Chief question affecting future prosperity of the railways is good management. They are now under three Commissioners with reduced powers. At any moment a headstrong and incompetent Minister might come into office, and bring about great evils. Advocates a board of directors of not less than nine members, so as to form three committees, with general manager and assistant general manager under them.

R. G. KENT, Secretary for Railways.

Q. 2189 *et seq.* System of management by three Commissioners not a success. Favours appointment of one good man as general manager, who should manage the system and have control of the staff. All questions of policy, such as rates, &c., should be decided by a board of advice, which should consist of three commercial men, with Minister of Railways as Chairman. They should meet for despatch of business once or twice a month, and have supreme management and same powers ss Governor in Council now has in regard to the railways. General manager should have power to confirm all appointments subject to the Act and regulations.——Q. 2226–33, 2256 Adheres to opinion that the Minister should be chairman of board of direction or advice.

H. KENT, Traffic Auditor.

Q. 2353. Advocates general manager directly under Minister, or under an outside board. Still better to hand over railways to trust. Railway systems of Victoria, New South Wales, and South Australia should be federated and put under control of such a body so as to secure reduction of interest on capital account and abolish present competition for traffic.

R. SINGLETON, Accountant.

Q. 2522. Advocates (1) A board with large powers, composed of Minister, a good business man, a good traffic manager, and some of the heads of branches in Department.——Q. 2534–40. (2) A general manager directly responsible to the Minister, who might be advised largely by heads of branches.——Q. 2556–8. (3) A board of business men as a controlling body, with a representative of the Government of the day on it. There should be a good financial man and a good traffic man on it, and a committee of heads of branches to forward their views through the general manager to this board from time to time.

R. RICHARDSON, Ex-Minister of Railways.

Q. 2630. Considers management by Commissioners a failure. Advocates appointment of general manager, who should be responsible for the administration of the system, and appoint, employ, and promote the staff under certain regulations, and also fix wages. The Minister of Railways should have the control of all expenditure.——Q. 2698, 2704. Doubts efficacy of board of advice or control. Motive of self-interest, which weighs with directors of private railways, and induces careful management, would be absent in a State-owned system.

H. W. CAUTY, Deputy Goods Superintendent.

Q. 2923–47A. Advocates appointment of general manager under Minister of Railways, with provision for efficient supervision and control of branches, and Parliament as arbiter in case of dispute.——Q. 2948. On further consideration favours board of advice with Minister of Railways as Chairman, who would be the medium of communication with Parliament. Other members of board might be taken from Ballarat, Geelong, and certain large centres, and one or two from metropolis.

JAS. BRUCE, Assistant Traffic Manager.

Q. 3282–3328, 3420–26. Present administration very clumsy. Advocates appointment of general manager, with a board of advice, consisting of three persons of independent means. Board should have a certain amount of control. The Minister should dictate the policy of the Department. The general manager could be made directly responsible to a Standing Committee of Parliament. Construction of lines would be under Minister as at present, and he would be the mouth-piece of the Cabinet and Parliament in any communications with the board. Does not favour board of directors. Board of advice should consist of thoroughly good business men. In details, management should be brought as close to English methods as possible.

J. H. WHEELER, Ex-Minister of Railways.

Q. 3460–74, 3511–21. Recommends general manager and assistant manager. Also a board of three good business men with the Minister as Chairman. The general manager should be a member of the board, which would thus consist of five persons. This body should have full powers of control. The Government should have power to appoint or dismiss the general manager; and the board, all other officers and employés. The lay members of the board should hold office for three or five years. The ultimate responsibility in cases of difficulty should rest with Governor in Council.

J. H. REID, Sub-Accountant.

Q. 3552–9. Recommends advisory board of expert mercantile men, and appointment of general manager and assistant general manager. General manager should have absolute freedom in work of management.

W. A. HOLMES, Telegraph Superintendent.

Q. 3667–75. Advocates boards similar to those on English railways, or to Melbourne Tramway directorate, and appointment of general manager. Board should consist of four business men, and general manager should also be a member and have power of voting.

THOS. BRUNTON, M.L C., Miller.

Q. 4121. Favours appointment of general manager who should be independent of Parliament; also a board of advice to assist him, which should be composed of non-political men of high character.

W. M. Kibble, Ex-Railways Commissioner.

Q. 4251 *et seq.* Advocates appointment of general manager with a board of directors over him resembling boards of English Railways. This body should consist of three to five members, having supervising and controlling power, and be entirely free from political interference. Board should have power to dismiss general manager. Is not prepared to say what authority should appoint him. Tenure of office of general manager should be five to ten years, and he should have under him an assistant manager. ——Q. 4274 *et seq.* The Minister might be an ordinary member of the board, but it would be dangerous to make him chairman, as policy of board should not be alterable by the Government. Board could report to Minister if necessary, but all matters of administration must be in their hands free from political influence. Sound business men, not necessarily with railway knowledge, required on board——Q. 4390 *et seq.* Is opposed to a large board, a small one much better, with committee of heads of branches to advise them.

F. B. Clapp, Managing Director, Tramway Company.

Q. 4441–57. Railways should be free from all political influence and put under a trust or board of control. Board should be a small one with, say, three to five members. Minister might be member of it, and connecting link with Parliament, but with no greater powers than other members. No objection to his being made chairman under such circumstances. There would be a danger of political influence in a large board representing different interest. The board should choose a manager, and have the power of removing or dismissing him. He should have full control and large powers, but always subject to the board. Board should act more as to matters of policy, and in deciding large contracts; once they are satisfied that the manager's system is correct they should not interfere.

David Elder, General Manager New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company.

Q. 4487–98. Recommends board of management consisting of Minister of Railways as chairman and four men of known administrative capacity. Board should have plenary powers, making all appointments, including that of general manager, and fixing freights and wages. It should also be instructed that rates of wages are not to be such as would make service more attractive than service of employés engaged in producing staple products of colony. Board should be appointed for not less than five years, and remuneration of each lay member should not be more than £500 per annum. Before any new line is authorized board should report on it for consideration of Parliament. Parliament to have power of altering by resolution any rates of freight disapproved of. No Member of Parliament to be eligible for seat on board unless he has ceased to be a member six months previously. Real management would depend on skill and ability of general manager. The board would be a consulting body. He would not continue present form of management. General manager would be practically an autocrat, but if he made mistakes the board would deal with him. Board would have to do with Parliament, and be a buffer between it and general manager.

Andrew Agnew, Ironmonger.

Q. 4611-25. Supreme power of management should be in hands of a skilled railway man, who should be sole Commissioner or general manager. He might have a board of advice to assist, as well as to be a check on him. Minister might have a seat on board if he had only same powers as the other members.

F. W. Browne, Manager McCulloch Carrying Company.

Q. 4666–75. Recommends a general manager under a board of three or five good commercial men. Complaints of waste of time to business men now caused by having three Commissioners, and says decisions as to rates cannot be obtained till they are all called together, and sometimes not even then. Suggests a board of three with a first-class general manager, the Minister to have a seat on board and be medium of communication with Parliament.

R. J. Alcock, President of Melbourne Chamber of Commerce.

Q. 4726-34, 4736–52. Appointment of a general manager necessary, who should have autocratic powers in management. On further consideration would have a board or committee of control of about five appointed for a definite term, and not removable by Parliament during that term, with Premier or Minister of Railways as chairman. Board should deal with questions of policy, and control general manager. Members should be practical business men.

E. Trenchard, Stock and Station Agent.

Q. 4937–71. Favours management by Commissioners freed from political interference, and appointed for term of five or six years. On further consideration agrees that board of control with Minister as chairman, and a good railway man as manager, under this body would be "almost better" than Commissioners.

J. M. Peck, Stock and Station Agent.

Q. 5013–19, 5025–9. Favours management by three persons as managers or Commissioners, but they should be free from political interference. Railways should be entirely separated from politics. Work of management would overtax one man.

W. Cowper, Chairman of Harbor Trust.

Q. 5095–114. Favours appointment of an able general manager responsible to Parliament. He should have a free hand in management, and the power to select his subordinates. Thinks a board with a representative of Government on it to advise, and, in a measure control general manager, would be a good plan.

D. Mitchell, Contractor.

Q. 5174–5. Railways should be freed from political interference and placed under a competent man as manager.

J. Falkingham, Contractor.

Q. 5294, 5320–21. Railways should be removed from influence of Members of Parliament and placed under one man as responsible head, who should guide everything. Favours leasing them, but if they could be worked on the lines of railways in England under a board of directors would not advocate their being leased.

C. Butler, Builder and Contractor.

Q. 5384–8. Favours appointment of thoroughly reliable man with organizing power as general manager, who, while responsible to the Government, should be independent of political interference.

Jas. Moore, Timber Merchant.

Q. 5457–60. Thinks if the lines were under system of management like English Railways (board of directors and manager) they would be worked much better than under political control.

C. Duckett, Ironmonger.

Q. 5482–92. Railways cannot be properly conducted without a proper head, whose word should be final as to the employment and discharge of men. The lines should be brought as near as possible to commercial system of management.

T. Permewan, Carrier.

Q. 5543, 5552–6. Not wise to have a Minister at the head of a commercial undertaking. Favours appointment of a good man as general manager with a board or committee to control him, which should meet about three times a week.

A. W. Jack, President Commercial Travellers' Association.

Q. 5653–5, 5658, 5683–4. Railways are certainly not managed so as to secure best business results, but, even if system and rules were altered, does not think they would be managed in a business-like way by the men at present in office. Is not prepared to suggest new form of management, but not only is better organization necessary but the new management must have a free hand.

R. W. Synnot, Wool-broker.

Q. 5719–22. Management should be in hands of one able man thoroughly trained in railway business. He should be free from control of Minister as to management, rates, &c., but at the same time under some form of control.

G. B. Appleton, Auctioneer, Goldsbrough, Mort, and Company.

Q. 5767–73. Recommends appointment of a good general manager, with a board of advice or directors, who should be all first-class business men from outside Department.

F. Back, General Manager Tasmanian Railways.

Q. 6046–51, 6055–8, 6179. A manager who works under a board of directors is able to go to great lengths in effecting economies or making radical changes necessary to improve revenue. Favours a board of control or trustees, men of judgment and integrity, who might be chosen from various parts of the country and be representatives of various interests; also a general manager with large powers in regard to organization and management. There is now an absolute want of administration; the Department is so demoralized that there is no system of check or control, as there would be under a proper manager.

R. Speight, Ex-Railways Commissioner.

Q. 6273–80. Believes system of management by Commissioners was a good one if "let alone," but, if another system is necessary, favours appointment of general manager with board of administration of four men, who would be a buffer between the manager and Parliament, or the public. The board should be subject to removal if they did not perform their duties properly. Sees advantage in a Minister being on the board, as he could answer for it in Parliament.

John Cooke, Manager Australia Mortgage, Land, and Finance Company.

Q. 6473–6. Considers that a board composed of common-sense hard-headed commercial men would administer the railways successfully. They should have the leading if not sole expression of opinion as to appointment of a general manager, who should have a commanding influence in the Department. Favours board of about five men. Government are entitled to have a proper representative on it. Sees no objection to Minister of Railways or some other Minister being on it, and he might also be chairman.

Lewis Kiddle, Assistant Manager Australasian Mortgage and Agency Company.

Q. 6593, 6632–53. Recommends management by board of control of three to five good business men and a general manager, who should be a man of the highest attainments in railway work. He should have full control of the railways, subject only to the board. There should be a permanent Government representative on the board, but he should not be a Cabinet Minister. Retirement of a Minister from office with his Government would have a disturbing influence on the rest of the board. Board should be appointed for a considerable term. Power should be reserved to the Government in the Bill to rectify matters if the board should go wrong in anything.

Jas. Paterson, Coal Merchant.

Q. 6684 *et seq.* Advocates a general manager with full powers, who should be over traffic and other business, and another man over mechanical portion of Department. Over the general manager the Minister of the day would have some control. Has grave doubts about boards where there is no responsibility. No Government Department, not even the railways, was ever so badly managed as Harbor Trust.

J. M. Bruce, Warehouseman.

Q. 6806–17. Railways should be under a general manager, who must take full responsibility. He should have a board of advice of three good business men to consult with. At present there is too much divided authority to secure success. Prefers board of advice to board of control. On further consideration sees that final control and power of interference, if necessary, must rest somewhere, and should be vested in board.

Joel Horwood, Ironfounder (Bendigo).

Q. 7556–68. Railways should be under a general manager, who should be a first-class trained expert and have full command under limited supervision. Favours idea of a board of business men to advise him, and maintain a kind of check over him. Does not approve of control by Minister at all.

GEO. T. ROSS, Secretary Engine-Drivers' and Firemen's Association.

Q. 7882–97. Contends that railways are managed on a commercial basis now, and are paying. Beneficial changes might be made in management, but does not see how they can be taken away from parliamentary control. Objects to lines being placed in the hands of a corporation, whose policy would be "dollars, not development." If rights of the men are preserved, sees no objecton to railways being managed on commercial lines. Thinks deficit will disappear; in meantime public must be taxed to meet it.

A. S. BAILES, Ex-M.L.A.

Q. 8019-30, 8035-53, 80-70-72. No good can be derived from State railways while Parliament has power to interfere directly or indirectly in management. Recommends appointment of thoroughly competent board of three—one selected for his commercial ability, one for his knowledge of railway construction, and the third for general knowledge of the existing railway system. These should be appointed for life, but be removable by vote of both Houses. Board should select a man, either in the colony or elsewhere, who would be thoroughly competent to undertake the actual management. He should be responsible to the board for management and control of the employés. Is opposed to any Minister being on a board of three. Board should have power to appoint and dismiss general manager. Board should be paid by fees, if competent men are obtainable on these terms; if not, by salary. If board were composed of five, Minister might be an ordinary member, as his power would not be very great among four others, but would not favour more than three altogether.

J. H. SMITH, late Chairman Railway Commission of South Australia.

Q. 8164, 8534 *et seq.* Recommends creation of a board of directors of not less than five members, four of these to be men of good commercial standing in the colony, the fifth to be a member of the Government. The board to elect its own chairman, and to meet once a fortnight, r oftener, if found necessary. The members (other than the Minister) to be paid by fees or annual allowance. Functions of board, *inter alia,* would be to receive deputations, approve of capital expenditure on works on the existing system, approve of changes in by-laws, rates, fares, &c.; deal with all contracts, hear appeals from staff, approve of train service, alterations in pay, new appointments and promotions, and the letting of real estate, refreshment-rooms, advertising, &c. A board of five would be ample for the work. Does not favour subdivision of board into committees. Repeats that all deputations should be received and all appeals of employés be heard by the board.

F. W. NIVEN, President Ballarat Chamber of Commerce.

Q. 8761. Considers management by one good practical man, under the authority, perhaps, of a small board (or even without a board), the best.

J. G. PANGBOURNE, American Transportation Commission.

Q. 14–16. Recommends business management. Illustrates advantages by system pursued by Melbourne Tramway Company in meeting all their fixed charges, and regularly paying dividends——Q. 28. If railways are to remain under control of State, and not to be leased, Parliament might consent to intrust management to a syndicate of business men for five years.—— Q. 46-7. A board would be a good plan if composed of business men, and if the Minister of Railways on it were a good financier. The actual management should be intrusted to a good general manager, who should have a free hand.

POLITICAL INTERFERENCE OR INFLUENCE.

J. SYDER, Chairman Acting Commissioners.

Q. 87–101. Commissioners have been taking all the Victorian coal they could get from the mines without fixed agreement or contract, because it is "the declared policy of the Government." Pointed out necessity for proper arrangement, but were told it was the policy of the Government to continue existing arrangement, and were requested by Minister not to push the matter till the Government could settle what should be done.——376–80. Have no written order that they are to use different qualities of local coal at a loss, but it frequently has been verbally conveyed to them. Have pointed out what the railways are losing by its use.

