

the Committee will not lose the big things through tinkering with the small things.

The Hon. J. PERRY: If we accept the principle laid down by the hon. member Sir Thomas Hughes it would mean that we must pass any bill that comes before us so as to avoid trouble with the other House.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS HUGHES: I do not say that we should accept any sort of bill, but that we should accept this bill because we want it!

The Hon. J. PERRY: It is the duty of this House at all times when a measure is introduced that will take away or interfere with the liberty of the subject to amend it in a proper way. Here it is proposed to give power to officials to inject a lot of poisonous stuff into people who object to have it. The trouble is that where you give an authority power to do anything it will do it, especially if, as in the present case, there is a large body of inspectors going round administering the law. It is all very well to say the Governor has a voice in the matter.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS HUGHES: But they will not inoculate people like you did!

The Hon. J. PERRY: They will not do it so well. They will not use the same care. Many professional men would not use the same care. I am particularly strong on this amendment and shall press it.

Question—That the words proposed to be added be so added—put. The Committee divided:

Ayes, 4; noes, 26; majority 22.

AYES.

Moses, H. *Tellers,*
Wilson, J. Perry, J.
Taylor, Sir Allen

NOES.

Ashton, J. Mackay, Major-Gen.
Bryant, F. H. Nash, Dr. J. B.
Buzacott, N. J. Sinclair, A.
Carruthers, Sir Joseph Storey, T.
Dodd, J. M. Suttor, J. Bligh
Hepher, J. Travers, J.
Hordern, P. G. Varley, G. H. G.
Hughes, Sir Thomas Waddell, T.
Hunt, A. E. Warden, W. D.
Hurley, W. F. Wise, J. H.

Kater, H. E. *Tellers,*
Kavanagh, E. J. Brooks, W.
Lane-Mullins, J. Meeks, Sir Alfred

Question so resolved in the negative.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment, and passed through its remaining stages.

[The Hon. Sir Thomas Hughes.

SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.

DEFEAT OF THE GOVERNMENT.

The Hon. E. J. KAVANAGH: Owing to the present state of the political atmosphere, I do not propose to ask hon. members to take any other measures to-day, and I therefore move:

That this House at its rising to-day do adjourn until Thursday next.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

House adjourned at 5.50 p.m.

Legislative Assembly.

Tuesday, 13 December, 1921.

Resignation of Mr. Speaker—Election of Speaker—
Presentation of Mr. Speaker to the Governor—
Vacancy in Federal Senate—Assent to Bills—
Adjournment (Motion of Censure)—Resignation of
Ministry.

RESIGNATION OF MR. SPEAKER.

The Clerk read the following letter from Mr. Daniel Levy:

The Speaker's Room,
Sydney, 12th December, 1921.

Dear Mr. Mowle,—Will you kindly announce at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly tomorrow (Tuesday) my resignation of the office of Speaker.—Yours sincerely, DANIEL LEVY.

W. S. Mowle, Esq.,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER.

Mr. DOOLEY: I have to acquaint the House that his Excellency the Governor having been informed of the resignation by the Hon. Daniel Levy of the office of Speaker of this House, and it being necessary that a Speaker of the Legislative Assembly be chosen forthwith, it is his Excellency's desire that the members of the Assembly proceed to the election of one of their number as Speaker.

Mr. FRANK BURKE (Botany) [2.31]: I move:

That Simon Hickey, Esquire, do take the chair of this House as Speaker.

Mr. Simon Hickey is a well-known figure in the politics of this State. He has been a member of this honorable House for the past ten years, and at the time he entered this Chamber he was its youngest member. Prior to entering this House he was a very successful business man, and his

business knowledge has aided him very considerably in carrying out the duties that have devolved upon him as a representative of the people. In three Parliaments he has acted as Temporary Chairman of Committees, and I think hon. members will agree that in that capacity he has displayed considerable ability and clear-sightedness in dealing with points of order, and has generally carried out the functions of that office in an efficient manner. He has always been noted for his fairness. He has not shown any party bias or spirit, and I think we can safely say that in the high and honorable position of Speaker, he will acquit himself in a manner which will be acceptable to hon. members generally. I may be permitted to say that Mr. Hickey is married to the daughter of a gentleman now dead and gone, who was for many years a capable and estimable member of this Assembly. I refer to the late Mr. John R. Dacey, who served this country faithfully and well, and who has left an indelible mark on the records of this Parliament. Mr. Hickey has also been a very useful member of this House, in a constructive way. He was responsible for the introduction of a bill to provide for the control of the public accounts, and he had almost succeeded in passing that measure through all its stages when the House was dissolved. During last session, as hon. members know, he was instrumental in having passed through this House the Medical Practitioners' Charges Bill and he is also credited with having acted as sponsor to the Registration of Stock Brands Bill, which has been before this House during the current session. Speaking personally of Mr. Hickey, as a colleague of mine in the representation of the electorate of Botany, I am proud indeed to have the opportunity to propose him for the position of Speaker. I have had considerable experience of him, and I have always found him to be a man of a high-minded type, who would express his opinion irrespective of the consequences to himself. He is possessed of considerable courage and also of tact, and I feel quite sure that in the event of his being elected to the chair, hon. members will not regret their choice. I am confident that he will grace the chair of this Assembly.

