

HOUSE OF KEYS.

DOUGLAS. TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1919.

Present:—Mr G. Fred Clucas, J.P. (Speaker), Messrs E. Callister, F. S. Dalglish, Charles Gill, T. Gerald Bridson, G. B. Kermode, W. C. Southward, R. S. Corlett, J. D. Clucas, D. J. Teare, J. R. Kerruish, T. S. Corlett, J. G. Corrin, J. Qualtrough, A. Qualtrough, C. Shimmin, A. H. Teare, S. Norris, R. C. Cain, J. Cunningham, Alfred Teare, J. Leigh Goldie-Taubman, J. D. Qualtrough, and E. J. Curphey.

The House sat for 20 minutes in private.

PUBLICATION OF DEBATES.

The Speaker: I wish to refer to the publication of the Debates of the House. The House will remember that the Secretary and myself were requested to see Messrs Brown & Sons with regard to the delay in printing them. We had an interview with Mr Brown, and he gave us reasons for the delay; but it was arranged that he should begin "de novo," and bring the Debates of the Legislature up to date, and also get the Acts of last year printed as soon as possible, and work off the arrears as quickly as possible.

SHOP HOURS BILL.

Mr A. H. Teare: I beg to ask leave to introduce a Bill, entitled, "The Shop Hours Bill."—Agreed.

BASTARDY BILL.

Mr S. Norris: I beg to ask leave to introduce into this House a Bill, entitled, "The Bastardy Act Amendment Bill."—Agreed.

ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The Speaker: The House will now proceed to the election of four persons to serve on the Legislative Council.

Mr A. H. Teare: At this point, may I again introduce the matter which I introduced in private, and move formally, that

the question of the election of members of the Council be deferred until after luncheon. The reason why I submit this resolution is, that the country members may have an opportunity of conferring together on this extremely important subject. It will be readily understood that the Douglas members and those in close contact with them will have had an opportunity of discussing the subject in its various aspects, and I think that those members of the House who, by virtue of the areas in which they live, have not had this opportunity, and they might, after the luncheon hour, be in a position to come to the House prepared to adequately deal with this matter. I think the reasons should appeal to all members of the House, and, without further argument, I would move that the matter be deferred until after the luncheon hour.

Mr Southward: I rise to second the motion of the hon. member for Ramsey. I think it is very necessary that we should have the fullest consultation between one another on this very important matter. The House is called upon to perform a function that is unique in the history of the Isle of Man, and I think that it is absolutely necessary that this matter should be taken up, and that very serious consideration should be given to it. In order to make the representative element effective in the Council Chamber, it is necessary for us to send to that place the best men we can possibly find, and I think this matter should be thought over very seriously, and if it is deferred until after luncheon time, I think the House will be in a much better position to deal with the matter.

Mr Joseph Qualtrough: There are one or two questions I want to name. It bears on the subject of electing members from this House, or elsewhere, to act as members on the Legislative Council. Suppose we begin now, and elect four members out of the House, there is no House to con-

Publication of Debates.—Shop Hours Bill.—Bastardy Bill.—Election of Members to the Legislative Council.

tinue proceedings; these four members are then members of the Council, they are not members of the House of Keys. I think we could not even finish to-day's agenda, and we would have to adjourn. If these members are elected, they are, to all intents and purposes, members of the Council; so we cannot proceed with any further business.

The Speaker: I would draw attention to section 21 of the Act:—

No person shall be deemed to be an elected member of the Council under the provisions hereof, unless he has within fourteen days of his election by the House, signified in writing to the Speaker of the House his willingness to accept such office.

Then, further on, it says:

No such appointment shall be deemed to be complete until the Speaker of the House shall have sent by post, or otherwise, to the person so appointed, a formal warrant of appointment.

So I think the hon. member need not be alarmed for this House.

Mr Joseph Qualtrough: If that is so, I think my objection is cleared away. I have no more to say.

Mr Callister: I support the suggestion which has been made that this matter be deferred until after luncheon. I think it will save time, because we shall then know the decision of the most part of the House with regard to the matter, and we can proceed more quickly than if we begin now.