T. H. WOODROFFE, Acting Commissioner.

Q. 608–9. Commissioners are not at liberty to confine purchase of local coal to quality put out from Jumbunna and Outtrim mines without sanction of Government. It is a question of policy, and they are bound by it, but have protested against it many times.——1067–83. Had a great deal of trouble from interference of a former Minister. Commissioners should be safeguarded from, and independent of, political influence. Under Act 1250 have not powers they should possess (illustrates by question of coal contracts), and are especially hampered by section 24.——1094–8. Does not admit that political interference exists. Deputations take up a lot of time, and are harassing, but do not get anything. Thinks working of railways will not be satisfactory till they are managed on commercial principles, free from political influence.

R. LOCHHEAD, Acting Commissioner.

Q. 1482–4. Political deputations on matters of business cause loss of time to Commissioners. Would much prefer to deal with individuals or by correspondence, and would have a few officers constantly travelling to look into local requirements.

C. E. NORMAN, Engineer of Existing Lines.

Q. 1700–3. Political influence, at present, has very little to do with management. In the past it had a great deal to do with construction. No doubt the staff all having votes consider they are able to exercise power with Members of Parliament. The administration would be better if that could be separated from the railway service.

W. F. Fitzpatrick, Deputy Traffic Manager.

Q. 2006–7. At present there is no political influence whatever, but where railway servants have votes there must be an amount of pressure brought to bear on Members of Parliament, which latter might desire to see done away with; but which they find it very difficult to deal with. Favours non-political control.——2171. Would keep the railways free from political influence by having a directory between them and Parliament.

R. G. Kent, Secretary.

Q. 2195. Too much pressure brought to bear on Commissioners as to rates and fares, hence favours board of advice and general manager.——2236. Does not consider political influence is now at work in Department, but has seen it at work; and better results would follow if there were none.

H. Kent, Traffic Auditor.

Q. 2426–8. "Public policy" in railway management means a continual giving away or a continual pressure. Railways should be free from political influence of any kind, or else placed directly under the Minister.

R. Singleton, Accountant.

Q. 2507–12. Department pays Water Trust at Maryborough £1,200 a year for about £300 worth of water. Funds for construction of reservoir were borrowed from Government at about 4½ per cent. Annual railway payment for water nearly meets this interest. Alteration of present arrangement would require legislative sanction.——2512–3. Railways are hampered in having to take inferior coal from certain local mines at a loss.——2540–54. Speaking as an accountant, management up to 1884 under Minister was as good as under first Commissioners. Had fewer doubtful accounts to pass during former period. If lines could be managed from commercial stand-point, and the managers were not fettered with pensions or political considerations as to rates of labour, deficit could be wiped out. Political interference is very prejudicial to economical working.

R. Richardson, Ex-Minister of Railways.

Q. 2630 (page 123). Political influence in the Department is very great, but Commissioners are subject to commercial influence as well. It has a very serious effect on the revenue as regards rates, &c., but is not a corrupt influence that is used personally.——Page 124. Parliamentary influence was lost when first Railway Commission was appointed, but political influence commenced, and personal influence has been rampant. Parliamentary influence, properly used, would be better than allowing commercial and political influence as it is used at present, and thus giving the Commissioners power to tax the community. ——2738. Is bound to admit that political influence sometimes interferes adversely with management of Department. Bargains are made which no man would make if it were his own private business.——2740. It is beneath the dignity of Members of Parliament to come in deputations asking for concessions, and contrary to sound policy besides.——2770. "We may take it from your replies that there is still political interference allowed to influence the Department." A. "I would like to know where you will have a politician who will not have political influence."

W. T. Cauty, Deputy Goods Superintendent.

Q. 3263–5. It would be better for the interests of the railway service if the lines were managed on commercial principles, free from political or back-door influence.

James Bruce, Assistant Traffic Manager.

Q. 3347–51. The influence of politics is unquestionably detrimental to the management of the railways. He has found politics to have a good deal of influence in such management. Rates for carriage of goods have been altered by means of deputations, and many of the alterations are made through the influence of Members of Parliament acting on such deputations, as well as privately.

J. H. Wheeler, Ex-Minister of Railways.

Q. 3460. Nothing but a thoroughly independent board of mangement, altogether apart from outside influence, should exist. The railway men should be made to understand that no outside influence could help them to remain in the service, but that they could only keep there by zeal and attention, and rise by merit. The service would then be in a much more independent position. Until the men feel that they must discharge their duties properly, railways will never be managed on proper business principles. Always said during his administration that the goods sheds were a gigantic benevolent asylum, men were sent there out of charity, who were utterly unfit for the work.——3486–8. When he took office found organization lax and weak, would not like to say this was brought about by parliamentary influence, but holds it is desirable to entirely shut out politics from railway administration.

J. H. Reid, Sub-Accountant.

Q. 3548. Where State railways are subject to actual political influence they cannot be satisfactorily managed.——3551. First step necessary to bring railways nearer to private methods of management would be to remove them absolutely out of touch with politics.——3560–61. The political nod was necessarily always smiled on in Department, Parliament being a factor in its control. Believes it is the political nod that has killed everything in the Department; by this, refers especially to construction of non-paying political lines.——3573. Would be very glad indeed to be clear of the political nod.

W. A. Holmes, Telegraph Superintendent.

Q. 3676. Would prefer a commercial system of management. Thinks the railways have never been worked under sound commercial management during his experience, and they certainly have been more or less subject to political influence. This has weakened the organization, and in order to obtain vigorous and efficient administration it is necessary to shut out political and parliamentary influence altogether.

J. Lambie, Assistant Storekeeper.

Q. 4080–84. Thinks employés have suffered owing to railways not being worked on mercantile lines, as if they were so worked they would give better results. If railways are to be expected to pay they must be separated from political interference

THOS. BRUNTON, M.L.C., Miller.

Q. 4116–23. Thinks it is partly on account of political influence that administration is lax and weak; it demoralizes the service. Railways would be managed cheaper on strictly commercial lines. The management, whether by Commissioners or general manager, should be like the Judges, independent of all such influences.——4135. Weak point in last system was that Chairman of Commission did wrong in not trying to stop building of political railways.——4176. Political interference with management is most undesirable, and any man who is amenable to such influence would never do at all (for post of manager).

W. M. KIBBLE, Ex-Railways Commissioner.

Q. 4261. Whatever board of management is decided upon it should be made absolutely free from political interference.——4270. If such influence were removed, thinks management would be good enough. Such influence was bad in the past. The staff would be more easily managed if railways were freed from it. While it exists it will be brought to bear; it always has been and always will be, and if a person in power resists it he makes enemies.——4283–4, 4304–5. Railways cannot be efficiently managed while political influence remains.——4336–8. During his term of office violent pressure was brought to bear to secure alteration of rates, but he refused. As to anomalies in rates, no alterations were made except by direct order from the Ministry, which Commission was bound to obey under Act as a question of policy.——4340–43. Low rate for agricultural seeds was probably fixed under political influence. Differential rates for certain colonial and imported articles inadvisable from railway point of view. Were railways managed independently of such influence that difference would not be maintained.——4359. He and his colleagues in managing were hampered by political influence.——4406–19. Does not agree with principle of associations of railway employés. They used to be a source of great difficulty, but have not been so lately. Such unions are worse in the Government service, because they have voting power. Matters are worse when officers of trust join them, as with voting power they might be a serious menace to Department. Does not consider there have been bad results up to the present, but if acts of managers are discussed by a body under them, and they have to defend themselves in Parliament through influence brought to bear, discipline must suffer. The system of organizations is bad as far as State employés are concerned.

F. B. CLAPP, Managing Director Tramway Company.

Q. 4441. Impossible to make the railways pay on their merits as at present administered, that is, under political influence. Does not think a man can be found strong enough to stand against the mass of the people, who are now managing the railways. If reduced rates or fares are wanted deputations are arranged, and Members of Parliament cannot withstand such pressure.——4450. A semi-political and semi-commercial system of management will never succeed.——4455. If a large board of control, representing different interests, were appointed, it would result in political influence being brought in again.

D. ELDER, Manager New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company.

Q. 4487–93. Proved beyond all doubt that political management is a failure. Hence advocates small board of management to control system, with a general manager. The board would be a buffer between the manager and Parliament. This plan should remove railways from political influence.

E. H. LASCELLES, Woolbroker and Farmer.

Q. 4513. Has no doubt that political pressure and interference militate against successful management of railways.——4532–4. Considers political influence weakens the whole administration. Best relief to farmers as regards rates would be given by putting railways under non-political management and having them managed on economical lines, subject to a check by the State on too high rates.

D. WHITE, Carriage Builder.

Q. 4584. Has strong views about political control of railways. Does not expect that they will ever pay while they are in the hands of the Government. There are far too many men doing a given amount of work. If a private firm managed its business in a similar way all the proceeds would go in wages.——4591–2. It is impossible to have good organization while political influence manages the railways.

A. AGNEW, Ironmonger.

Q. 4609. Railways will never pay while controlled politically; they are getting worse every day. Made a request to some people recently, and was told that if he wanted to get anything done he must get a Member of Parliament to help him. Such members are practically managing the railways. 4625–6. Minister of Railways might have a seat on board of control if his powers were such that no Member of Parliament could through him influence the board. If lines are to be successfully managed politics must be entirely shut out.——4653. Considers board of control should also decide what further lines should be constructed, as they would be much better able to do so than any politician

F. W. BROWNE, Manager McCulloch Carrying Company.

Q. 4686–7. Hopeless to expect good results in railway management here till politics are completely shut out from Department.

R. J. ALCOCK, Merchant.

Q. 4724–5. Does not think the lines will ever pay under political control. While Commissioners are liable to *ipse dixit* of Minister they will never be able to manage railways with credit. Probably, if an engine-driver gets drunk and is dismissed, there are a number of Members of Parliament running to the Minister to get him reinstated. Central gates were recently closed by Commissioners at Flinders-street station, as they were not considered necessary; but a deputation protested, and Ministers ordered Commissioners to re-open the gates. If latter cannot decide a matter of this kind free from interference they are not fit for their position. As a disinterested observer says—"It is quite unnecessary to re-open these gates."——4731–4. Any board or committee created to control management should be rendered absolutely

independent of politics. If political control cannot be got rid of otherwise the lines should be leased under proper safeguards.——4758. Thinks the railway authorities have done very well in effecting economies, but they have not fully met the position where the working man is concerned; that is where political influence comes in. They dare not do it.

E. Trenchard, Stock and Station Agent.

Q. 4941–2. Whatever form of management is adopted, Department ought to be freed from political interference, as it does not tend to economical or efficient management——4970–71. Political influence ought to be abolished altogether once the new management is appointed, and the railways should be worked like any other commercial institution.

J. M. Peck, Stock and Station Agent.

Q. 5026–30. Railways should be altogether disconnected from politics. Would sooner have one good man managing without interference than three with parliamentary interference.

W. Cowper, Chairman of Harbor Trust.

Q. 5097. General manager of railways should have a free hand, and not be hampered by political control. He should be responsible to Parliament, but not to any individual member.——5115, 5124. Political control is most undesirable, and the management should be kept free from it if railways are to pay.

D. Mitchell, Contractor.

Q. 5172–6. Political management of the railways is a mistake; thinks it responsible to some extent for the deficit. Political interference is most injurious.

J. Falkingham, Contractor.

Q. 5291–4. Speaking from a ratepayer's point of view, thinks railways can never pay while they are managed by the State, there is too much of the "Government stroke." They should be removed from all influence of Members of Parliament, and then the men would have no fear, as they now have.——5321. If a good business board with a manager were apointed, it should not be under the dictation of Parliament House.

C. Butler, Contractor.

Q. 5384–8. The management should be altogether freed from political influence. He would intrust it to a thoroughly reliable skilled man, and make him independent of political interference.

C. Duckett, Ironmonger.

Q. 5478–85. Difficult to manage railways owing to conflicting interests, for instance, managers cannot discharge a man summarily as a private employer would, owing to political influence. Railways would be better managed and the staff more efficient if that influence were removed.

A. W. Jack, President Commercial Travellers' Association.

Q. 56567. Does not think present system of management the best because he cannot see it is free from political influence, which is injurious to the last degree to a commercial undertaking——5684–5. With better organization and a free hand in the management the lines would pay better, but in any fresh organization it is absolutely necessary they should be freed from direct or indirect political influence.

A. W. Synnot, Woolbroker.

Q. 5720. Political influence should be abolished in all matters affecting the management of the railways, rates, &c.; as to construction of lines, cannot speak.

G. B. Appleton, Woolbrokers' Auctioneer.

Q. 5769. Would make general manager responsible to board of advice, provided latter is free from political influence. Such influence or patronage should not be allowed to have anything to do with the Department. Is sure it hampers the management.

T. Roberts, Locomotive Engineer, South Australian Railways.

Q. 5918. Apprehends political influence has been at work in keeping locomotive shops at Port Melbourne open. Is quite certain no railway manager would keep them open years after shops were established at Newport.

F. Back, General Manager, Tasmanian Railways.

Q. 6038. Has no hesitation in saying—avoid the political element and the railway deficit can be made up.——6047–51. Best course to pursue would be to put the railways under a board removed from all political control.——6054. Would not like to undertake to get them back to sound business lines without such protection.——6105. Thinks it is quite impossible, with best intentions of Minister or Government, to quite put aside influence of politics.——6158. Worked free from political influence has not the slightest doubt that large reductions in station expenses could be made.——6187. Railways could be made to pay if worked for commercial purposes, and under a competent general manager able to carry out his views untrammelled by political influence.

R. Speight, Ex-Railways Commissioner.

Q. 6322–3. Does not think that political interference or influence has had a prejudicial effect on the working of the railways.

John Cooke, Manager Australian Mortgage, Land, and Finance Company.

Q. 6470–72. Political pressure has always prevented the remedying of mistakes, evils, and extravagance in Railway Department. There can be no effective system of management till such interference is removed.

L. Kiddle, Assistant Manager, Australasian Mortgage and Agency Company.

Q. 6575. Railways should be conducted as a great carrying business, free from any political interference. Thinks indirect and political influence is injurious to extent of 25 per cent. in Department.

J. Paterson, Coal Merchant.

Q. 6686–7. Mr. Woodroffe, in his evidence before Railways Standing Committee, attributes arrangements respecting purchase of inferior local coal to political influence. Any private business managed on political principles would soon go insolvent.——6700. Has seen so much political influence of late years that he has begun to think there is no stopping it.

J. M. Bruce, Warehouseman.

Q. 6810–19, 6839. Railways should be freed from all political influence and placed under an able general manager, with larger powers, but controlled by a board of business men.

E. Joske, Secretary Victorian Railways Association.

Q. 7711. Is sure association he is connected with has never attempted to interfere politically. It is not a political combination.

J. B. Johnston, Secretary Railways Service Mutual Association.

Q. 7799. Would approve of political interference if it affected himself, seeing that Parliament is master of the railway servants. Does not consider it interference for employés to go to members and explain any matters for their edification ; that always has and always will be done.

G. T. Ross, Secretary Engine-drivers' Association.

Q. 7878–9. It would be an advantage to employés if railways were worked on commercial lines instead of political, but employés should not suffer for mistakes made by Parliament.——7889. Thinks political mismanagement has been disastrous to success of railways as a paying system.

W. Phelan, Signalmen's Improvement Society.

Q. 7986–7. Railway associations never take any combined action in politics.

A. S. Bailes, Ex-M.L.A.

Q. 8019–20. No good can come from State railways while Parliament can interfere in management. While Department is conducted by Minister he must be amenable to pressure from members, and they in their turn to pressure from constituents. Has known many cases of political interference. He himself assisted to keep men in Department who, by getting drunk while in charge of trains, and general neglect of duty, deserved dismissal. Mentions case of a porter who was recommended for dismissal for pilfering, but shortly afterwards, by the aid of political friends, was placed in charge of a station.——8032–4. Members do not interfere from choice. In one case, where a man jeopardized people's lives and caused damage to rolling-stock, he himself made bitter enemies for refusing to intercede with Mr. Speight in his behalf. The railway men stick like glue to each other, and their rights and privileges are their greatest consideration.——8055. They are united for their own protection and keenly alive to what is necessary from a political point of view. Hence the attention given to them by politicians.