Mr. MOLESWORTH (Cumberland) [2.35]: It gives me a great deal of pleasure, as one of the young and modest members of this House, to second the nomination of Mr. Simon Hickey for the important position of Speaker of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly. Mr. Hickey has been here for quite a number of years, and during that time his public utterances, his handling of the House in the position of Temporary Chairman of Committees, and his rulings generally, have won the admiration of all of those who have come in contact with him. I think the choice of Speaker this afternoon will be unanimous, and it gives me pleasure to think that will be the case. It is, indeed, fine to know that party politics in this country are so dead, and hon. members are so in unison that the strife and bitterness, of which we have heard so much lately in the daily press, are eliminated. I feel sure that for the period—whether it be brief or for the rest of the Parliament—during which Mr. Hickey occupies the chair, should he be elected this afternoon, he will make such a splendid impression on the House and the country generally, that when the next appeal to the electors takes place, and in the natural order of events the Labour party is returned to power with increased numbers, Mr. Hickey, by virtue of his conduct in the chair, will, during the peaceful times ahead, once more gain the coveted laurels of Speaker of this Assembly.

Members of the House calling Mr. Hickey to the chair, he was taken out of his place by the hon. members Messrs. Quirk and Davies, and conducted to the chair.

Mr. SPEAKER-ELECT (standing on the dais) said: I have to express my thanks for the honor the House has done me. I have to confess that my career in this House has demonstrated the fact that I have not been a keen party man. Behind all the questions that have engaged our attention I can very often see merits and demerits, unassociated with their location or origin. If that has worked to my disadvantage in times when party government is all supreme, I am hoping that it may work to an advantage on an occasion like this, when one is called to this important position, away, to some extent

from party atmosphere, I think it would be a proper time for me to express my appreciation to those parties constituting the Opposition of this and other Parliaments for their unvarying kindly and considerate treatment of me when I was acting as Temporary Chairman of Committees. I think that is due to them. I will try to deserve a continuity of that treatment in this august position whether I occupy it as long as I hope or as short as I expect.

Mr. DOOLEY (Bathurst), Premier and Colonial Secretary [2.40]: I rise for the purpose of congratulating you, sir, upon the position you occupy to-day as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales. During the period you have been in this House you have at all times conducted yourself with that decorum which, I am sure, will stand you in good stead in the position you now occupy. Your rulings have at all times been such that they have been rarely questioned by hon. members. You have shown a knowledge of procedure and of the Constitution which entitles you to fill well and honorably the position you occupy to-day. I have much pleasure in offering you my hearty congratulations.

Sir GEORGE FULLER (Wollondilly) [2.42]: On behalf of hon. members on the Opposition side of the House I join most heartily with the Premier in the congratulations he has offered to you on your accession to the highest position hon. members can offer to anyone of its members. It is quite true that during the ten years you have been in the House you have conducted yourself on the many occasions when you have been a Temporary Chairman of Committees with satisfaction to hon. members on all sides of the House. I speak for all members of the Opposition when I say that we have been eminently satisfied with all your rulings and your attitude towards hon. members. In the position which you now occupy—whether it be for short or for long—the experience you have had in the past as a Temporary Chairman of Committees will be helpful to you, and you may rest assured, in view of your attitude in the past, that your elevation to the position you now occupy meets with the approval of hon. members on this side of the House. Without

[*Mr. Speaker-Elect.*

making any invidious distinction, I think that all hon. members will join with me when I say that in all probability, of all the hon. members of this House, it would be most difficult to pick a man who would command in a greater degree than yourself the confidence of hon. members. I trust you will accept my assurance on behalf of hon. members of the Opposition, that we shall do our utmost to see that you will have as little difficulty as possible in your present position, as we feel sure that during your occupancy of the chair you will deal impartially with all sides of the House.