Mr S. Norris: I am speaking on behalf of the town members. We have no desire other than to assist country members in anything they require in that direction. It is quite true that Douglas members and those in the neighbourhood have had opportunities for consultation. At the same time, I want to clearly lay down that the postponement is not with the view to obtain a private sitting of this House. Personally, I am strongly opposed to private sittings in connection with public business; it is merely to enable those from out-towns and districts to confer on the subject which is to come before the House. I am sure there will be no opposition on the part of the town members.

The postponement was agreed to.

THE MIDNIGHT SAILINGS.—DELAY OF MAILS.

The following notice of motion, in the name of Mr Southward, stood on the agenda paper:—

That, inasmuch as, owing to the present times of sailing of the steampacket service between this Island and the mainland, there is considerable delay in the receipt of mails, and great inconvenience suffered by the community, a deputation be appointed to wait upon His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor with a view to steps being taken to have this remedied.

Mr Southward: The resolution which I would like to move, and which has been placed on the agenda, deals with the mail service. Owing to the wording of it, it probably would convey to some members a wrong impression, that this resolution deals not only with the mail service, but also the midnight sailings from Douglas and Liverpool. Now, it is not my intention to deal with the midnight sailings at all, as far as the travelling public are concerned. The resolution deals solely with the mails. In order to make the matter clear, I would ask the leave of the House to amend the resolution by the addition of one word—"consequently," before the words "great inconvenience suffered by the community." Now, I think it is obvious to every member of this House that great inconvenience has been caused to business people and to the general community by the delay in the mails, and I venture to say, with regard to business people, that not only has it caused a great amount of inconvenience, but, in many cases, has caused serious loss.—(Hear, hear.)—Then, with regard to the general public, there has been instance after instance given me in which persons, who have lived in outlying districts particularly, have been suffering great hardship, owing to the delay in the mails. For instance, one case was given me the other day—a letter posted in Liverpool on Saturday, would not be delivered in a part of my constituency until the following Wednesday afternoon. In ordinary times, of course, there was the daily service, and, consequently, the letters were delivered every day. Now, that is a great inconvenience and, I should say, a great hardship to the people who are living in the outlying districts of the Island. It is evident that the change in the Steam Packet sailings has been the cause of the delay in the mails. If we had midnight sailings all through, we would have a daily mail; but, seeing we have a sailing in the morning, and then a sailing at midnight—the next midnight—there is, of course, a day missed. Now, I am not interested in the way the steamboat business is carried

on. That is a matter for the directors of the Steam Packet company and the travelling public; but I am interested very greatly in the delivery of the mails, so that people can carry on their business in a proper fashion, and that there shall be no hardship experienced by the general community. It is very awkward, when one sits down by the fireside one night, and you have put into your hands two newspapers—one of them a day old. Consequently, the paper which is a day old is thrown into the waste-paper basket, because it is stale news, and you take up the one which is up-to-date. I contend that the arrangements between the postal authorities and the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company is, that there should be a daily mail. We are not up against the Steam Packet Company, but we are up against the Post Office authorities. We pay exactly the same for our letters as people across the water, and it is up to this House to see that we get the same facilities as those people who live across the water, and I think this deputation in going to see his Excellency on this important matter, should press this subject home as far as possible.

Mr A. H. Teare: I should like, in a word, to second what has been said by the hon. member for Ayre. In the out-towns of the Island, the new system is bearing very harshly and causing very great inconvenience to business men and others, both with regard to the delivery of mails and newspapers. I have a concrete illustration in the case of one large firm which receives, on an average, about 60 letters a day, throughout the year. The new system means, that on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, they now receive about 120 letters a day, and three days in the week they get no post at all. The industry of the Isle of Man is sufficiently hampered by our isolation, without having the additional difficulties which arise from constant delay in our postal service. A whole week may elapse at present between the dispatch of a letter from the Island and the receipt of a reply from England. This is all prejudicial to the business interests of the Isle of Man; it adds to the difficulty and delay in business quite apart from the inconvenience caused to the general community. I am not aware what the exact contract is between the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company and the Government postal authorities, but I am aware that the Manx nation is now commencing to pay

because of its neglect to retain proper and fair control of its own steampacket communications, and because the people of the Isle of Man have failed to hold financial control of that Company, they have not the same power and influence that they might otherwise have had. However, I hold that we should interview his Excellency the Governor, to see what improvement can be devised; otherwise, I fear that the business people of the Island are being exposed to very serious loss.