J. H. Smith, Ex-Railways Commissioner, South Australia.

Q. 8392–3. Is opposed to the railways carrying burden of favours for politicians and others. Political influence is pernicious and damaging to good railway management.

F. W. Niven, Master Printer, Ballarat.

Q. 8750. Represents Ballarat Chamber of Commerce. All the members are agreed that no political influence should be brought to bear in the management of the railways.——8759–60. A man who now receives a fifth less wages than four years ago is in better circumstances than formerly, cost of living being about one-third cheaper, but it is almost impossible for politicians to touch question of wages. Thinks, owing to the altered feeling of people generally, there is a prospect of railways being removed from political influence.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

3026A.

1902–3.

VICTORIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING.

JOINT REPORT

FROM THE

PRINTING COMMITTEES

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY;

TOGETHER WITH

APPENDIX AND MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Ordered by the Legislative Council *to be printed,* 19*th March,* 1903.

By Authority:
ROBT. S. BRAIN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, MELBOURNE.

D 1.—[1s. 3d.]—303.

EXTRACTED FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, 21st OCTOBER, 1902.

PRINTING COMMITTEE.—The Honorable R. Reid, for the Honorable A. O. Sachse, moved, That the Honorables the President, T. Brunton, T. Comrie, T. Dowling, D. Ham, N. Levi, J. Y. McDonald, T. H. Payne, R. Reid, and E. E. Smith be Members of the Printing Committee ; three to be the quorum.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

TUESDAY, 3rd FEBRUARY, 1903.

PRINTING COMMITTEE.—The Honorable J. M. Davies moved, by leave, That the Printing Committee of this House have power to meet and confer with the Printing Committee of the Legislative Assembly.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

EXTRACTED FROM THE VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

WEDNESDAY, 29th OCTOBER, 1902.

PRINTING COMMITTEE.—Mr. Irvine moved, pursuant to notice, That the following Members form the Printing Committee during the present Session :—Mr. Speaker, Mr. Bowser, Mr. Bromley, Mr. Downward, Mr. Grose, Mr. A. Harris, Mr. Langdon, Mr. McCutcheon, Mr. McGregor, Mr. McKenzie, Mr. Prendergast, and Mr. Sterry ; and that the Committee have leave to sit on days on which the House does not meet, and to report the minutes of evidence from time to time ; three to be the quorum.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

INDEX TO THE REPORT

COST OF PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING.

PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING.

REPORT.

THE PRINTING COMMITTEES of the Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly having conferred together, and having taken evidence on the question of Parliamentary printing, have now the honour to submit the following Report :—

COST OF PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING.

1. It has been repeatedly stated in the press that the cost of Parliamentary printing amounts to £69,708 per annum. Cost of printing for Parliament.

The average annual cost of Parliamentary printing and binding for a period of four years is, according to a return furnished by the Government Printing Office, as follows :—

1. Victorian *Hansard*	£3,000	0	0
2. Other Parliamentary printing ...	4,384	0	0
Total cost per annum of Parliamentary printing and binding	£7,384	0	0

In this Report the Committee deal only with that portion of the expenditure in the Government Printing Office which relates to Parliamentary printing (other than *Hansard*), £4,384 per annum.

2. The sum of £4,384 is made up as follows :— Details of cost of Parliamentary printing.

1. Parliamentary papers	£2,842	4	0
2. Binding	275	10	0
3. Bills	679	3	1
4. Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly	256	1	11
5. Notices of the Legislative Assembly ...	142	19	4
6. Minutes of the Legislative Council ...	123	18	4
7. Notices of the Legislative Council ...	46	4	0
8. Weekly Divisions	18	0	6
	£4,384	1	2

REDUCTIONS SINCE 1893.

3. In 1893, when the cost of Parliamentary printing was last specially under review, the expenditure on the items referred to was stated at £7,361 per annum, or nearly £3,000 a year more than the average cost for the four years above referred to. It will therefore be seen that a large reduction, totalling nearly £30,000 in ten years, has been secured since 1893. The Committee have endeavoured to ascertain in what directions further economies can be sought. Reductions effected since 1893.

FURTHER ECONOMIES SUGGESTED AND EFFECTED.

4. The evidence shows that the largest saving can be effected by the adoption of the system of composition by machinery in printing many of the Parliamentary papers. Composition by machinery.

Taking the cost of Parliamentary printing for the year 1900–1, which was £4,365, as a basis, the Government Printer estimates that by the introduction of type-setting machinery the annual saving would be £813.

Reducing volume of printed matter

5. The next most important saving can be effected by condensing the matter now contained in departmental reports and statistical returns, reports of Royal Commissions, Select Committees, Boards of Inquiry, and other documents which are printed prior to their presentation to Parliament.

All departmental Reports, moreover, should, when printed, be laid before Parliament. At present one of the most important departmental Reports—the annual Report of the Mines Department—is never so presented. Last year 1,000 copies of this report were printed, and all were delivered at the Mines Department, and distributed from that Department free, excepting ten copies which were sold, at 5s. each. The cost of printing the Report was £196 13s. 2d. This sum is not included in the cost of printing for Parliament.

It is unnecessary to print the whole of the Minutes of the Proceedings of a Select Committee with the Report of the Committee, as has been the practice hitherto; but any divisions in the Committee should be appended to the Report.

Reductions already effected in Journals of the two Houses.

6. The volume of the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council, and the Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly, has been materially condensed by the Clerks of the two Houses during the past Session without impairing the efficiency of the record. During the Session the Standing Orders have been so altered as to do away with the printing in the Journals of the Assembly of all the votes reported from the Committee of Supply; by this means alone the volume of the Votes and Proceedings of the Assembly has been reduced by one-third. The number of copies struck off has also been reduced from 760 to 500 in the case of the Assembly. In 1893 the annual cost of printing the Votes and Proceedings of the Assembly was £618. The further economies will effect a saving of fully two-thirds of the above sum. In printing the Weekly Report of Divisions in Committee the number of copies has also been reduced from 760 to 400.

Other minor economies already accomplished.

7. Other economies have been introduced during the past year. The practice of printing the analyses of the contents of Bills on a separate fly-sheet has been abolished, and the analyses are now printed above the title of the Bill. Many returns, also, laid upon the Table pursuant to Orders of the House, instead of being printed, have been copied by means of the type-writer and a hand duplicating machine. This system has proved effective and economical.

Form of Estimates and Appropriation Bill.

8. In addition to the saving effected by doing away with the printing in the Journals of the votes reported from the Committee of Supply, a further saving, in this connexion, could be made by printing the annual Estimates and Supplementary Estimates in the same form as they ultimately take in the Second Schedule to the Appropriation Act. If this were done, it would avoid a great deal of the breaking up of the type which takes place when the Estimates are voted and put into the form of the Appropriation Act. The foolscap-sized sheets for the Estimates should still be retained, but each page should contain only as much printed matter as will conveniently go into the quarto page of the Appropriation Act.

Printing of Evidence.

Cost of present system.

9. A matter to which the Committee has given a great deal of attention is the possibility of introducing some method which would be less costly than the present system of reporting in full, and thereafter printing the evidence given before Select Committees, Royal Commissions, and Boards of Inquiry.

During the year 1900–1, apart from the charges for shorthand writing, the cost of printing minutes of evidence amounted to £1,491 3s. 9d., made up as follows :—

Composition.	Proofs.	Authors' Corrections.	Machining.	Folding.	Litho.	Paper.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
959 2 0	26 4 5	187 12 11	48 18 1	56 16 11	59 5 6	153 5 11

Every Commission, as soon as it is appointed, gets a circular letter from the Chief Secretary's Department saying that evidence is not to be printed, and every Commission, without exception, proceeds at once to ignore that instruction and to print the evidence in full.

10. Various ways of lessening the cost of the present system have been suggested. One method is to have typed copies made by a duplicating machine of the evidence after it has been transcribed. This method has been adopted in the Legislative Assembly as regards the Public Accounts Committee, and the Printing Committee had portion of the evidence given before them copied in this way. Typed copies of evidence.

The system is effective and economical in certain cases, but it cannot be recommended where the evidence is required for general circulation and for keeping with the bound records.

11. Another method has been tried in some bodies, more particularly the Railways Standing Committee, of reporting evidence other than that of a technical or special character in deposition or narrative form. This method of reporting has the effect of materially condensing the evidence, but the Committee cannot recommend its adoption as a general rule; the system must be used at the discretion of the chairman and members of the body conducting the inquiry. Reporting in narrative form.

12. Still another suggestion has been made to the Committee for consideration, viz., that "a full note should be taken of the evidence, question and answer, unless the chairman of the Committee directed it to be taken in narrative form in particular instances. After it was taken down, instead of one copy being type-written, it should be multiplied by the Shorthand Writer's Office, say, six copies made. Those copies would be sent to the clerk of the Committee or the secretary of the Commission, and instead of printing at once, the clerk would send one copy to each witness to get his revision, and would have the witnesses' corrections put on one of the original type-written copies. The advantage of this would be when you got all of the evidence back, you would have a complete set, as a record, of the evidence taken down and transcribed, and that copy could always be referred to. Then the Committee should decide how much of that evidence should be printed, whether all of it or a précis made; but the question of printing should arise after all the evidence had been taken and the corrections made." Other suggestions for avoiding printing of evidence.

13. After fully considering the various suggestions, the Committee are of opinion that no fixed rule can be laid down, and the nature and importance of the inquiry must in each instance determine whether the expense of printing the evidence in full is warranted. In the few instances where the minutes of evidence have not been printed, strong complaints have invariably been made when the Reports have come up for consideration in Parliament. Opinion of Committee as to suggested alterations of present system.

Distribution of Parliamentary Papers.

14. The Parliamentary papers have hitherto been distributed free of cost to those on the circulation list. Although papers are on sale at the Government Printing Office the revenue derived from sales is trifling—in 1900 it was £14; in 1901, £13 10s. This is no doubt largely accounted for by the fact that so many papers are issued free of cost. Free distribution and sales.

Apart from the free distribution of *Hansard*, the Government Printer values the gratuitous copies of the Parliamentary papers now distributed outside of Parliament and the Departments at £997 a year. Now that postage on the papers has to be paid by the State, their distribution entails an additional expenditure of £300 to £400 a year for postage.

15. There is no doubt that the lavish distribution of papers free of charge to persons who make little use of them or do not use them at all has, to a large extent, given rise to the impression that there is extravagance in the printing for Parliament. The number of copies of each printed paper at present distributed gratuitously is about 600, and of this number about 250 copies are distributed free outside of Free list.

Parliament and the Commonwealth and State Departments. The Committee purpose, before next Session, to rigidly revise the free list, and in the meantime they recommend that no one should be added to the list except with the express authority of the Printing Committee.

Charging for Parliamentary papers.

16. In the House of Commons the principle of sale as the best method of distribution to the public has been very fully applied. All House of Commons papers received by the Parliament of Victoria have to be paid for at the published price.

The Committee are of opinion that the practice of the House of Commons of charging for the papers when issued outside of the Parliamentary and official list could be adopted with advantage here. They recommend that from the commencement of the next Session of Parliament a charge be made for the papers.

If the papers are supplied regularly as issued, the following annual registration fees should be prepaid at the Government Printing Office :—

All Parliamentary papers, including postage ...	£3	3	0
Bills only	1	10	0
Assembly Notice-paper and Votes only	0	10	0
Council Notice-paper and Minutes only	0	10	0

Single copy of any paper to be paid for at the published price.

Recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

17. The Committee therefore recommend :—

(1) That the system of composition by machinery be introduced at the Government Printing Office for printing the Parliamentary papers. In recommending composition by machinery, the Committee suggest to the Government that they should make equitable arrangement for printers whose services must necessarily be dispensed with in pursuance of the change.

(2) That the attention of the Minister of each Department be invited to the desirableness of materially condensing all departmental Reports and returns and statistical information contained therein.

(3) That the chairman of every Select Committee, Royal Commission, or Board of Inquiry be requested, when the body is appointed, to exercise careful supervision over the printing of matter as appendices, and the necessity for reducing the printing of evidence as much as possible.

(4) That the practice of printing the whole of the Minutes of Proceedings of Select Committees with the Reports be discontinued, and that, instead, a paragraph be inserted in the Report giving the names of Members voting in any divisions, as is now done in all Reports of the Railways Standing Committee.

(5) That a strict supervision be kept over the number of copies to be struck off when any printed paper is sent to press, the Clerk of each House to determine and order the number of copies in each case.

(6) That instead of the Parliamentary papers (other than the Notice-paper, the Votes, and Bills) being sent as a matter of course to every Honorable Member and others entitled to receive them, a list of papers when ready for issue be published in the Notice-paper, and that unless any Member of either House informs the Clerk thereof that he wishes all papers sent to him as issued the papers be only supplied on application.

(7) That the annual Report of the Mines Department, and any other similar Report not now presented, be in future laid on the Table of both Houses and dealt with in a similar manner to other departmental Reports.

(8) That the annual Estimates and Supplementary Estimates be printed as suggested in paragraph 8.

(9) That from the commencement of next Session a charge be made for all papers issued outside of the Parliamentary and official list at the rates as set forth in paragraph 16.

Committee Room,
Parliament House,
Melbourne, 19th March, 1903.

APPENDIX.

MEMORANDUM TO THE HONORABLE THE TREASURER BY THE CLERKS OF THE TWO HOUSES, WITH SUGGESTIONS FOR REDUCTIONS IN COST OF PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING.

PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING.

State Parliament House,
Melbourne, 1st July, 1902.

Memorandum for the Honorable the Treasurer—

We beg, in compliance with your request, to submit the following memorandum on the question of Parliamentary printing, and suggestions for the reduction of the present cost thereof :—

1. *Total Cost of Parliamentary Printing.*—The average annual cost of Parliamentary printing and binding for a period of four years is, according to a return furnished by the Government Printing Office, as follows :—

1. Victorian *Hansard*	£3,000	0	0
2. Other Parliamentary printing	4,384	0	0
Total cost per annum of Parliamentary printing and binding	£7,384	0	0

In this memorandum we deal only, as you desired, with the second item :—£4,384.

2. *Details of cost.*—The sum of £4,384 is made up as follows :—

1. Parliamentary Papers	£2,842	4	0
2. Binding	275	10	0
3. Bills	679	3	1
4. Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly ...	256	1	11
5. Notices of the Legislative Assembly	142	19	4
6. Minutes of the Legislative Council...	123	18	4
7. Notices of the Legislative Council	46	4	0
8. Weekly Divisions	18	0	6
	£4,384	1	2

3. *Reductions effected since* 1893.—In 1893, when the cost of Parliamentary printing was last specially under review, the expenditure on the items referred to was stated at £7,361 per annum. It will therefore be seen that a large reduction has been secured since 1893, but we are nevertheless of opinion that further substantial economies can be judiciously effected by reducing the volume of printed matter, and the number of copies struck off.

4. *Reduction in Number of Copies printed.*—The present practice is to print 760 copies of each paper, unless an order to the contrary is given to the Government Printing Office. Of the balance left after the paper is circulated 150 copies are kept at the Printing Office for binding, and the remaining copies (120 to 200) are sent to the Papers-office at Parliament House for stock. We attach a list of those at present entitled to receive the papers from the Government Printing Office. Summarized the distribution is as follows :—

To whom sent.	Council.			Assembly.		
	Notices.	Votes and Papers.	Bills.	Notices.	Votes and Papers.	Bills.
Parliamentary	308	262	141	423	252	269
Commonwealth	10	8	8	11	21	21
Official	63	41	43	56	44	44
Newspapers	12	46	45	94	96	93
Public Libraries, &c.	...	11	11	...	31	30
Consuls	1	14	14	...	18	18
General List	16	24	31	18	36	50
Outside Victoria	...	15	52	3	38	74
	410	421	345	605	536	599

With a view to strictly curtailing the number of copies printed, we would recommend :—

(*a*) That as soon as appointed, the Printing Committee of the two Houses be requested to review the list of those to whom the papers are at present sent.