Mr. WEARNE (Namoï) [2.45]: I congratulate you, sir, on your elevation to the high and honorable position of Speaker. I endorse fully the remarks made by the hon. member Sir George Fuller. In my opinion no other member of the House could have been chosen whose election would have met with more general approval than yours has done. During the five years I have been in the House I have watched your career, both as a member and as a Temporary Chairman of Committees, and there is no man in the House for whom I have a greater respect. I feel sure that you will fill the position of Speaker with honor to yourself and credit to the House. I can assure you that members of my party accept with every degree of pleasure, the fact that you have been elected to the position.

Mr. DOOLEY (Bathurst), Premier [2.46]: I have to inform the House that it will be the pleasure of his Excellency the Governor to receive the Speaker at 5 o'clock. I move:

That this House do now adjourn until 4.45 p.m. this day.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

House adjourned at 2.47 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER took the chair at 4.45 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF MR. SPEAKER TO THE GOVERNOR.

Hon. members proceeded to Government House, and having returned,

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to report that the Assembly has been to Government House, where I informed his Excellency the Governor that, on the announcement in the House this day of the vacancy in

the Speakership caused by the resignation of the Hon. Daniel Levy, the Legislative Assembly, in the exercise of their undoubted right and privilege, had proceeded to elect one of their number to be Speaker, and that, the choice of the House having fallen on me, I had the honor to present myself to his Excellency as Speaker. Whereupon his Excellency was pleased to offer me his congratulations upon my elevation to the chair.

VACANCY IN FEDERAL SENATE.

Message received from the Legislative Council appointing Thursday next at 5 p.m., in the Legislative Council Chamber, for the holding of a joint sitting of both Houses to choose a person to fill the vacancy in the Federal Senate caused by the resignation of Senator H. E. Pratten.

ASSENT TO BILLS.

Royal assent to the following bills reported:—

- Katoomba Water Supply Bill.
- Parkes Water Supply Bill.
- Land and Valuation Court Bill.
- East Orange Sewerage Bill.

ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION OF CENSURE.

Motion (by Mr. DOOLEY) proposed:

That this House do now adjourn.

Sir GEORGE FULLER (Wollondilly) [5.35]: I desire to ask the Premier whether he is not prepared to make a statement with regard to the business of the House. There is an important motion standing on the business-paper in my name, which has been there since last week, and I should like to know from the hon. gentleman whether he proposes to give me an opportunity of moving that motion first thing to-morrow night.

Mr. DOOLEY: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. J. C. L. FITZPATRICK (Bathurst) [5.36]: I object to the Premier rising for the purpose of answering the question until we know if he is speaking in reply; otherwise the vote would then have to be taken, and no hon. member will have an opportunity of speaking. I desire to ask the hon. gentleman, in conjunction with the request that has been made by the leader of the Opposition, what he proposes to do as regards the House as it is at present constituted; whether he proposes to adjourn till to-morrow, and what he

intends to do in the way of business. Does the hon. gentleman propose to merely adjourn the House, and possibly let it "go to pot," figuratively speaking?

Mr. DOOLEY: I propose to adjourn till to-morrow!

Mr. J. C. L. FITZPATRICK: I want the hon. gentleman to make a definite statement. If the hon. gentleman rises now and says, "I do not propose to adjourn till to-morrow," that will be the end of it; there will be no debate.

Mr. DOOLEY: I propose to adjourn till to-morrow, and then make a statement as to my intentions!

Mr. J. C. L. FITZPATRICK: If the Premier makes that statement definitely, I will accept his assurance; but I suggest that in moving the adjournment of the House the hon. gentleman should indicate when he proposes to adjourn to.

Mr. DOOLEY: Until to-morrow!

Mr. J. C. L. FITZPATRICK: I know well enough that under normal conditions it would be all right, and I am not suggesting anything improper as far as the hon. member who is in charge of the House is concerned; but at the same time I think it is only a fair proposition—

Mr. DOOLEY: Don't you know that I can only adjourn until to-morrow, unless I move a special adjournment. I am not moving a special adjournment!

Sir GEORGE FULLER (Wollondilly) [5.38]: I want to know from the Premier definitely whether he is going to give me an opportunity first thing to-morrow night of moving the motion standing in my name on the business-paper.

Mr. DOOLEY: I will make a statement to-morrow as to the business!

Sir GEORGE FULLER: I want to know now. A definite motion of censure has been hanging over the head of the Government ever since last Tuesday—a motion which the Government has affected to treat with contempt, but which it now knows means business.

Mr. DOOLEY: You know the custom has been to submit the business from day to day. To-morrow I will submit the business!