Mr Taubman: I beg leave to support the motion of the hon. member for Ayre. I have, like many of my colleagues in this House, received letters from commercial firms in the Isle of Man. One is from an exporting firm, who say that their special business is seriously inconvenienced. Another is, no doubt from the firm which has already been quoted, which receives 60 letters a day, and their staff is totally unable to deal with 120 letters a day and business is seriously inconvenienced. I think it will be wise to be very cautious in the matter. If there was a midnight mail from Liverpool, so that letters posted up to five o'clock in London would reach the steamer from Liverpool, it might work; but I think it more than doubtful that a letter posted in London at 5 p.m. would catch a midnight boat. I think it would be well, also, to remember that all the business of the Isle of Man is not solely connected with Liverpool and Manchester. There are London and other towns with which we ought to have communication. With regard to midnight sailings, the case of Ireland has been quoted a good deal of late; but the Irish steamers are fitted up with proper night quarters, and when passengers arrive at their destination, it is possible for them to remain in comfort on the boat. It is a very miserable thing—as most of us have experienced—to be turned out on the landing stage in the early hours of the morning. Even in the forenoon it is bad enough to have to wait two hours before there is any appearance of the boat coming down the river to the landing stage. If one had to wait two hours at midnight, it would be enough to deter any would-be resident from coming to the Isle of Man. Of course, that refers to the inconvenience to the travelling public; what the effect of the midnight service would be on the commerce of the Island, I am not able to

judge. But if there is to be a midnight service, it should be carefully seen to that it is in connection with mails from different parts of England.

Mr J. Cunningham: If the motion of the hon. member for Ayre is carried, and it is quite in order, I would like to suggest that the gentlemen appointed as a deputation should form a permanent committee to deal with all matters of the kind in future. The dissolution of the House has brought to an end a committee, which existed for a year or two, to which that special duty was allotted. I think we need now a committee to watch Steampacket affairs more than ever we did. During the war there was every excuse for not getting on very well; no one could complain very much of the difficulties they had to face. But now we must really get to work and have this thing remedied. It is quite impossible that we can go on as we are. I do not want to enter into the Steampacket question generally, when we are on the question of mails, but I would suggest that that committee which was appointed should be a permanent committee. The last committee was appointed on my motion, and the committee was to consider and report at an early date the best means of securing an adequate service of steamers between the Island and the mainland during the coming summer, and also to consider the practicability and advisability of providing a national steampacket service. It need not be exactly on those terms, but I think there ought to be a committee to deal with these matters in future.

Mr Joseph Qualtrough: The committee which has been referred to by the hon. member who has just sat down was a Tynwald Court committee—not a House of Keys committee. I suppose the hon. gentleman, in the Tynwald Court, will be privileged to re-introduce the matter, and have a committee appointed on the matters he has named. There are one or two reasons why I support the proposal of the hon. member for Ayre. One is that we, in the South of the Island, find it extremely difficult to travel. People who need to cross by the boat require to leave home at six o'clock in the evening.

The Speaker: This motion refers purely to the question of mails.

Mr Curphey: Could not the hon. member move an amendment to that—that the travelling public be considered at the same time, because I wish to speak to that point, too.

The Speaker: The hon. member may move that, if he wishes.

Mr Joseph Qualtrough: I move then—that the travelling public be considered. The difficulty experienced by people living in remote parts of the Isle of Man. They have to travel by the last train leaving between six and seven o'clock; they have to hang about Douglas until the boat leaves. That difficulty does not affect Douglas people, who are able to remain in their own homes. But I am speaking of people who need to travel and have to endure almost torture waiting for the hour of the boat's departure. I hope that will be put strongly before the Governor—either that the sailings be altered or that a train be run in connection with those boats. It is not too much to ask. Again, as regards the mails, we get the mails, as it has been pointed out, every other day. But supposing—as we have known it to be in the past in the winter season—the boats could not sail at the appointed hour? We have known they have been 12 hours delayed in sailing; we have a whole week without a letter at all. These things are likely to occur at any moment. If there was a midnight sailing every night in the week, we would settle down to receive our mails every day, taking into consideration the weather and so forth. But the weather, in addition to the present awkward position, makes the thing very awkward indeed, and I think the House should put the matter very strongly before the proper authorities, and get such alterations as will be for the convenience of the public and the mails.