(*b*) That, when reviewed, any addition to the list in future be made only on the authority of the Hon. the President or the Hon. the Speaker.

(*c*) That instead of the papers being sent as a matter of course to every Honorable Member and others entitled to receive them, a list of papers when ready for issue be published in the Notice-paper, and that the papers be only supplied on application.

(*d*) That a strict supervision be kept over the number of copies to be struck off when any printed paper is sent to press, the Clerk of each House to determine and order the number of copies in each case.

5. *Reduction in Volume of Printing.*—While a considerable saving may be effected by reducing, as suggested, the number of copies at present printed, the principal savings must be looked for in the reduction of the actual amount of type to be set up.

The item, "Parliamentary papers, £2,842," accounts for a large proportion of the cost of printing for Parliament. These papers consist of the annual reports of departments, reports of Royal commissions, boards, select committees, and other papers presented by command, pursuant to law, or in return to orders of the House. With a view to reducing the cost, we recommend :—

(*e*) That the attention of the Minister of each department be invited to the question with a view to materially condensing all departmental reports, returns, &c.

(*f*) That the practice of printing the whole of the Minutes of Proceedings of select committees with the reports be discontinued, and that, instead, a paragraph be inserted in the report giving the names of the Honorable Members voting in any divisions, as is now done in all reports of the Railways Standing Committee.

(*g*) That the practice of invariably reporting the evidence of witnesses before select committees and Royal commissions in the form of question and answer be discontinued, except in cases of a technical or special character (to be decided by the chairman), and that a simple report of the statements elicited from the witnesses be substituted.

Notice-papers.—The Notice-papers of the two Houses must set forth fully the business (Orders of the Day, Notices of Motion, and Questions to Ministers) for each sitting day. The only reduction which can be made in this item, the cost of which is comparatively small, must be brought about by the suggested review of the circulation list, which may reduce the number of copies struck off.

Votes and Proceedings.—A substantial reduction in the cost of this item has been effected since 1893. The cost can be still further reduced by largely curtailing the number of copies struck off, and by simplifying the forms and abridging the matter as much as possible, without impairing the efficiency of the records. Every effort will be made in this direction.

Bills.—The number of copies of Bills printed cannot, we think, be wisely reduced to any appreciable extent. Every care is taken to limit the number to absolute requirements.

Binding.—The amount set down for binding may be reduced by the Printing Committee restricting the issue of the bound volumes at the close of a Session, if they deem it wise to do so.

Conclusion.

It is not possible to make an accurate estimate of the result of these suggested savings, as the printing varies greatly in various years, but in a normal year the effect, we think, would be a reduction of at least one-third.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council
and Clerk of the Parliaments.

THOS. G. WATSON,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

LIST OF WITNESSES.

JOINT PRINTING COMMITTEE (SUB-COMMITTEE).

WEDNESDAY, 6TH AUGUST, 1902.

Members present:

The Hon. the PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, in the Chair;

The Hon. N. Levi, M.L.C.,	Mr. Speaker,
The Hon. J. Y. McDonald, M.L.C.,	Mr. Bowser,
The Hon. E. E. Smith, M.L.C.	Mr. Bromley,
	Mr. Prendergast.

George H. Jenkins, C.M.G., Clerk of the Parliaments, examined.

1. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—We desire to hear your statement on the question that has been referred to the Committee?—Mr. Watson and myself were asked by the Treasurer to go into the whole question of the Parliamentary printing some two months ago, to see if we could make any suggestions for reducing the cost. We went fully into it with the Government Printer, and the memorandum that we sent to the Treasurer was laid before you at your last meeting. We found that the absolute cost of the whole of the Parliamentary printing and binding, the average annual cost for a period of four years, was:—For the Victorian *Hansard*, the printing, £3,000; all other printing, £4,384; and the total cost per annum for the last four years has been £7,384. I may mention, as to the statement made over and over again that the printing in connexion with Parliament varied from £60,000 to £70,000, and even £80,000 a year, that in no way can we find out however such an estimate has been made, and why, having been contradicted, it should be repeated, as it has been quite lately, to the knowledge of honorable members present. In 1892–3—ten years ago—Mr. Shiels was then Treasurer, and he asked me if I would assist the Government in suggesting some reduction in the Parliamentary printing. I went into the matter very fully, and I suggested to the Treasurer to ask the Printing Committee of the Legislative Council to meet and consider the matter. I was then Clerk of the Parliaments, as at present. That committee reported very fully on the subject, and recommended strongly at that time that where a great saving could be made was in not printing all the papers that were presented to both Houses of Parliament. The practice up to that time was that, no matter what a paper contained, every paper was printed. The result of my report on that occasion was that the then Government, and the subsequent Government, took the matter in hand, and since then only papers have been printed that were thought would be of sufficient interest to honorable members and the public generally. That reduced the printing very largely—about £3,000 a year. No one can honestly say that at the present time the printing bill is excessive, but still reductions can even now be made in the papers that are laid before both Houses of Parliament. Some of those papers are of the greatest possible interest, both to Members of Parliament and the country generally, and for distribution all over the world; but, as to others of the papers laid before both Houses that are still printed, I am strongly of opinion that if the Minister in charge of each Department where those papers are sent from exercised a discretion in the matter, they could still be reduced. For instance, I may mention that at one time, some years ago, the report of the Education Department cost hundreds and hundreds of pounds more to produce than it does now. It has been condensed. That is a very valuable paper, but I am sure that reports from other Departments could be condensed and reduced very considerably in the same way; I would not like to mention which—that is for the Minister himself, who is responsible; he can order any report to be prepared for Parliament, and to be printed. Mr. Watson and I called Mr. Shiels' attention to this matter, and I understand he has brought it before the Cabinet, and that Ministers are going to give personal attention to it, and that it will lead to a large reduction in the present printing. The Clerk of the Assembly and myself propose to alter the style of keeping the Votes and Proceedings of the Assembly and the Minutes of Proceedings of the Council, which will reduce the cost of those two papers about one-third. After my experience of 40 years in the Parliament of Victoria, I say that the printing for the Parliament of Victoria is much less than for any other Parliament of the States of the Commonwealth.

2. *By Mr. Speaker.*—It is much less than it was in the sixties?—Much less; much less than even ten years ago.

3. *By Mr. Bromley.*—Have you the cost of similar printing as done in the other States?—I have not that at hand, but we can easily get it. For instance, the only State to compare with ours in magnitude is New South Wales, and the printing bill of the Parliament of New South Wales, and the staff of the Parliament, is immeasurably greater than ours.

4. *By the Hon. E. E. Smith.*—Did it ever strike you that the printing of a daily *Hansard* would cover a lot of printing betwen the two Houses?—Mr. Watson and myself carefully considered that question, and we thought it was better that we should not offer an opinion about that at all. We were asked to deal with the papers of the Clerks of both Houses. *Hansard* belongs to Parliament itself, and it is for Parliament alone to deal with it.

5. I ask your opinion as to the publishing of a daily *Hansard;* would not that cover a lot of unnecessary printing?—Certainly. The *Government Gazette* could be incorporated in it; the whole of the Government advertising could be included in that. That has already been reported on over and over again.

6. *By Mr. Bowser.*—Would not that involve an additional staff of shorthand writers and typewriters?—I would rather not give an opinion on the *Hansard* question. Mr. Watson and myself felt it was outside our province, and we were asked specially, in reporting on the Parliamentary printing, to avoid the *Hansard* question. The question has been gone into fully on several occasions. I think the first

committee sat in 1877 or 1878. Mr. Watson and I, in going into the matter of making the various recommendations which we did, were of opinion, if our recommendations were carried out, that the reductions would amount to at least one-third of the present cost of the Parliamentary printing. If it costs only £4,384 now, that is a very large reduction to make, and I suppose no one on earth could say then that the printing would not be done with the greatest economy, if we are to have Parliamentary printing at all.

7. *By Mr. Prendergast.*—What are the proposed reductions ?—First of all, in the number of copies of the papers. We do not say what the number should be ; we recommend that all Parliamentary papers should be left for the Clerk of each House to determine the number required, which from our experience we know. To show you why I think sufficient care is not taken as to the number of copies, I made out a return of the papers that were presented to both Houses in 1901—that was last session. For instance, here is the report of the Friendly Societies, 2,110 copies. I have no idea what they want with such a number, or what they do with them ; in fact, I cannot conceive it possible they want such a number.

8. *By Mr. Bromley.*—Do not all friendly societies purchase them ?—I think not. All Parliamentary papers are for sale, but I think you will find that no revenue is brought in from them. Here is another—the Statistical Register, Interchange, 1,400 copies; the Technical Education Commission, 1,200; another Technical Education Commission, 2,000 copies. Of course, the great cost is, first, the compilation, and then setting it up, and they say then it does not matter whether you have extra copies or not ; the cost of the paper is small, but there is the cost of labour in making it up. In the Papers-office, as I mentioned in my report in 1892–3, there are tens of thousands of papers stored there now.

9. Some of those have as many as 800 or 900 pages, I suppose ?—Yes. In the vaults of Parliament House, in the Papers-room, there are tens of thousands of copies of papers that will never be wanted—it is all waste.

10. That means tons of paper ?—Yes, scores of tons. On this question of reduction in the number of copies to be printed, our recommendation is now that the Printing Committee of the two Houses should revise the list as to who should have the papers. Mr. Watson has all the information, and will give evidence on that point. In the House of Commons it is laid down that all the Parliamentary papers are sold. There is a Papers-office, and if any one wants a paper he buys it. As I said before, the revenue from Parliamentary papers here is nothing at all, although they are all advertised for sale in the *Government Gazette.*

11. *By the Hon. N. Levi.*—Do they all pay in England ?—Yes, every one pays except the Members of Parliament. There is a department called the Votes-office, where the Parliamentary papers are sold. For instance, I may say, if I want a volume of the Proceedings of the House of Commons or Lords officially, I apply, but I pay for it. There is a charge made.

12. *By Mr. Bromley.*—That is the English House ?—Yes, the Imperial Parliament. If we want any back number for the Parliamentary Library, we have to pay.

13. *By the Hon. N. Levi.*—There is no interchange ?—No.

14. *By Mr. Bromley.*—It would be a saving to make the press and others pay in our case ?—Mr. Watson has the papers as to that. As I have said over and over again, the great thing in reducing the cost of the Parliamentary printing now is that the papers presented to Parliament that are going to be printed should be condensed as far as possible without destroying their efficiency. Some of the papers are of the greatest importance. I have gone carefully through them, and cannot see where many could be reduced very much, but some of them can be. Here, for instance—[*producing a paper*]—is the style of paper that might be abolished—"Applications from Water Trusts." Every one of those is printed in full. I do not see any necessity for that. A copy only should be laid on the Table of each House. Mr. Watson and I have decided upon a plan for altering our records of the Council and Assembly. It does not come to much in the year, but still it is a saving in the right direction. It will save half the money spent now on the "Votes and Proceedings," and one-third of that now spent on the "Minutes of the Council."

15. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—You have also considered whether a saving could not be effected in the manner of taking down the evidence before commissions and committees ?—Yes. We make a suggestion on that, that it should not be *verbatim,* and it is very doubtful, after some of the committees or some of the commissions have reported, whether a great deal of the evidence is ever looked at. Here is another paper —"Technical Education Commission's Evidence"—that is a paper laid before Parliament last session.

16. *By Mr. Bromley.*—The evidence in that case will be gone into very fully ?—I do not think it will afterwards. The printing of this paper alone cost £558. The way to test the value of this would be to find out how many of those papers are still in stock. Mr. Watson informs me that there has been a great demand for this paper, showing that it could not have been reduced. The number of copies printed was 1,260.

17. What price per copy is put on that ?—Twelve shillings and ninepence ; it is on sale at the Printing-office for 12s. 9d. There are 579 pages of evidence, independent of the Report, at a cost of £558. Of course, all the committees that take evidence in both Houses are open to the public and the press, and the evidence is reported every day, and I think it is very doubtful whether some of the committees could not very much abbreviate the style of taking evidence, because once a committee has reported the interest is, as a rule, gone. I am certain of this—that a large number of copies of the reports of select committees are in stock.

18. Do you think the omission of the questions as asked before commissions, and only the replies given to be taken down, would be an advantage ?—I am not so sure about that, because often a question is asked in a special way to bring out an answer that is required. I am not so sure that that would work out very well.

19. *By Mr. Speaker.*—How would you regulate it ; would you leave it to the chairman ?—First, I would let the committee decide, before any of the evidence was printed, as to whether they wanted it printed or not.

20. *By Mr. Prendergast.*—I think they do that now ?—No, I think not.

21. *By the Hon. N. Levi.*—Has the question of wages anything to do with this printing question ?—I cannot say that ; I am no authority on that.

22. *By Mr. Bromley.*—Can you tell us if the press are supplied gratuitously with copies of all these reports ?—Yes, everything ; every paper published in Parliament is supplied gratuitously to the press.

23. Can you say the exact number?—Mr. Watson has taken that up; we worked it out.

24. *By Mr. Speaker.*—In connexion with that, does the press reciprocate; do we get newspapers free?—I am under the impression that the Library of Parliament has copies of all the papers forwarded by way of exchange. I know when I was Clerk of the Assembly, and now as Clerk of the Parliaments, that, if a newspaper applied for the Parliamentary papers, first of all the proprietor had to state that the paper would be forwarded regularly to the Parliamentary Library.

25. But we wait for the paper to be six months old before we give them anything?—I know nothing about that. There is a rule that every newspaper in the State applying for papers gets them.

26. *By Mr. Bromley.*—Can you give an idea of the correspondig value of the interchange?—I cannot.

27. *By the Hon. J. Y. McDonald.*—How many copies of the Technical Commission went to the press?—I will get that, and the other information asked for by the Committee.

28. There is nothing further you have to suggest beyond the suggestions made in your report?—No.

29. You condense it in that report, and have now explained it at large?—Yes. Mr. Watson and I went fully into the question of the distribution; he has a valuable paper that I would like the Committee to examine him on that will show how the papers are distributed.

30. *By the Hon. N. Levi.*—As to "C," on the second page of your recommendations—[*reading the same*]—there has been, I believe, a custom of sending to the Members to ask whether they would like the papers?—I have always written to ask a new Member if he would like the Parliamentary papers, and if he does they are all sent.

31. *By Mr. Bromley.*—There has been a great deal of agitation as to the reduction of the number of Members of Parliament; in connexion with the matter, do you think the reduction of Members of Parliament would make any material difference in the cost of the printing bill?—Not one sixpence, absolutely. I would like to state on the question of the Government printing that, since I have had the honour of being the Clerk of either House, I have always paid the greatest attention to it, and have endeavoured in every possible way to keep it down to the lowest possible cost, and since I have been Clerk of Parliaments I have greatly reduced the number of copies printed. That can be seen by the number of copies left in stock, say for last session, paper No. 1, 21 copies; No. 4, 24 copies, and so on. Not a paper goes to press from the Council but I put on it the number of copies required.

The witness withdrew.

George H. Jenkins, C.M.G., recalled and further examined.

