LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

WEDNESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER, 1899.

The President took the chair at half-past 3 o'clock.

REGISTRATION OF DEEDS BILL—SUPREME COURT BILL—LOCAL WORKS LOANS ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

ASSENT.

The President announced the receipt of messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, intimating that the Royal assent had been given to these Bills.

PAPER.

The following paper, laid on the table, was ordered to be printed:

Report of the Chief Inspector of Distilleries for the year ended 30th June, 1899.

LEGITIMATION BILL.

THIRD READING.

This Bill was read a third time, passed, and ordered to be returned to the Legislative Assembly for their concurrence.

ABORIGINAL PROTECTION AND RESTRICTION OF THE SALE OF OPium BILL.

THIRD READING.

This Bill was read a third time, passed, and ordered to be returned to the Legislative Assembly.

CRIMINAL CODE BILL.

Committee.

Preamble postponed.

Clause 1 put and passed.

On clause 2—"Establishment of Code"—

The POSTMASTER-GENERAL said hon. gentlemen would see that the Code would not come into force until the 1st January, 1901. That would give ample time for the regulations, and everything else necessary, to be prepared.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 3 to 10, inclusive, put and passed.

On the 1st schedule—"The Criminal Code of Queensland"—

The POSTMASTER-GENERAL said it was the general practice in the Council to put a schedule as a whole; but in that particular case the 1st schedule comprised the whole Criminal Code, and, as some hon. gentlemen might desire to consider certain of the clauses, he would suggest that the index be postponed, and that the schedule be taken chapter by chapter. That would give hon. gentlemen an opportunity, if they thought fit, of amending any particular chapter; and if amendments were made in the text the index could be correspondingly altered. That seemed to him the best method of dealing with a bulky schedule like the one before them.

The CHAIRMAN: I may point out that the usual practice in committee is to take a schedule as a whole. The reasons stated by the Postmaster-General for departing from the usual practice in that particular case are for the Committee to consider. My duty would ordinarily be to follow the usual practice. The Standing Orders give no definite instructions as to how a schedule shall be put, but our usage is, as I have said, to put it, like an ordinary clause in a Bill, as a whole. I should like, before proceeding further, that the Committee should decide for itself as to the course to be pursued. I might suggest that a motion be made to that effect.

Hon. W. FORREST said it would simplify matters if the Postmaster-General would move a definite motion on the subject.
The POSTMASTER-GENERAL moved that the index be postponed and that the schedule be dealt with chapter by chapter.

Question put and passed.

The schedule was put chapter by chapter, and passed without comment.

Index, as printed, put and passed.

Schedules 2, 3, and 4 put and passed.

The Council resumed; and the CHAIRMAN reported the Bill without amendment.

The report was adopted, and the third reading of the Bill was made an Order of the Day for Tuesday, the 21st instant.

The Council adjourned at twenty-seven minutes to 9 o'clock until Tuesday, the 21st instant.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

WEDNESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER, 1899.

The Speaker took the chair at half-past 3 o'clock.

REGISTRATION OF DEEDS BILL.-SUPREME COURT ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.-LOCAL WORKS LOANS ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

ASSENT.

The SPEAKER announced the receipt of messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, assenting in the name of Her Majesty to these Bills.

QUESTIONS.

Amendment of Shops and Factories ACT.

Mr. McDONALD (Fortitude Valley) asked the Home Secretary—

1. Is the intention to introduce, during the present session, the Bill promised in the Governor's speech for amending the Shops and Factories Act of 1896?

2. If so, what date does he propose to introduce the same?

The HOME SECRETARY (Hon. J. F. G. Fyffon, Cameron) replied—

1. Yes, if time will permit.

2. Date uncertain.

Inebriate Institutions.

Mr. McDONALD asked the Home Secretary—

1. How many institutions for the reception, control, care, and curative treatment of inebriates have been proclaimed in Queensland under the Inebriates Institutions Act of 1896?

2. Is there any "curative treatment" applied to diseased drunkards in such institutions; and, if so, what is the treatment?