Sir GEORGE FULLER: With all respect, I think I am entitled to a definite answer now. A motion involving the fate of the Government has been on the business-paper for the last week—a motion which if submitted to this House

undoubtedly means the death of the Government; and yet the Premier is not prepared to make a definite statement as to whether he will give me an opportunity of proceeding with that motion, and the House an opportunity of expressing its opinion on it.

Mr. DOOLEY: I repeat that I will make a statement to-morrow!

Question—That this House do now adjourn—put. The House divided:

Ayes, 44; noes, 45; majority, 1.

AYES.

Bailey, J.	Lang, J. T.
Birt, J. E.	Lazzarini, C. C.
Puckley, A. W.	Loughlin, P. F.
Burke, Frank	McClelland, A.
Burke, M.	McGirr, J. J. G.
Cann, G.	McKell, W. J.
Clark, J. A.	McTiernan, E. A.
Cleary, J. J.	Minahan, P. J.
Connell, Major	Molesworth, V.
Davidson, M. A.	Murphy, C. H.
Davies, W.	Murray, D.
Dooley, J.	Mutch, T. D.
Doyle, J. W.	O'Brien, W. J.
Dunn, Captain	O'Hearn, W. F.
Dwyer, D. F.	Quirk, J.
Ely, W. T.	Scully, P. C.
Estell, J.	Stuart-Robertson, R. J.
Fitzgerald, J. J.	Swiney, T. J.
Flannery, M. M.	Wright, J.
Gardiner, A. R.	
Gosling, M.	
Johnston, Carlisle	
Keegan, T.	

Tellers,

Greig, R.
O'Halloran, R. E.

NOES.

Anderson, D. M.	Jagues, H. V.
Arkins, J. G. D.	Kilpatrick, M.
Arthur, Dr. R.	Lee, J. R.
Ashford, W. G.	Levy, D.
Bagnall, W. R. C.	Ley, T. J.
Ball, R. T.	Loxton, E. J.
Bavin, T. R.	Main, H.
Bennett, W.	Nesbitt, G.
Bruntnell, A.	Oakes, C. W.
Bruxner, Lt.-Col.	Onslow, Colonel
Cameron, W.	Perdriau, R.
Carr, E. S.	Perkins, J. A.
Chaffey, Captain	Price, R. A.
Cocks, A. A. C.	Reid, A. A. E. E. V.
Doe, B. J.	Shillington, Lt.-Col.
Drummond, D. H.	Smith, A. F.
Fegan, J. L.	Walker, R. B.
Fitzpatrick, J. C. L.	Wearne, W. E.
Fuller, (Sir George	Weaver, R. W. D.
Grimm, A. H.	Wilson, Chapl.-Capt.
Henley, Sir Thomas	
Hill, T. H.	<i>Tellers,</i>
Hoskins, T. J.	Buttenshaw, E. A.
	Rutledge, Lt.-Col.

Question so resolved in the negative.

Mr. DOOLEY (Bathurst), Premier and Colonial Secretary [5.44]: I will ask you, Mr. Speaker, to leave the chair

—[Sir George Fuller.

until 8 o'clock, so that I may have an opportunity of reporting to his Excellency the Governor.

[Mr. Speaker left the chair at 5.44 p.m. The House resumed at 8 p.m.]

RESIGNATION OF MINISTRY.

Mr. DOOLEY: I beg to report that I called upon his Excellency the Governor and tendered him certain advice. His Excellency could not see his way clear to accept that advice; consequently I tendered the resignation of the Government and advised his Excellency to send for the leader of the Opposition. I move:

That this House do now adjourn.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

House adjourned at 8.3 p.m.

Legislative Assembly.

Wednesday, 14 December, 1921.

Printed Question and Answer—Adjournment.

Mr. SPEAKER took the chair.

PRINTED QUESTION AND ANSWER.

PURCHASE OF WIRE-NETTING BY PASTURES PROTECTION BOARDS.

Mr. J. C. L. FITZPATRICK asked the SECRETARY FOR LANDS,—(1) To what extent is wire-netting being supplied at present by the department? (2) Has a circular been issued to the pastures protection boards indiscriminately, in which the department requests such boards to "meet all overdue instalments, with penal interest added, out of their general funds, and in future to pay value from the same source as they fall due"? (3) If so, is this not somewhat of an innovation, and against the well-established policy of the department? (4) Is it a fact that in the case of the Molong Pastures Protection Board the "Wire-netting Purchasers' Account" has been very heavy for some years past, £2,000 per annum, approximately, having been remitted to the department, representing instalments and cash purchase money, and that the overdue instalments in November amounted to only £187, £68 of which was due by one settler who had secured