32. With reference to the distribution of the Parliamentary papers, I will read a paragraph from May's *Parliamentary Practice*, which explains the practice of the Imperial Parliament. It is as follows:—"Papers printed by order of the Lords are, on application, distributed gratuitously to Members of the House of Commons, and to other persons with orders from peers. They are also accessible to the public by sale. The Commons have more fully applied the principle of sale as the best mode of distribution to the public. Each Member, under the Regulations now in force, can, on application, receive a copy of every paper printed by the House; but he is not entitled to more than one copy without obtaining an order from the Speaker. Certain reports and papers, viz., Reports of Royal Commissions, and of Select Committees, and all papers relating to the Estimates are distributed to every Member as a matter of course without application." I would strongly urge on this Committee the advisability of considering, when they revise the list of those persons or institutions who are entitled to, or require, the Parliamentary papers, whether a system of purchase should not be insisted on. I never could see why valuable Parliamentary papers should be sent broadcast all over the State. We repeatedly have applications from public bodies for Parliamentary papers. If they want them, why should not they pay for them? I would urge that strongly for the consideration of the Committee.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned to half-past eleven on Tuesday next.

TUESDAY, 12TH AUGUST, 1902.

Members present;

The Hon. the PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, in the Chair;

The Hon. N. Levi, M.L.C.,	Mr. Speaker,
The Hon. J. Y. McDonald, M.L.C.	Mr. Bromley.

Thomas G. Watson, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, examined.

33. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—The Committee would be glad to hear you on the subject that has been referred to us?—I would like to make a statement first, and take in the different points in the report signed by the Clerk of the Legislative Council and myself which we prepared for the Government, and which has been presented to the Committee. First, as to the cost of Parliamentary printing. The report we have submitted shows that the cost of all printing for Parliament, including *Hansard*, is £7,384 per annum; out of that there is £3,000 for *Hansard*. When I was getting the information to prepare this report, I tried to ascertain how that large sum, which has been reported in the press as the cost of Parliamentary printing, had come to be stated at £69,798. This was referred to at your last meeting. The amount is evidently taken from the Estimates for last year; £69,798 being set down for the whole cost of the Government Printing Office for 1901–2. That is evidently how the large sum of £69,798 was reported to be the cost of Parliamentary printing; but this sum, of

course, includes many other things besides printing for Parliament. I have here a statement from the Government Printer, showing the total cost of the Printing Office at certain periods, and the total revenue received. I will read that for the six years given. It is as follows :—

Year.	Total Cost.	Revenue.	Net Cost.
1880–1	£39,485	£11,594	£27,981
1885–6	58,650	18,998	39,652
1890–1	94,450	33,505	60,945
1895–6	44,815	21,278	23,537
1900–1	68,378	30,792	37,586
1901–2	77,450	45,000	32,450

You will note that for the year just passed, although the gross cost has gone up very considerably, the net cost has fallen very considerably, being last year £32,450 compared with £60,945 for 1890–1. My object in reading this is to show that although the gross cost may be very much larger, you have to look at the net cost to see what the Printing-office costs the State.

34. As regards Parliament, the cost is £7,384, including *Hansard?*—Yes. That is the average cost of Parliamentary printing, including *Hansard,* for the last four years.

35. *By Mr. Bromley.*—Does that include all reports?—Yes; Parliamentary papers, departmental reports, reports of Commissions and Committees, Bills, Votes and Proceedings of the Assembly and Council, Notices of Motion for both Houses, and Weekly Divisions, returns, and binding.

36. *By Mr. Speaker.*—Of course, that £77,450 includes railway time-tables, railway tickets, and printing for the Education Department, and everything?—Yes; all the books for the public departments, State school papers—the whole of the Government printing. The Committee asked at the last meeting what revenue the Printing-office got from the sale of Parliamentary papers—I have received a letter from Mr. Brain, dated the 11th instant, which says :—

The amount received from the sale of Parliamentary papers during the years 1900 and 1901, is as follows:—1900, £14 5s. 11d.; 1901, £13 11s. 7d.

So, practically, the revenue is not worth talking about. In the House of Commons it is the custom to charge for papers. The Legislative Assembly Department pays every year for the Parliamentary Debates of the House of Commons 13s. per volume, and for the Journals of the House of Commons, 10s. each, and we pay for any Imperial Acts we get. We transmit money to the Agent-General, and any papers of the Imperial Parliament that we want we have to pay for.

37. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—We do not make the profit they do in England?—No. I think all their printing is contract printing, and people there have to pay for the papers. Several years ago the Printing Committee of the two Houses recommended that that should be the practice here—that we should follow the Imperial practice, and charge for all papers. The following is from the Progress Report of the Joint Library Committee presented to both Houses in 1859-60 :—

That the Parliamentary papers be supplied to the public at the rate of 30s. per session, or one penny per sheet, or for any less quantity than one sheet.

38. That recommendation has never been acted upon?—No.

39. *By the Hon. J. Y. McDonald.*—We have been giving everything away?—Yes. At the last meeting, Mr. Prendergast asked for a return showing how that £558, the cost of printing the evidence of the Technical Education Commission, is made up. I have the particulars now from the Government Printer. They are as follow :—

Composition ...	£395	16	0
Authors' corrections and proof pulling ...	58	15	3
Making-up and imposition ...	22	0	0
Machining ...	16	14	4
Binding ...	12	3	4
Paper ...	53	9	2
	£558	18	1

That gives a good general idea of how the cost of printing is made up in documents of that sort.

39A. *By Mr. Bromley.*—Have you any returns as to the sale of that?—Yes. As far as regards the demand for copies, seventeen were sold for £2 5s. 9d. The Technical Education Commission presented six Reports in all, and they have been greatly in demand, especially the report on "Practical Instruction in Primary Schools." We have only six copies of that in stock. All the Parliamentary papers presented to both Houses are kept in the custody of the Clerk of the Assembly, and all the stock is kept by him. As I have said, we have only the six copies left. I have been obliged to refuse to issue those six, as they are required here for reference. This report has been largely referred to in the English papers, and it is a most valuable document. The Board of Education, England, states that "the document as a whole is one of the most important papers issued of recent years on educational problems." I will read a list of what reports of this Commission I have in stock. The First Report, 55; the Second, 6; the Report on Technical Education in Great Britain and America, 82; the Third Progress Report, 51; the Fourth, 45; the Fifth, 138, and the Final Report, 97; and of the Minutes of Evidence there are 114 copies in stock.

40. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—Were any of these paid for?—No; we never charge for papers. We supply them at the discretion of the Speaker. We have defined rules as to whom we give them to. We often refuse to give papers, and send the people to the Printing Office, and let them pay for them. But, as a rule, those papers are used in the business of the House. Members get them, use them, and then return them, and the papers are put back into stock.

41. *By Mr. Speaker.*—In that case we have given away between £500 and £600 worth of reports for nothing?—Of course, those reports are not issued to any one who likes to come and apply. I think most strongly that when once those reports are compiled at great cost, if they are circulated to those who use them, it is a great public benefit. As to these Technical Education Commission's reports, the Commission used a great deal of discretion as to the number printed. The copies vary from 860 up to 2,010; that was the Final Report of the Commission, which cost £247. I can show you how that was distributed.

I asked for a general statement of the manner in which copies have been disposed of; 760 copies were printed for Parliament. I can tell you later what was done with those. Six copies were retained for sale to the public, and the balance forwarded to the secretary of the Commission. So the bulk of the copies have gone to the secretary of the Commission for distribution to various places. The University has got some, and a number of copies were sent to the old country, and all over Australia. You also asked a question as to the cost of printing, and the total cost of this Commission. The Technical Education Commission cost altogether £2,635. Out of that there was £1,226 for printing, £536 for shorthand writing and transcription of the evidence, and £873 for the working cost of the Commission, that is, the cash paid through the Chief Secretary's Department for the working expenses of the Commission. That includes all their reports and all expenses incurred the whole time they were sitting. As to the shorthand writing, the £536 is made up in this way:—The shorthand writer charges £1 1s. a day for his attendance —the money is not paid, it is a book entry—and the transcription of the evidence is at the rate of 1s. per folio of type-written evidence; that is also a book entry. There were 8,260 folios of evidence transcribed. The Metropolitan Board of Works Commission was the other body of which you wanted the details. The Commission cost £650. The printing was £192; the amount paid through the Chief Secretary's Department was £231 for the working cost of the Commission, and the shorthand writing was made up in a similar way to the other. There is also another report referred to—the Friendly Societies' Report. The Committee wished to ascertain about the large number of those printed, 2,160 copies. That was made up in the following way:—772 copies for Parliamentary distribution, to the press, to the Members of both Houses, the Public Departments, and those who are on the Parliamentary list. That leaves us about 150 copies for stock, and we have now of that last Report 125 copies, that is the minimum of our requirements. There were copies sent to the different district societies for the use of the managing committees of 57 orders. There are 1,109 branches of societies, but they do not send them to any branch that has less than 30 members. There are 252 branches that have less than that; so the branches have 857 copies. To Friendly Societies, Government officials in Australasia and the United Kingdom, 114 copies; newspapers in Victoria, other Australian States and the United Kingdom, 63 copies. Altogether the total number distributed is 1,273 copies. To show the importance of this report, and the interest taken in it, I may say that there are 97,937 persons interested in Friendly Societies, and these societies have a capital of £1,316,000, or over £13 a member, and the report clearly sets out all the details, and is a most valuable document.

42. *By Mr. Bromley.*— Should not that report be paid for by the newspapers and the societies?—That is a matter of policy for the Committee, I only show that the copies are not wasted; 3s. 3d. is the price put on it if the public had to pay for it. As to the question of reducing the cost of this £4,384, Mr. Jenkins dealt with most of the items at the last meeting; and I would like to add that early last recess, the Speaker asked me specially to look into this matter, and see if I could suggest some economies, and to report on the same. I would like to say, speaking generally, that there has been a most keen scrutiny of all the Parliamentary papers since the Speaker spoke to me, to see that nothing is printed that is not really essential. Take the "Votes and Proceedings" of the Assembly; the actual cost of that for four years averaged £256. Recently there has been a good deal of attention given to try and reduce the volume of that in every possible way. As you know, the Clerk of the House is sworn before the Executive Council to make true entries of everything done and passed by the House; the Standing Orders require these entries to be printed, and they become a valuable record, which is constantly referred to; not a night passes but we have to refer to the records.

43. Would not *Hansard* deal with all that?—If you will allow me I will deal with that point presently. I may further say that those "Votes and Proceedings" are, by the Evidence Act, made evidence in a court of law. To show how they are studied by those interested in Parliamentary matters, I may say that recently a committee of the Law Institute had copies of all the "Votes" to see how Bills affecting the Constitution had been dealt with, and, where the law required a statutory majority, whether it has been given effect to, and those Acts properly passed. That entry is made in the "Votes." As to making *Hansard* the record, any one who is conversant with how the business is done in the House, knows that *Hansard* is kept busy transcribing the speeches of Members. A question is put from the Chair, and there may be hundreds of pages of speeches intervening before the question is amended, or put from the Chair, and a division takes place. Again, Ministers in charge of a Bill, and other Members, have amendments to propose, and the Clerk has to keep his Bill written up with the amendments, and the Minister has his copy too. While that is going on *Hansard* is busy reporting the debate, and knows nothing of what is going on as to the record of actual things done and passed in the House, and the whole of the business of the House between the two Houses. Every thing done has a simple short record entered in the "Votes and Proceedings," or Journals of the House. The "Votes" of the Assembly are much less in volume than in connexion with any other Parliament I know of. We have avoided the cost of putting in the "Votes" the whole of the proceedings in Committee, and the questions by Members to Ministers. In the Federal House and other States when a question is asked of a Minister, that is entered in the "Votes." We do not do that. When the House goes into Committee every proceeding is entered by the other Parliaments, and recently the Clerk of the Legislative Council and myself have devised a scheme for shortening the entries, so as not to show fully the formal questions put from the Chair, but to show the essential things, and make a record that would be evidence in a court of law, or would help a Member at once to see what the business was, and how it was dealt with by the House. Then the Standing Orders Committee at its last meeting made an alteration, at the instance of the Speaker, which has enabled us to avoid the printing of all the "votes" from the Committee of Supply and of Ways and Means in the Journals. Those Estimates occupied a lot of space. When the Estimates come down they are in print, and each Member sees exactly what the items are. It has been the practice required by the Standing Orders since 1877 to print the whole of those Estimates in the "Votes and Proceedings," and then they finally appear in the Appropriation Bill. As a better way it is proposed that we avoid the printing in the "Votes," and we have altered the Standing Orders to effect this, and have reduced the volume from 40 pages in the last Supplementary Estimates to 1½ pages. It will reduce the whole of the "Votes" this Session by one-third; that will not do any injury; so that with the abbreviations of the forms we will have a Journal which will be a model of conciseness and brevity. It is an improvement for the Members to be able to know what is being done in as small a

compass as possible, and it saves us a great deal of clerical labour. On the other hand, if you abolish the "Votes and Proceedings" you would increase the clerical work four or five times in making copies and supplying information. When the House makes an Order for a return, for instance, each Department gets a copy of the "Votes" in the morning, and *Hansard* gets it, and can check their report by it, and the Members, when they want to know how a Division has gone, can get at it quickly from the index. I think the cost of the "Votes and Proceedings" will be brought down now to an amount that the Parliament and public will be satisfied is an economical and fair thing.

44. *By Mr. Speaker.*—It cannot be brought down lower?—It certainly cannot. A great deal depends upon the length of the Session. In an ordinary Session I should say, with these improvements, you would bring down the cost at least one-third.

45. No business body can get on without some minutes of what is done?—No; any ordinary shire council must do that. That deals with the point about the "Votes" which the Clerks of the two Houses are personally responsible for. The Printing Committee ordered originally 1,000 copies of those "Votes" to be printed. We have cut them down to absolute requirements; of some we only print 250 copies; others 600, depending on what things are done in the House, and who we know require them. Every order is made in writing on the issue as to whom it is to be sent to. As to the Notice-paper, you can make no reduction in that, because it is a handy way of letting Members know what business is coming on, and the Members and others get that. We make it up every evening, and it is issued to every one in a proof form in the morning; it simply states the Notices of Motion and Orders of the Day for the next meeting. The whole cost of that to the Assembly is £142 per year. As to the Bills, they cost £670 a year; that is the average cost for the last four years for both Houses, and you can make no reduction. All the Bills are drafted by the Parliamentary Draftsman, and sent to the Printer; they are set up and distributed to those on the distribution list. It is very important that the Members should know what Parliament is doing in the Bills before it. There is one small economy we have effected recently—Mr. Prendergast called attention to it in the House—as to putting the summary on the title-page of the Bill instead of on a separate sheet. I called the attention of the Law Department to that, and now the analysis is always printed on the front page, and that saves the double fold. All economies may appear trifling separately, but in the aggregate they amount to a good deal in the year.

46. *By Mr. Bromley.*—Are the Minutes of the Legislative Council the same as the "Votes and Proceedings" of the Assembly?—Yes. As to the binding of the Parliamentary papers, £275 is put down as the cost of that. I would like to say that this matter has been inquired into before the Printing Committee. It used to be the practice to send a bound volume of "Votes" and Parliamentary papers and returns to Members at the end of a Session. In 1896 the Printing Committee had a circular sent out as follows:—

Sir,

It having been reported to the Printing Committee of the Legislative Assembly that some Members of Parliament do not desire Parliamentary papers regularly posted to them as at present, I have the honour, by direction of the Committee, to ask that you will be good enough to inform me if you wish to discontinue receiving any such papers, including the *Government Gazette.*

We received a large number of replies. Some Members did not wish to have them, others did. At the end of each Session, when any new Member is elected, we send a circular and ask him if he desires to have the Parliamentary papers. Many Members find it convenient to have these papers for reference, and I may say at the end of last Session, out of the 95 Members of the Assembly, 57 received the Parliamentary papers bound, and in addition, what we call quarter-bound sets, with cardboard covers, are sent to New South Wales, South Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Queensland, Western Australia, Canada, South Africa, the United States of America, and fourteen sets to the Premier's Secretary here, who distributes them from a list he has got. Half-bound sets are sent to Parliamentary and Public Libraries; Private Secretary for transmission to the Secretary of State for the Colonies; the Agent-General, London; Imperial Institute, London; Librarian, Royal Colonial Institute, London; Imperial Institute, London; Melbourne Public Library (three sets); Consul for France, also Legislative Council and House of Representatives. Those are all by special request, and we are constantly getting requests from libraries for the papers. The New York Library have asked for a complete set of the "Votes" of the Assembly, and the Parliamentary papers from the beginning of the Victorian Parliament. There is much more interest taken in those papers than people generally think. We get the papers from the other states, and we have to constantly refer to them, and it is a great help to find out what another state has done. It is a system of exchange in those cases. I would suggest that another circular should be sent out to ask whether the list can be lessened. You see, only 57 copies are sent round to Honorable Members, and the total cost of all binding is £275 a year. We have ten sets of the "Votes and Proceedings" and Parliamentary papers kept for reference at Parliament House, and they are constantly in use.