Mr Curphey: I will second that, and will point out the facts. The train at present leaves Ramsey at six o'clock. It is stormy and wet, the shops in Douglas are closed. The traveller has no place to go to spend the time. People have simply to walk about the streets of this town in rain and storm until ten o'clock, and then they are admitted to the saloon of the steamer. They have two and a half hours to walk about the streets, and then they have to spend two hours in the saloon, where they can get their berths. The thing is altogether out of the question. The Steam Packet Company can conduct their business as they please, I suppose; but pressure should be brought to bear to remedy this state of things, which is altogether too inconvenient.

Mr Cain: I wish to associate myself with

the motion of the hon. member for Ayre. It has been said that there are advantages through these sailings, but the House will agree with me that the disadvantages far outweigh them. I am not going to minimise the difficulty which the Steampacket Company and its directors are confronted with, in regard to the handling of cargo—that the men will not handle cargo after certain hours. I am given to understand that is the sole cause of the alteration of the steamer sailings. I am not going to say whether it is correct or not. But I do know the great inconvenience caused to the business community. I can speak with confidence about the opinion of the people of Douglas that this state of things should not continue for one moment longer than necessary, and I entirely agree with the motion moved by the hon. member for Ayre.

Mr Alfred Teare: I would like to associate myself also with the remarks that have been made. I have been approached by many people, not only in the town, but the country. The only point I wish to emphasise is this: If the Steam Packet Company find it does not pay them to run their boats, in view of the high costs and so on, and these various difficulties that have been placed in the way of refusing to handle cargo or coal—if the amount of money they receive from the Imperial Government for the conveyance of mails to and from the Island is not sufficient, it is for the Steam Packet Company to approach the Government and get a further increase in the subsidy so that they may engage another steamer, and that we may have a daily service for mails and passenger traffic, and utilise the midnight sailings for cargo service. By that means they would get over all the difficulty regarding labour troubles. (Hear, hear, and "Vote!")

The Speaker: Does the hon. member for Ayre wish to reply?

Mr Southward: There is nothing that calls for reply. I am very satisfied with the expression of opinion from various hon. members.

Mr A. H. Teare: You will embody the amendment.

The Speaker: I was going to suggest that—"and that the deputation also take into consideration the inconvenience caused to the travelling public."

The motion as amended was carried.

The Speaker: The Standing Orders provide that the Speaker shall appoint the members of the deputation unless the House wish otherwise. I shall nominate for the deputation the proposer and seconder of the motion, Mr Southward and Mr A. H. Teare.

Mr A. Qualtrough: I beg to propose that the Speaker be added.

The Speaker: The Speaker cannot serve on committees. I am at the disposal of the House, but I suggest that the deputation of two will be quite sufficient.

Mr Norris: I think it is very desirable to associate the town of Douglas on this subject, and I would move, if I am in order, that the hon. member for North Douglas, Mr Cunningham, be added to the deputation.

Mr Joseph Qualtrough seconded the motion, and it was agreed to.

CONSTITUTIONAL AND SOCIAL REFORM.

Mr Joseph Qualtrough moved—

That this House records, with some measure of satisfaction, that an Act partially amending the Legislative Constitution of the Isle of Man, called "The Isle of Man Constitution Amendment Act, 1919," has been passed, by which Act certain reforms, long demanded, in the constitution and personnel of the Legislative Council, are to be carried out. This Act covers a small part of the reforms asked for by the Manx people and recommended by the Departmental Committee which sat in 1912 on the subject of Constitutional Reform in the Isle of Man.

This House now declares that it must further record its disappointment that such other and further reforms have not materialized by which the people of this Isle, through their elected representatives, might have greater powers in initiation, control, and application of finance.

This House is of opinion that, in consequence of such contracted powers, limiting the usefulness of the House and its members as a medium on behalf of the people, the Manx people have not enjoyed the benefits of social legislation in such matters as Old Age Pensions and National Insurance, which have been in existence in the United Kingdom since 1908.