3. How many diseased drunkards have been treated under the provisions of the Act of 1896?

The HOME SECRETARY replied—

1. Two.

2. Yes; dietetic and hygienic.

3. Thirteen.

Delay in Dispatch of Train from Toowoomba to Brisbane.

Mr. ARMSTRONG (Lockyer) asked the Secretary for Railways—

1. Is he aware that the train timed to leave Toowoomba for Brisbane daily at 7.45 a.m., was not dispatched from Toowoomba on the 7th instant till 10.15 a.m.?

2. Is it usual that the above train should be detained until after the arrival of trains from the South and West at Toowoomba?

3. Is he aware that this detention caused great inconvenience to intending travellers from the electorates of Drayton and Toowoomba, Lockyer, and Rosewood?

4. Is the district traffic manager at Toowoomba clothed with sufficient authority to enable him to run a special train when abnormal delays occur?

5. Does he consider the district traffic manager at Toowoomba competent to discharge the responsibilities of so important a railway station?

The SECRETARY FOR RAILWAYS (Hon. J. Murray, Normanby) replied—

1. Yes.

2. Yes; but the delay in this case was quite exceptional.

3. Yes; and he sincerely regrets the inconvenience.

4. Yes.

5. Yes.

Wearing Uniform at Rifle Club Matches.

Mr. McDONALD (Findon) asked the Premier—

1. Is it true that orders have been issued by Lieutenant-Colonel Hutchinson that in future at all matches members of rifle clubs are to appear in uniform?

2. If so, is it the intention of the Government to provide members of rifle clubs with the necessary uniform?

The PREMIER (Hon. J. R. Dickson, Bulimba) replied—

1. Not that I am aware of. Lieutenant-Colonel Hutchinson issued an order to the effect that all members of rifle clubs attending the rifle meetings in New South Wales and Victoria must appear in uniform, so this is one of the regulations of both these rifle meetings.

2. The regulations provide that "efficient" members of rifle clubs must be in possession of the uniform of their club at their own expense.

Electorates for Federal Representatives.

Mr. McDONALD asked the Premier—

1. Is it the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill to define electorates, for the election of senators, in accordance with the provisions specially provided for Queensland in the Federal Constitution lately agreed to by the two people of Queensland?

2. Is he aware that many newspapers published in Victoria No. 20s are in the habit of printing advertisements in their columns of an indecent nature?

3. Is he aware that this detention caused great inconvenience to intending travellers from the South and West at Toowoomba?

4. Is he aware that one of the worst offenders in this respect is the Courier?

5. Are his expenses being defrayed by the Government?

6. Is it the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill to define electorates, for the election of senators, in accordance with the provisions specially provided for Queensland in the Federal Constitution lately agreed to by the two people of Queensland?

The PREMIER replied—

1. As a supernumerary captain.

2. Yes.

3. Yes, he receives pay and he sincerely regrets the inconvenience.

4. Yes.

5. Yes.

THE POINT OF MAJOR BROWN IN TRANSVAAL CONTINGENT.

Mr. LESINA (Ipswich) asked the Premier—

1. In what capacity is Spencer Browne accompanying the contingent to South Africa?

2. Is he going as an officer of the contingent?

3. Are his expenses being defrayed by the Government?

4. Is it not a fact that he is going to South Africa as war correspondent for the Courier?

The PREMIER replied—

1. As a supernumerary captain.

2. Yes.

3. Yes, he receives pay as an officer of the contingent.

4. No officer doing duty with troops is allowed to act as war correspondent for a newspaper.

INDÉCÉPTE ADVERTISEMENTS.

Mr. LESINA asked the Attorney-General—

1. Is he aware that many newspapers published in the colony of Queensland are in the habit of printing advertisements in their columns of an indecent nature within the meaning of the Act to Suppress Indécépte Advertisements, 56 Victoria No. 301?

2. Is he aware that some nine years ago the Eagle, Springfield, and other papers were prosecuted under this Act for the publication of similar advertisements?

3. Is he aware that some two years ago the Eagle, Springfield, and other papers were prosecuted under this Act for the publication of similar advertisements?

4. Will he undertake to see that steps are taken to put the law in force against all newspapers offending under the said Act?