47. Is that 57 for the Legislative Assembly only?—Yes. I want the Committee to understand that they are sent to those who make use of them, and who require them in their Parliamentary work. When any legislation is under consideration in the House, many of those documents are in great demand at once—statistics and reports. The Technical Education Commission made great use of the reports of the Education Department, for instance, in their work. To show how some of these reports come up, I may instance that the Railways Standing Committee were inquiring into the water supply of the Coliban, and we were able to shorten the inquiry greatly by having all the printed reports that were prepared years ago in the early time of the installation of the Coliban system, and it saved a great deal of money in the inquiry. As to the Railways Standing Committee's reports, a member of the Council said he did not see the use of those reports. Now that Committee has been specially referred to on several occasions. When the first report came out the great metropolitan papers stated that the report, if rightly acted upon, would be worth millions to the colony. To show that this statement was not a wild exaggeration, I may say that the lines that have been actually built during the last ten years since the Committee came into operation have cost, in the aggregate, over a million less than the estimates submitted to the Committee. I mention this to show the value of those inquiries. On the Collingwood line, the Committee had an estimate from the Department that the land would cost £107,000. They made an exhaustive inquiry as to that; they had two valuers of their own valuing it, and they adopted their estimate after full inquiry, and the Construction Act enacted that if the land could not be got for the lower sum, the line should

not be built. The result was that the land was obtained for £62,000 instead of £107,000; so the State saved £45,000 through that. There was another suggestion made in our report—that the printing might be curtailed in the case of Select Committees by not printing the proceedings of the Committees. I have not known of any case where any injury would have arisen if those were not printed if the divisions are printed. In the Railways Committee's Reports a paragraph showing the divisions is inserted. The House is then aware of the opinion of the Committee on each question; that is all they want to know; they do not require all the details of the inquiry. If the Committee desire there might be an alteration of the Standing Orders as to that; it would effect a saving, and would not do any harm. That brings me down to the question of Parliamentary papers presented to both Houses, £2,842. As Mr. Jenkins said, each Minister has been asked by the head of the Government to specially give his attention to this matter, with a view of curtailing all matter not essential for the business of the House and public information. If any one who uses these reports much goes through them they will see it is an immense advantage to curtail them to the lowest possible limits, because it involves a great deal of time looking through them, and if you can get your points quickly it is a great advantage. Take the Railway Department's Annual Report. I think in some respects that has been cut down too much, and in that case Parliament does not get as much information as it used to get, and ought to have. Other reports can, no doubt, be curtailed.

48. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—At one time the Railway Report set out all the financial operations?—Yes; and it is a matter that is so important that it is of the greatest advantage to have the fullest information in that report, and any curtailment beyond the present limit would be a great mistake, and would involve calling for returns, and asking by Committees for information that should be in the report.

49. The report should be a full one, considering you are dealing with forty or fifty millions of money?—Yes. If you look at the reports—for instance, take the question of the charities, which Parliament will be dealing with shortly—the Inspector of Charities' reports contain most valuable information and suggestions as to changes of administration, and as soon as these questions arise, those reports will be in great demand. The question arose the other day as to financial matters in the University Commission, and the system of keeping the public accounts. Now, here is a report in 1855, a most valuable report:—"Progress Report of the Finance Committee on the Mode of keeping and managing the Public Accounts," signed by Edward Grimes, Wm. Hamilton Hart, and D. C. McArthur. That was in 1855. That report will come into demand now, though it has lain by for so many years. That will afford the inquiry into our present system the greatest help as to the origin of the system of keeping the public accounts. I mention this to show that although we have papers stored up, we have not an undue number of them, and as long as you print what is essential, it is an advantage to keep a fair stock in hand, up to 50 or 100 copies, in case a question arises; it often prevents taking a whole inquiry over again. That brings me to the last point—the printing of evidence for Commissions and Committees.

50. *By the Hon. N. Levi.*—Are the 760 copies of all those Parliamentary papers distributed?—Yes, the Parliamentary papers presented to both Houses; and we say in our report that the Committee should give attention to the revision of the list for distribution. I had that gone into very elaborately, but if the Committee will allow me, I will speak as to the printing of the evidence first. The printing of the evidence is a matter that costs a good deal; in fact, the printing of evidence is the largest item, and it is a matter of great difference of opinion whether evidence should be printed or not. I think very strongly that a good deal of evidence could be reported in what we call narrative form, like depositions in a court of law, instead of questions and answers. The Shorthand Writer (Mr. Wade) and I had several conversations as to the Railways Committee reporting, as to the evidence of farmers and others in the country. It is a very great advantage to the Committee to know what the producers are doing in order to be able to say whether a railway is justifiable or not. That evidence, taken down and transcribed in that short form, leaving out the questions and answers, I found worked most advantageously. Here is a case where it was done right through; the whole of that was done in deposition form—"Report on Refrigerating Stores." Every Commission, as soon as it is appointed, gets a circular letter from the Chief Secretary's Department saying they are not to print their evidence, and every Commission, without exception, proceeds at once to ignore that instruction and print their evidence. I know of only one case—a Committee of the Legislative Council on the Heaney case—where the evidence was not printed and it was attempted to do without the printing. The result was that the report was brought up for discussion in the Assembly, and the bitterest complaints were made that Members could not deal with the question properly because the evidence was not available, and that they had only the report without the evidence on which it was based. The House spent two or three hours discussing the matter, and objected most strongly to the evidence not being before them. If the Committee decide to deal with this matter, this is what I suggest, but I would suggest it for consideration, not as a final recommendation, because the Shorthand Writer would have to say whether it was feasible, and the Government Printer would be able to say whether it would work out properly. I would suggest that a full note should be taken of the evidence, question and answer, unless the Chairman of the Committee directed it to be taken in the narrative form in particular instances. After it was taken down, instead of one copy being type-written, it should be duplicated, say six copies made. Those would be sent to the clerk of the Committee or the secretary of the Commission, and instead of printing at once, the clerk would send one copy to each witness to get his revision, and would have the witnesses' revisions put on one of the original type-written copies. The advantage of this would be when you got all of the evidence back, you would have a complete set as a record of the evidence taken down and transcribed, and that could always be referred to. Then the Committee should decide how much of that evidence should be printed, whether all of it, or a précis made; but the question of printing should arise after all the evidence had been taken and the corrections made. I think if that were done it would save a good deal. You would attain this end—that you would have an absolute record of the whole thing. I know that is most essential; a question arises on a big subject, and it is essential to have the evidence. I made the greatest use in the Railways Committee of all the evidence, and we know in the Assembly when the report of the Railways Committee comes up the Members want to know what the evidence says. The opinion expressed by professional officers in their evidence before the Committee is often different from the view of the Committee, and in those cases it is right that the House should know what the Commissioner and the professional officers have said as to the estimates and so on.

51. *By Mr. Bromley.*—The Reynolds Committee was a case in point?—Yes; and in all Commissions I know, as a matter of practice, it is essential when the House is considering the report, that it should have the record of the evidence before it. So, boiled down, this suggestion is that each Committee will be made responsible for saying whether its evidence is to be printed or not.

52. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—Does that conclude your statement?—Yes.

53. *By the Hon. N. Levi.*—As to the distribution, there are 760 copies you said, as a matter of course, printed?—That is for the papers presented to both Houses.

54. How do those go?—The papers issued on that list are distributed as follows:—Parliament, 252 copies; Commonwealth, 21; Official, 44; Newspapers, 96; Public Libraries, &c., 31; Consuls, 18; General List, 36; Outside Victoria, 38; making a total of 536 copies out of 760. The balance is partly retained at the Printing Office for sale, and the rest sent here for stock and binding. That is what we call the working stock for use in the Parliament, for record, keeping in the Papers-office, and selling to the public. The distribution comes to 536. That is the complete list as furnished by the Government Printing Office—[*handing in the same*].

55. *By the Hon. J. Y. McDonald.*—In a general way the saving effected by curtailing the publication of the "Votes and Proceedings" would be so trifling that it would not be worth talking about?—I think the whole list ought to be revised. I think a good deal of the extravagance is that papers are sent as a matter of course to people who do not want them, and they say it is a waste. We made a recommendation that the papers should not be sent round as a matter of course, but in our Notice-paper we should show that certain papers are available for distribution, and then those who want them should send a request that they should have this particular paper. That would work out; you would reduce the number of copies printed in each case by 200 copies. For instance, the Premier in his speech at Nhill referred to the New Guinea Report being sent round. Now, that is a report over which we have no control whatever. That report is printed in Brisbane. It is very voluminous, and very interesting; it is sent to us, so many copies, and we accumulate a great many of them in stock. There is not the demand for that. That can be easily remedied by the Department taking action to curtail the number of copies sent, and to excise anything that is not essential. The compiling is done by the Administrator of New Guinea, and is wholly out of our hands.

56. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—It is a most interesting but a most expensive record, but we have nothing to do with it?—Yes. I mention that as it was specially referred to. Members have often said—"What is the use of sending all these papers to me?" Members are busy men, as a rule, and they often get the papers when they are not ready to refer to them, and when they go to their papers they have a great bundle to search through for the one they want. I should say when a Member wants a particular paper he should ask for it by telephone or otherwise.

57. *By Mr. Bromley.*—Instead of sending those reports out, how would it answer if you sent a list of what you had in stock?—I suggested that. I think if you considered that point it would do away with the idea of extravagance, because it is always extravagant to supply a paper to a person who does not want it; that paper is lost, and others who want it cannot get it. We would say—"The following papers are available on application at the Papers-office." The newspapers and others who wanted it would telephone for it, and those who wanted it would get it.

58. *By the Hon. N. Levi.*—Do you apply that to the public offices?—No.

59. Why are they sent to them; do they want them?—Certainly; they make more use of them, perhaps, than any others. We get constant and numerous demands from the public departments for papers. They have a printed form in the department asking for Parliamentary papers; the head of the department puts down the number of papers required. We keep a record of all the papers distributed outside of Parliament House; not for the working of the House, because they are sent into the Chamber, and out again when we are finished with them. Here is a request for instance—"Mining Registrars' Reports," by Mr. Noyes, at the request of Mr. Zox; reports going back to 1864 which were asked for. If those papers were paid for that would give us some revenue, and thus people would pay a small cost for each report.

60. *By Mr. Bromley.*—I do not see why the State should give away valuable papers for private purposes?—No.

61. *By the Hon. N. Levi.*—My question was more particularly, do the whole of the papers that are printed get sent?—No; there is a discretion used. What I read out were the papers presented to both Houses; commissions and departmental reports and other matter of that kind. For instance, take the Notice-paper of the Assembly; the distribution of that is 605; of Bills 599 copies. Then we get a certain number for stock; those are distributed when the Bills are called on, and they are collected by the messengers and taken back, and used again when the Bill comes on again.

62. *By Mr. Bromley.*—Sometimes the Members make notes on them and deface them?—Yes, and they sometimes take them away. Council Bills, 345 to make an issue; the reason of that is that Council Bills are distributed to Members of the Council only. When sent to the Assembly a Bill is distributed to the Assembly Members.

63. *By the Hon. N. Levi.*—The papers get them indiscriminately—96 altogether?—The metropolitan dailies, the *Age*, *Argus*, and *Herald*, take six copies of the Notice-paper, six of the Minutes and papers of the Council, and four copies of the Council Bills; six of the Assembly Notice-papers, six copies of the "Votes and Proceedings," and papers, and four copies of the Bills. They get all Parliamentary papers.

64. *By Mr. Speaker.*—Do they get *Hansard?*—I am not dealing with that.

65. *By Mr. Bromley.*—Those expensive Commission reports?—Yes. The *Australasian* and the *Weekly Times* got two complete sets of copies each; the leading provincial press, and the general country press, the suburban press, and general Melbourne press are supplied. Now, as regards the country press, the arrangement is with the Library; they file their paper in the Library free of cost, and get the Parliamentary papers in exchange. They get the papers free.

66. But look at the vast difference; we send reports worth half-a-sovereign?—They have the best of the deal, no doubt, but they get information that is valuable to the public, and they disseminate it.

67. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—Is there anything else you wish to add?—I think not.

The witness withdrew.

Thomas G. Watson, recalled and further examined.

68. *By the Hon. N. Levi.*—Would the introduction of the linotype make a great saving?—I think it would, but I cannot give an authoritative opinion. I would like to add that in the Assembly in order to avoid the cost of printing any papers of which copies are required, except those considered so important as to justify the printing, are copied by means of the latest machine for duplicating. We can take off 200 or 300 copies very quickly of all the returns required for the House; we type them in that way.

The witness withdrew.

WEDNESDAY, 18TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

Members present:

The Hon. the PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, in the Chair;

Mr. Deputy Speaker,

The Hon. N. Levi, M.L.C.,	Mr. Bowser,
The Hon. J. Y. McDonald, M.L.C.,	Mr. Bromley,
The Hon. E. E. Smith, M.L.C.	Mr. McCutcheon,
	Mr. Prendergast.

Evan F. Owen, examined.

69. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—What are you?—Actuary of Friendly Societies.

70. We wanted to get some information from you about the printing of the Friendly Societies' Report which has been laid on the Table of the Legislative Assembly but not printed.—[*Report handed to witness.*] [*The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly read from* Hansard *what took place in the Legislative Assembly in regard to the Report*]?—I have been asked to attend here to inform you more fully as to the letter I sent on the 8th of August in reply to the Clerk's letter of the 6th August. I have brought a copy of the table I sent before, and also particulars showing where the Reports have gone to.

71. Will you read that?—"Distributed to—(1) 57 Orders, Districts, and separate societies, for use of Managing Committee, 141; (2) 1,109 Branches, less 252 with fewer than 30 members, 857; (3) Friendly Societies and Government Officials in Australasia and United Kingdom, 114; (4) Newspapers in Victoria, other Australasian States, and United Kingdom, 63; (5) Persons interested in Friendly Societies, 53; (6) Applied for since 3.3.02, 45; Distributed to 8.8.02, total 1,273; (7) Remaining in stock on 8.8.02, 115; making altogether 1,388 copies." These other papers give the details.

72. *By Mr. Bromley.*—You send this Report out gratuitously?—Oh, yes.

73. What is the Printing-office charge?—2s. 3d., the last Report; total cost, £135.

74. Were there any copies sold?—I do not know. People would buy them at the Government Printer's.

75. *By Mr. Deputy Speaker.*—Is there a big demand—do you send them without people requisitioning for them?—The last Report—we distributed 857 to Branches, and to Orders 141, for the use of the Managing Committee.

76. No application is necessary?—They send in how many they want.

77. And all those they require are sent?—Yes.

78. There is a big difference in those numbers?—Yes; they ask for more after the general distribution. There were 45 specially applied for.

79. Does the Report contain the valuation of the societies?—Yes.

80. In order that they may keep their payments up, and understand the position of their branches, it is necessary they should have this Report?—Yes.