The House regrets such continued delay, and desires to express, on the other hand, that, owing to the lack of powers and control, as indicated above, large and injudicious expenditure has, from time to time, been made, wasting the resources of the Manx nation, without the people or their elected representatives being apprised or consulted.

This House requests his Excellency the Lieut.-Governor forthwith to take the necessary action further to amend the constitution as indicated in the recommendation of the Depart-

mental Committee, and to grant, at once, to the Manx nation the social benefits enjoyed on the mainland.

Continuing, Mr Qualtrough said: I want to bring this motion that I have on the agenda to the attention of the House for a few minutes. I have a few words to say, and I hope you will patiently listen while I proceed. This motion was originated by me in the late House, in circumstances which the public and the new members of the House will remember—namely, that I had just introduced a Bill into the House of Keys, the object of which was to proceed with Old Age Pensions. That Bill was held up from time to time by the House, and I was rather under a misunderstanding as to whether the House was in favour of it or not. And I concluded that before the House was dissolved, I would test the feeling of the House by abstract resolution. There are other matters mentioned in the resolution which I have brought forward, but I think I can satisfy the House that almost every one of them is interwoven with the others. The first clause in my resolution expresses satisfaction that the recent Reform Bill has been passed, and then I go on to make complaints that things are not going on as they should go, because of the absence of reform, and then I make the suggestion that if this remaining measure of reform was brought about, social reform would follow as a matter of course. First of all, we can congratulate ourselves upon the progress of Reform so far as it has gone. I may add that in my Parliamentary experience, I took a large share in the agitation for Reform, and it is something gratifying that in one's lifetime, one's object has to some extent been obtained. Now, we do admit, and must admit, that movements of this sort must of necessity move slowly. If you take the sister Isle, Ireland, they have for a hundred years, in season and out of season, by reasonable and unreasonable means, attempted to obtain Home Rule, and they haven't had it. We have had Home Rule, and what we now wish is to adjust the machine, so that the ripened aspirations of the people may find their fruition. That was the whole object of the Reform movement. We have got thus far, that a Bill has been passed, as is mentioned in the preamble to my resolution, which grants certain reforms in the constitution and

personnel of the Legislative Council. We have to-day a duty devolving upon us, as men responsible to our constituents, to elect four men to represent the people's side on the Legislative Council. That will take place, and I am glad to think that this measure has been attained. Another reform, which I consider equally important, is what is termed the General Purposes Committee of the Tynwald Court. The House will remember that the first petition sent to the Home Secretary contained the request that there should be set up an Advisory Council. That was, for the purpose of counselling His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor on all matters, financial and otherwise, and upon that Advisory Council should rest the weight of financial business, and they would be amenable to the House in any act which they performed. That was considered the only way of solving the financial deadlocks, which were continuously coming up as between this House and officialism. This Advisory Council, as you will remember, was not agreed to in the recommendations of the Macdonnell Committee. There were reasons why this was not thought workable, but the Committee did suggest what is termed a General Purposes Committee. But there is no provision that I can find in the recommendations how that committee is to be created, except that it is to be at the instance of the Lieutenant-Governor himself. He may select five or seven gentlemen with whom he may consult on financial matters. As things stand at present, we have no power to initiate expenditure. If any member of the House has an object which he considers opportune and right, and that object will entail an expenditure of money, that member has no right to place a motion on the agenda without first consulting the Governor. If the Governor takes the view that the proposed expenditure is wise, the matter may proceed; but until the Governor consents it is impossible. Now, I consider that this General Purposes Committee, to which I now refer, would solve this problem very considerably. If expenditure was required, it would be brought before that Committee, and that Committee would be in touch with the House. It would know what the House was prepared to do, and would always be in close touch with the sentiment prevailing in the