81. It is in the interests of the Government they should have it, seeing that the Government have appointed your Department to see that they pay adequate fees?—They base their rules on my Report.

82. *By the Hon. N. Levi.*—Does the £135 include all the cost?—For 2,160 copies—that is the most recent Report.

83. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—Are similar documents given away in England or Scotland?—I could not say; I fancy they are given away.

84. *By Mr. McCutcheon.*—Do you think the various branches of the friendly societies would be willing to pay, say, 3s. 6d. for them?—I could not say.

85. Is it of 3s. 6d. value?—It depends on how they look at it.

86. *By Mr. Deputy Speaker.*—Do they not cut their expenditure so fine through your supervision that they have no money for extras?—That is true.

87. They are very economical in the working?—Yes. I may say that the Report is much reduced, the number of pages made much fewer in number than before. The 1889 Report was 126 pages, and cost £175, 2,110 copies; the 1900 Report, 95 pages; and now this Report has been reduced, by direction of the Treasurer, to 70 pages.

88. *By Mr. McCutcheon.*—Can the Report be further reduced without impairing its efficiency?—I think not. In 1891, in the Appendix, we used to supply the detailed tables. That has been left off since.

89. All the rest of the information is vital?—Yes, important.

90. *By Mr. Deputy Speaker.*—How many societies are there?—The Treasurer and Under-Secretary and myself had correspondence on the subject, and a note I have made here bears on your question, if you

will allow me to read it. This is a minute I sent back in reply to various memos. :—" The importance to the State of these mutual assurance societies of the people is shown by—Their aggregate capital, £1,367,457; their total membership, 100,783, or nearly one-third the adult males in the State, making, with families, over 403,000 persons sharing in the benefits distributed thereby, equal to one-third the total population of Victoria. The Royal Commission, 1876, report :—'6. Besides their social importance in relation to the State, the societies are of incalculable advantage to the industrial classes themselves. Their very existence . . . . . springs from that spirit of independence and self-reliance which has always been the chief characteristic of the English people. However they may vary in name they really form one whole, as representing the different modes in which the working of the spirit of self-help among . . . . . the industrious classes has been recognised and deemed worthy of encouragement by the Legislature.'"

91. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—I do not think we have any doubt as to the importance of the institutions. It will hardly be necessary for you to read further on that head. Do you send Reports to all the branches without their asking for them?—We have a list. We do not send to a branch with fewer than 30 members. There are about 30 Orders altogether.

92. *By Mr. Deputy Speaker.*—Would it materially reduce the cost suppose half-a-dozen were sent to each Order?—Yes.

93. One copy for themselves, and the others to lend to their branches—say half-a-dozen copies for each Order?—I could not say whether that would work.

94. *By Mr. McCutcheon.*—What demand do you think there would be if we sold those copies to the societies at 3s. 3d. or 3s. 6d.?—I could not say that. Mr. Taylor, the secretary of one of the societies, was going to ascertain.

95. *By the Hon. E. E. Smith.*—What better claim have you got than the Mutual Provident Society has for having your statement printed free of cost?—We go by direction of the Act. The Act requires them to be printed; or, at any rate, we always thought so till the Treasurer decided it did not. It is the 1890 Act—1094—section 9, sub-section (*b*)—[*reading the same*]. Then section 10, as to copies to be laid before Parliament—of course that could be done in manuscript.

The witness withdrew.

Robert S. Brain, Government Printer, examined.

96. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—At the last meeting you expressed a wish to lay certain matters before the Committee again. Will you kindly state the result of your consideration?—The Committee requested me to prepare a report, and, with your permission, I will read it.

97. Before doing so, have you anything to say in addition to what Mr. Owen has said on the question of the Friendly Societies Report?—Yes; I can tell you that the cost of 760 copies (the Parliamentary number for issue) is £120 4s. 6d. That was the last printed Report. The cost of 1,300 additional copies was £14 10s. 7d.

98. *By Mr. McCutcheon.*—A little over £1 a hundred?—Yes.

99. *By Mr. Bromley.*—The principal cost lies in the setting up?—Yes; but I may explain that this type is kept standing; and, as a consequence, I suppose we reduce the cost of it as compared with setting it up afresh every time by some £230 or £240. So that the sum of £120 is a very small amount for a Report of that particular kind of work.

100. *By the Hon. E. E. Smith.*—What is the cost of one copy—that is up to the time of printing the first copy?—As it stands at present, about £100.

101. What would it cost to print afresh if you had to re-set the type?—Roughly speaking, about £350.

102. *By Mr. Deputy Speaker.*—Is there much matter in that Report that appears in previous Reports?—I dare say nearly the whole of it—all the schedules.

103. Would it materially reduce the cost suppose you printed only the new matter, and if those who used them could refer to previous Reports?—Of course, if that could be done; but I do not know what the new matter in that is.

104. *By the Hon. the Chairman.*—Will you kindly read your report?—[*The witness read the same as follows :—*]

Sir,

In compliance with the direction received from you at the previous meeting of this Committee, I have the honour to submit a report on the proposals of the Clerk of the Parliaments and the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly for economizing the cost of Parliamentary printing.

I assume that you desire me to exhibit the probable saving that would be effected in the cost of producing the printing and binding in question if those proposals were adopted.

I gather from the report referred to that the proposals are as follow :—

1. To reduce the number of copies of Parliamentary Papers printed—
   And, as an aid in that direction, it is suggested that the papers should be furnished to honorable members and others on application only.
2. To reduce the volume of printing—
   (*a*) By inviting Ministers to insist upon material condensation of all Departmental Returns, Reports, &c.
   (*b*) By omitting from reports of Select Committees the Minutes of their proceedings.
   (*c*) By reporting the evidence of witnesses before Select Committees and Royal Commissions in narrative form instead of as at present in the form of question and answer.

I propose to deal with these proposals seriatim.

Accordingly I will take the first proposal and endeavour to show the saving by reducing the number of copies printed of the Parliamentary Papers. In so doing, it is of course extremely difficult to furnish a reliable statement based on an average annual cost. The total cost of Parliamentary printing, given in the report of the Clerks of Parliament, is the average of a period of four years. In order that the results may be worked out correctly, it is proposed to take one of the years comprised within the period referred to—that is the year 1900-1. The total cost of Parliamentary printing for that year was £4,365 6s. 6d. as compared with the average total of £4,384 1s. 2d.

If the number of copies printed during the year 1900–1 had been reduced by 100 copies or by 200 copies the saving effected would be as shown hereunder.

—	Machining.	Folding, &c.	Paper.	Total Saving on Reduction of—	
				100 Copies.	200 Copies.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Parliamentary Papers	4 1 0	2 5 0	23 9 8	29 15 8	59 11 4
Bills	2 2 0	1 0 0	5 14 0	8 16 0	17 12 0
Legislative Assembly Votes and Proceedings ...	1 16 0	0 10 0	2 5 0	4 11 0	9 2 0
Legislative Assembly Notices	1 4 0	0 7 6	0 16 6	2 8 0	4 16 0
Legislative Council Minutes	0 16 0	0 5 0	0 12 6	1 13 6	3 7 0
Legislative Council Notices...	0 6 0	0 2 0	0 4 6	0 12 6	1 5 0
Weekly Divisions	0 5 0	0 1 9	0 4 0	0 10 9	1 1 6
				48 7 5	96 14 10

And thus it would appear that the adoption of this proposal would effect a saving of £48 if 100 copies less be printed, and £96 if 200 copies less be determined upon.

With respect to the proposal to supply these papers on application only, it would be necessary in that case also to decide upon the number of copies to be printed. In determining that number, two important considerations should be borne in mind. On the one hand, should the number decided upon prove inadequate to meet the demand, the papers would have to be reprinted, and so double the cost. On the other hand, should the demand not absorb the total number printed, no saving would accrue. It is obvious however, that to avoid the risk of reprinting the papers, a number amply sufficient to meet the probable demands would have to be adopted. And thus the only advantage likely to arise from this proposal is that a number of the papers would remain in stock instead of being issued. But, as the cost of printing would have been incurred, it will doubtless be conceded that this proposal would not be productive of any savings.

And now with regard to the proposal to reduce the volume of printing, and the several methods by which that object is to be accomplished.

The first method suggested is to invite Ministers to insist upon material condensation of all Departmental Returns, Reports, &c.

Hereunder is a list of these documents, showing the cost of setting up the type of each :—

Title.	Composition.
	£ s. d.
Report, Insane Hospital	4 8 10
Report, Public Service Board	3 18 10
Trustees Public Library	17 14 5
Trade Unions	0 16 3
Explosives	3 3 10
Chief Inspector Factories	15 12 6
Settlement on Lands	2 11 11
Neglected Children	5 3 9
Public Instruction	45 6 8
Trustees Agricultural Colleges	0 16 11
Observatory	2 14 5
Savings Bank	18 5 8
Railways	52 15 7
Proceedings under Land and Wattles Act	7 13 2
Aborigines	3 6 11
Report, Penal Establishment	5 11 11
Report, Charitable Institutions	12 15 0
Report, Electric Light Act	1 4 5
	204 1 0

It will be observed that the total cost of composing these documents amounts to £204. Assuming that the efforts of Ministers caused the papers in question to be condensed by one-third, which is probably a liberal estimate, the resultant saving would be about £68.

The fact will perhaps be noticed that the Railway Report, which has been eulogized as a model of conciseness, is the most costly of all the documents enumerated. And therefore, unlike its predecessors, it will probably not be regarded as an example of that brevity which is the soul of wit.

The next method suggested is to omit from the Reports of Select Committees the Minutes of their proceedings. I find that during the year 1900–1 four Select Committees printed their reports. Allowing for the retention of divisions, the aggregate cost of printing the Minutes of the four Committees was £14 5s.

The final method suggested is to report the evidence of witnesses before Select Committees and Royal Commissions in narrative form instead of, as at present, in the form of question and answer. It is not an easy task to correctly appraise the saving likely to be effected by this means. The extent of the abridgment possible is largely a question of opinion. Suppose, however, that the employment of the narrative form occasioned a reduction in the whole of the evidence reported of one-fourth, which will, perhaps, be considered a fair estimate, it would probably effect a total saving of £248. It is not probable, however, that the whole of the evidence could be satisfactorily reported in that manner. It frequently happens that a knowledge of the question imparts a clearer comprehension of the answer elicited thereby. There is room, therefore, for a legitimate difference of opinion as to which of these methods is the more efficient in conveying information on the subject of inquiry. If, therefore, the anticipated saving of £248 from the application of this proposal to the whole of the evidence reported were reduced by one-half, it would furnish probably a closer appraisement of the results of this proposed reform. Taking this view of the matter, the resultant saving would amount to £124.

Summarizing the probable savings arising from these proposals, the amounts are as follow:—

Reduction of number printed by 200 copies	£96 14 10
Abbreviation of Departmental Returns, &c.	68 0 0
Omission of Minutes of Proceedings	14 5 0
Reporting evidence in narrative form	124 0 0
Total	£302 19 10

Having now shown the probable economic effect of the proposals of the Clerks of Parliament on the expenditure for Parliamentary printing, I may, perhaps, be permitted to submit a proposal to accomplish a further reduction

of that expenditure. To clearly exhibit the effect of my proposal, I propose to set out, under separate headings, the cost of the documents under notice, viz., those for the year 1900–1. The information is as follows:—

—	Composition.	Proofs.	Authors' Corr.	Machining.	Folding.	Litho.	Paper.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Statistical Returns	373 7 2	8 8 11	67 14 2	25 14 1	13 2 1	...	58 14 5
Departmental Reports ...	204 1 0	5 16 9	28 16 8	12 0 7	8 3 1	...	27 15 5
Reports and Evidence ...	959 2 0	26 4 5	187 12 11	48 18 1	56 16 11	59 5 6	153 3 11
Papers Presented	45 13 6	1 0 9	6 19 4	7 11 6	19 17 3	...	8 7 2
Miscellaneous	101 0 3	4 12 6	30 8 4	30 19 11	89 14 4	91 19 6	68 13 10
Total Parliamentary Papers	1,683 3 11	46 3 4	321 11 5	125 4 2	187 13 8	151 5 0	316 14 9
Bills	241 16 11	20 19 8	212 9 8	54 18 6	11 19 7	...	72 19 5
L.A. Votes and Proceedings ...	167 3 3	2 2 9	44 10 8	19 6 8	2 4 0	...	12 4 5
L.A. Notices	85 19 5	0 0 4	22 13 2	18 4 10	0 7 2	...	8 19 10
L.C. Minutes	92 18 10	1 1 9	16 8 2	7 15 9	0 12 8	...	4 10 8
L.C. Notices	33 14 5	0 1 2	4 5 8	8 6 3	0 2 8	...	2 17 5
Weekly Divisions	9 10 5	0 9 10	7 7 2	6 9 2	2 2 6	...	3 4 7
	2,314 7 2	70 18 10	629 5 11	240 5 4	205 2 3	151 5 0	421 11 1

With reference to the Parliamentary Papers comprised in the four first items, I wish to explain that the type o the Statistical Returns and of the tabulated portions of the Departmental Returns is kept standing, and that, therefore, nothing more can be accomplished from my point of view so far as these items are concerned to promote economic production. With respect to the items Bills, Reports and Evidence, Papers presented, and also the Votes and Notices, the Minutes and Notices of the two Houses, it will be found that the composition or setting up of the type for these documents amounts to the sum of £1,626. Now all that composition could be executed by type-setting machinery. If that kind of machinery were introduced, it would be the means of reducing the cost of setting up the type for these documents by about one-half, or by, say, £813. The cost of this machinery would be about £4,700 if one kind were selected, and about £3,580 if another were selected. As to the relative merits of the two different machines, I do not wish to express any definite opinion until I have had some experience of the working of one of these machines, which is now being erected in this office for the Commonwealth Government. Moreover, I should state that the whole of the interest on the cost of the type-setting machinery would not properly be chargeable to the Papers in question, inasmuch as the machines would be employed on other work. And thus, if type-setting machinery were employed on printing these Parliamentary documents, a saving of nearly £813 would result.

To summarize the whole of the probable savings so far proposed, the amounts are as follow:—

	£ s. d.
Reduction of number printed by 200 copies	96 14 10
Abbreviation of Departmental Returns, &c.	68 0 0
Omission of Minutes of Proceedings	14 5 0
Reporting evidence in narrative form	124 0 0
Employment of type-setting machinery	813 0 0
Total	1,115 19 10

Of course if a portion of the evidence were printed in narrative form, it would reduce the saving effected by th employment of type-setting machinery by £200, and thus the total probable savings would be about £900.

105. That is inclusive of the £813 if the machines were bought?—Yes; £1,115 odd saving in all.

[*The Hon. the President having retired, the Hon. N. Levi was elected to take the Chair.*]

106. *By the Hon. N. Levi.*—As to the evidence taken before a Committee or Commission, such as the Factories Act Commission, is not a copy of it sent to the different parties who are examined?—The Shorthand Writer can answer that. As to the cost of "authors' corrections" in connexion with evidence, I do not think that I am responsible for that. On several occasions I have requested that the proofs be returned to Mr. Wade, the Government Shorthand Writer, before we deal with them, and I believe that has been done in some cases, but I cannot compel the secretary of a Commission or the Chairman to conform with the usual rule. The authors' corrections on the evidence were, for 1900–1, £187 12s. 11d.; so it is evident from that that some witnesses do make corrections.

107. *By Mr. Bromley.*—Are not those corrections more in relation to the Reports than the evidence of Commissions: I know that is so in regard to the Factories and Shops Commission, where no evidence was sent to the witnesses for revision?—That is, no doubt, the case. I have put down here "Reports and Evidence," I have not divided the one from the other and therefore I think it is more than probable what Mr. Bromley says is correct—that a good deal of the cost under this head will be in regard to the Reports.

108. *By the Hon. E. E. Smith.*—You alluded to Federal printing; how is that charged to the Federal Government; do you charge it at the actual cost or put a profit on it?—Since December last the Commonwealth Government are providing their own funds for wages and so on, for the workmen employed on the work that they have to do.

109. They are occupying your office to do their printing?—Yes.

110. *By Mr. Bromley.*—Is there any rental charged?—No.

111. If you introduced the linotype it would necessarily throw out of employment a number of men; what would become of them; would you still occupy them in the office?—If the linotype were introduced a good number would have to be discharged, but if it were possible to accomplish what is to be done by the monotype then so large a number would not be discharged.

112. *By Mr. Bowser.*—Would the saving be £813 with the monotype?—I think so.

113. It would save as much though the men are not displaced?—I would not like to say for certain, but I think about the same.

114 *By Mr. Prendergast.*—How do you account for that?—Because, with the linotype, if you have any corrections, it must be corrected by means of the linotype; in the monotype, the corrections can be done by compositors.

115. *By Mr. McCutcheon.*—You gave the cost of the lino. machines as £4,500?—I should want about four.

116. Would they cost £4,700?—Yes. I should want a 42-em pica.

117. *By Mr. Prendergast.*—You say if you use the monotype you will not have to discharge any hands—how can you make out that the monotype is going to pay?—I said I would not have to discharge so many if I had the monotype.

118. *By the Hon. E. E. Smith.*—On the other hand the saving in the linotype would be much greater?—I do not know; I am not quite in a position to say that.

119. *By Mr. McCutcheon.*—Is the Audit Commissioners' Report mentioned in your report?—No.

120. Could you suggest any saving through an alteration of the sizes of the paper so as to make the type used for the one stage of the business do for the type that is used in the other?—I do not know any documents to which that would apply.

121. *By Mr. Bromley.*—Can you inform the Committee of the number of documents that are sent out gratuitously from the Government Printing Office to the various institutions throughout the country and to the Press, and the value of them annually?—That is comprised in the report of the Clerks, given before this Committee.

The witness withdrew.

Adjourned to Wednesday next, at half-past two o'clock.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VICTORIA.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

JOINT SITTING

OF THE

HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT OF THE STATE OF VICTORIA

TO CHOOSE A PERSON

TO

HOLD THE PLACE IN THE SENATE

RENDERED VACANT BY THE DEATH OF

SENATOR SIR FREDERICK THOMAS SARGOOD.

Held in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act.

By Authority:
ROBT. S. BRAIN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, MELBOURNE.

THE QUEEN'S HALL,

PARLIAMENT HOUSE, MELBOURNE.

WEDNESDAY, 21ST JANUARY, 1903.

The Members of the Legislative Council and the Members of the Legislative Assembly having, pursuant to resolution, assembled in the Queen's Hall:—

1. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.—W. D. Beazley, Esquire, the Deputy-Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, rose and moved—"That the Honorable Sir Henry John Wrixon, K.C.M.G., be appointed President of this Joint Sitting," which motion being seconded by the Honorable N. FitzGerald, M.L.C., was unanimously resolved in the affirmative.

Sir Henry Wrixon, having expressed his acknowledgments for the honour which had been conferred upon him, then took the Chair.

2. RULES OF PROCEDURE.—The Premier, the Honorable W. H. Irvine, M.L.A., submitted rules of procedure for the consideration of Honorable Members as follow :—

1. On any debate arising the same shall be conducted according to parliamentary usage.

2. A Member, addressing himself to the President, shall propose a person to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of Senator Sir Frederick T. Sargood, K.C.M.G. When any person is so proposed, his proposer shall state to the Members present that such person is willing to hold the vacant place if chosen.

3. If only one person be proposed and seconded, the President shall declare—"That has been chosen to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of Senator Sir Frederick T. Sargood."

4. If more than one person be proposed and seconded, the person to hold the vacant place shall be chosen by ballot.

5. Before giving directions to proceed with the first ballot, the President shall ask if any Member desires to propose any other person to fill the vacancy, and, no other person being proposed, the first ballot shall be proceeded with, after which no person shall be proposed.

6. Each Member present shall be provided with a ballot-paper certified by the Clerks of the two Houses, and shall write thereon the name of one of the persons duly proposed, and shall place the paper in the ballot-box.

7. The President shall appoint a Member of each House to be scrutineers, who, with the Clerks of the two Houses, shall ascertain the number of votes for each person.

8. If any person shall have an absolute majority of the whole number of the Members voting, the President shall forthwith declare—"That has been chosen to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of Senator Sir Frederick T. Sargood."

9. If on the first ballot no person shall have received an absolute majority of the Members voting, a second ballot shall be taken; but the name of the person who shall have received the fewest votes at the first ballot shall be excluded.

10. Until one of the persons proposed obtains an absolute majority of the Members voting, successive ballots shall be taken, and at each ballot the name of the person who shall have received the fewest votes at the preceding ballot shall be excluded.

11. If on any ballot it shall be necessary to decide between two or more persons as to which is to be excluded from a subsequent ballot through the number of votes for such persons being equal, a special ballot shall be taken, and the name of the person having the greatest number of votes at such special ballot shall be included at the subsequent ballot.

12. As soon as any person obtains an absolute majority of the Members voting, the President shall declare—"That has been chosen to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of Senator Sir Frederick T. Sargood."

13. The President shall in all cases be entitled to a vote.

14. The records of the proceedings and ballot-papers shall be retained by the Clerk of the Parliaments of the State of Victoria, who shall be the custodian thereof.

And, after debate—
Rules 1 to 3 agreed to.
Rule 4—
Mr. Warde moved, That the word "ballot" be omitted, with a view to insert in place thereof the words "open voting."
Debate ensued.
Question—That the word proposed to be omitted stand part of the rule—put.
The Members divided.

Ayes, 126.

Legislative Council.

The Honorables—
J. H. Abbott,
S. Austin,
W. L. Baillieu,
J. Balfour,
J. Bell,
S. G. Black,
F. Brown,
T. Brunton,
J. C. Campbell,
T. Comrie,
E. J. Crooke,
Sir H. Cuthbert,
J. M. Davies,
T. Dowling,
Dr. W. H. Embling,
N. FitzGerald,
G. Godfrey,
W. B. Gray,
F. S. Grimwade,
D. Ham,

The Honorables—
T. C. Harwood,
H. W. H. Irvine,
N. Levi,
Walter S. Manifold,
D. E. McBryde,
W. McCulloch,
J. Y. McDonald,
D. Melville,
E. Morey,
W. Orr,
T. H. Payne,
W. Pearson,
W. Pitt,
J. M. Pratt,
A. O. Sachse,
G. Simmie,
E. E. Smith,
Sir A. Snowden,
J. Sternberg,
H. Williams.

Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Andrews,
Mr. Anstey,
Mr. Argyle,
Mr. Ashworth,
Mr. Austin,
Mr. Bailes,
Mr. Barr,
Mr. Beazley,
Mr. Bennett,
The Hon. T. Bent,
Mr. Bowser,
Mr. Boyd,
Mr. Bromley,
Mr. Brown,
Mr. E. Cameron,
The Hon. E. H. Cameron,
Mr. J. Cameron,
Capt. Chirnside,
Mr. Craven,
Mr. Cullen,
Mr. Downward,
Mr. Duffus,
The Hon. J. Gavan Duffy,
Mr. Field,
The Hon. T. Fink,
Mr. Fletcher,
Mr. Forrest,
Mr. Gair,
The Hon. Sir S. Gillott,
The Hon. G. Graham,
The Hon. J. H. Graves,
Mr. Grose,
Mr. Hall,
Mr. C. Hamilton,
Mr. W. A. Hamilton,
Mr. A. Harris,
Mr. J. Harris,
Mr. Hennessy,
Mr. Hickford,
Mr. Hirsch,
Mr. Holden,
Mr. Hutchinson,
The Hon. W. H. Irvine,

Mr. Keogh,
Mr. Kerr,
Mr. Kirkwood,
The Hon. J. W. Kirton,
Mr. Lancaster,
Mr. Langdon,
Mr. Lawson,
The Hon. J. F. Levien,
Mr. Livingston,
Mr. Mackey,
Mr. Mackinnon,
Mr. Madden,
Mr. Maloney,
Mr. McBride,
Mr. McCutcheon,
Mr. McDonald,
The Hon. R. McGregor,
The Hon. M. K. McKenzie,
The Hon. D. McLeod,
Mr. Menzies,
Mr. Mitchell,
The Hon. J. Morrissey,
The Hon. J. Murray,
Mr. Oman,
The Hon. Sir A. J. Peacock,
Mr. Prendergast,
Mr. Ramsay,
Mr. Sangster,
The Hon. W. Shiels,
Mr. Shoppee,
Mr. Smith,
Mr. Stanley,
Mr. Sterry,
Mr. Swinburne,
The Hon. J. W. Taverner,
Mr. Thomson,
Mr. Toutcher,
The Hon. W. A. Trenwith,
Mr. Wallace,
The Hon. W. A. Watt,
Mr. Wilkins,
Mr. Williams,
Dr. Wilson.

Noes, 5.

Mr. Billson,
The Hon. D. J. Duggan,
Mr. Elmslie,
Mr. Tucker,
Mr. Warde.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.
Rule 4 agreed to.

Rule 5—

Mr. Watt moved, That after the word "proposed" where it first occurs the words "any member may ask any of the candidates any relevant question, after which" be inserted.

Debate ensued.

The amendment was put and negatived.

Rules 5 to 14, after debate, agreed to.

Mr. Prendergast proposed the following rule:—

"15. No person who is at the present time a Member of the Parliament of the State shall be capable of being proposed as a Senator at this Joint Meeting."

Debate ensued.

Question—That this rule be agreed to—put.

The Members divided.

Ayes, 2.

Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Maloney, | Mr. Prendergast.

Noes, 124.

Legislative Council.

The Honorables—
J. H. Abbott,
S. Austin,
W. L. Baillieu,
J. Balfour,
J. Bell,
S. G. Black,
F. Brown,
T. Brunton,
J. C. Campbell,
T. Comrie,
E. J. Crooke,
Sir H. Cuthbert,
J. M. Davies,
T. Dowling,
Dr. W. H. Embling,
N. FitzGerald,
G. Godfrey,
W. B. Gray,
F. S. Grimwade,
D. Ham,
T. C. Harwood,

The Honorables—
H. W. H. Irvine,
N. Levi,
Walter S. Manifold,
D. E. McBryde,
W. McCulloch,
J. Y. McDonald,
D. Melville,
E. Morey,
W. Orr,
T. H. Payne,
W. Pearson,
W. Pitt,
J. M. Pratt,
R. Reid,
A. O. Sachse,
G. Simmie,
E. E. Smith,
Sir A. Snowden,
J. Sternberg,
H. Williams,
A. Wynne.

Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Andrews,
Mr. Argyle,
Mr. Ashworth,
Mr. Austin,
Mr. Bailes,
Mr. Beazley,
Mr. Bennett,
The Hon. T. Bent,
Mr. Billson,
Mr. Boyd,
Mr. Bromley,
Mr. Brown,
Mr. E. Cameron,
The Hon. E. H. Cameron,
Mr. J. Cameron,
Capt. Chirnside,
Mr. Craven,
Mr. Cullen,
Mr. Downward,
Mr. Duffus,
The Hon. J. Gavan Duffy,
The Hon. D. J. Duggan,
Mr. Elmslie,
Mr. Field,
The Hon. T. Fink,
Mr. Fletcher,
Mr. Forrest,
Mr. Gair,
The Hon. Sir S. Gillott,
The Hon. G. Graham,
The Hon. J. H. Graves,
Mr. Grose,
Mr. Hall,
Mr. W. A. Hamilton,
Mr. A. Harris,
Mr. J. Harris,
Mr. Hennessy,
Mr. Hickford,
Mr. Hirsch,
Mr. Holden,
Mr. Hutchinson,

The Hon. W. H. Irvine,
Mr. Keogh,
Mr. Kerr,
Mr. Kirkwood,
The Hon. J. W. Kirton,
Mr. Lancaster,
Mr. Langdon,
Mr. Lawson,
Mr. Livingston,
Mr. Mackey,
Mr. Mackinnon,
Mr. Madden,
Mr. McBride,
Mr. McCutcheon,
Mr. McDonald,
The Hon. M. K. McKenzie,
The Hon. D. McLeod,
Mr. Menzies,
Mr. Mitchell,
The Hon. J. Morrissey,
The Hon. J. Murray,
Mr. Oman,
The Hon. Sir A. J. Peacock,
Mr. Ramsay,
Mr. Sangster,
The Hon. W. Shiels,
Mr. Shoppee,
Mr. Smith,
Mr. Stanley,
Mr. Sterry,
Mr. Swinburne,
Mr. Thomson,
Mr. Toutcher,
The Hon. W. A. Trenwith,
Mr. Tucker,
Mr. Wallace,
Mr. Warde,
The Hon. W. A. Watt,
Mr. Wilkins,
Mr. Williams,
Dr. Wilson.

And so it passed in the negative.

3. Persons proposed to hold the Vacancy in the Senate.—The President announced that the rules having been adopted, he was now prepared to receive proposals from any Honorable Member with regard to a person to hold the vacant place.

The Honorable J. Gavan Duffy, M.L.A., proposed the Honorable Sir Alexander James Peacock, M.L.A., as the person to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of Senator Sir Frederick Thomas Sargood, which motion was seconded by the Honorable Sir Henry Cuthbert, M.L.C.

The Honorable James Bell, M.L.C., proposed the Honorable Robert Reid, M.L.C., as the person to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of Senator Sir Frederick Thomas Sargood, which motion was seconded by Mr. Mackey, M.L.A.

Mr. Bromley, M.L.A., proposed Stephen Barker, Esq., J.P., as the person to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of Senator Sir Frederick Thomas Sargood, which motion was seconded by Mr. Prendergast, M.L.A.

Sir Alexander Peacock submitted himself to the Joint Sitting.

4. First Ballot.—The President having asked if any Member desired to propose any other person to fill the vacancy, and no other person being proposed, the President directed the First Ballot to be proceeded with.

Ballot-papers duly authenticated were issued by the Clerks of the two Houses to Honorable Members, and such ballot-papers having been filled in, were deposited in ballot-boxes.

5. Scrutineers.—The President appointed the Honorable W. L. Baillieu, M.L.C., and the Honorable W. A. Watt, M.L.A., as scrutineers.

6. Result of First Ballot.—The scrutineers with the Clerks of the two Houses, having made a scrutiny of the number of votes received by each person, reported to the President as follows :—

Mr. President,

We have the honour to report that 131 votes were recorded by the Honorable Members present, and we find after the scrutiny that the result of the ballot is as follows :—

Honorable Robert Reid, M.L.C.	68
Honorable Sir A. J. Peacock, M.L.A.	51
Mr. Stephen Barker, J.P.	12

W. L. BAILLIEU, } Scrutineers.
W. A. WATT, }
GEORGE H. JENKINS, Clerk of the Legislative Council.
THOS. G. WATSON, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

7. Declaration of the Result of First Ballot.—The President declared that the Hon. Robert Reid, M.L.C., having obtained an absolute majority of the whole number of Members voting, had been chosen to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of Senator Sir Frederick Thomas Sargood.

8. Notification to His Excellency the Governor.—The Honorable W. H. Irvine, M.L.A., moved, That the President be requested to inform His Excellency the Governor that the Honorable Robert Reid, M.L.C., has been chosen to hold the place in the Senate rendered vacant by the death of Senator Sir Frederick Thomas Sargood.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

9. Vote of Thanks to the President.—The Premier, the Honorable W. H. Irvine, M.L.A., moved a vote of thanks to the President, which was seconded by the Honorable J. M. Davies, M.L.C., and carried unanimously.

The President having returned thanks, declared the Joint Sitting closed.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the Legislative Council.

THOS. G. WATSON,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

By Authority: Robt. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne.

VIC. MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEG. COUNCIL. SESS. 1902-3.