House, so that its decisions would be a safe thing to go by, and I believe that our constitution will never be perfected—whether it will ever be perfected or not—until we have that Committee as proposed by Lord Macdonnell. My motion winds up with a request to the Governor to bring into operation at the earliest possible moment that which was recommended by the Macdonnell Committee. That General Purposes Committee would work in two ways. It would take into consideration all proposals for expenditure, and all expenditure already going on which appeared to be wasteful. During recent years, very large sums have been expended on behalf of the Isle of Man which would never have been expended had the subject been brought before five business men of the Island, in conjunction with the Governor himself. Had the Tynwald Court anything to say on these subjects? No. These things never came before Tynwald except by way of voting the money after it was spent or was estimated for. Some time during the war, an agitation arose among the teachers—a reasonable agitation; I was not against it; I took the part of the school teachers, but hon. members will remember what a terribly long agitation it was. It was referred to the School Boards, and from the School Boards to the Council of Education, and from the Council of Education to the representatives of the teachers, and was kept going for a long time. The teachers demanded an increased wage, and they had hard work to get it. But it didn't take five minutes for the Governor to spend £20,000, which was far away more than was asked for by the teachers. So you see, while we are trying to save the coppers, we are wasting pounds. Business men would not do that. I am satisfied that there is not a committee that could have been picked out of this House that would have ventured to spend sums like that without consulting this House. Again, the Police are not within the jurisdiction of the House. I have nothing to say against the police; they are a splendid body of men, and do their work very faithfully, and deserve to be well paid. But I have just mentioned the case of the school teachers, and while the school teachers had a big job to get their salaries raised to anything like the sums paid to their colleagues on the mainland,

what happened to the policemen? I didn't hear that there was agitation amongst the police for increased pay. It came like the new moon, out of nothing. It came; the Governor put it on the agenda, that was all. I complain that that is not business. School teachers are not equally paid with policemen at present, and yet teachers have to have qualifications, and have to spend years in training, while you can take a policeman from the plough, and put him into the uniform without any qualification whatever. I maintain that justice will not be done in the Isle of Man in matters regarding finance until we have set up the General Purposes Committee to which I refer. I have provided some statistics on the subject, but I don't think I will labour the matter further. There are a number of other matters to which I would call the attention of the House. When we started out—I say "we," as one of the pioneers, perhaps, of the Reform movement—one of our planks was Retrenchment. We were an overburdened people, we paid too much for our Civil List. We were only 50,000 or 52,000 people, and in comparison with any 50,000 across the water, we were weighed down with officialism, and we cried for Retrenchment. Well, we got Retrenchment in a way. The Committee that sat on Constitutional Reform took the view that we advanced, that we had too many judges, that we had nothing for them to do, and they said that one judge, at least, should be dispensed with. But if we cry for Retrenchment, and obtain redress to that extent, what is the use, if we waste money in some other way? And it will always be an unbusinesslike procedure until we have financial matters dealt with according to the sober judgment of business men, and men who are responsible to their constituents. As regards Social Reform, I am satisfied that, if the House of Keys had been the sole responsible body over finance, Old Age Pensions would have come in 1908, the same year as they came in England. Why should it not have been so? I can go back in my own recollection to the time when Governor Walpole was here. A great reform took place at that time in England—free education. Governor Walpole was a Liberal statesman, and this Free Education was a Liberal measure. Do you know that we had Free Education in the Isle of Man before

it was passed in England? Why? Because the then Governor took the matter in hand, and pushed it through. But Old Age Pensions is not in operation here yet. Whose fault is it? I know that people blame the House of Keys. I got into conversation with a gentleman, the other day, and I was rather taken aback when he said, "The House of Keys is responsible." I said, "No, we haven't command of the finances. We can neither introduce legislation to obtain money, nor make proposals for expending money in the direction desired." "Well," he said, "it is the fault of the House of Keys, for all. You are sent by the people to do the people's bidding, and you can force the hands of the Governor." There is one way of doing it, I admit—creating a deadlock; but that is a very extraordinary way, and most members are diffident about it. But, time has gone on, from year to year, and nothing has been done, and the accusation has been made broadcast throughout the Island that the fault is with the people's representatives. Well, be that as it may, here we are. I hope this House, coming fresh from the people, has it firmly in their intention that Old Age Pensions and the other boons which are in existence in England, shall be put into operation here forthwith. I don't think we should any longer keep the aged poor in such a hopeless state. If we have not wealth enough, then there is no other course for it but to cry for Annexation. I don't think we need Annexation. We never yet asked England for any assistance, and we don't intend to. I believe the Isle of Man is fully capable of maintaining its poor in the same state as in England. I believe the ripened opinion of the people is that we should not keep the poor one day longer out of their dues. If we haven't the money—but I say we have. Now we have established Income Tax, there are ample resources. The first budget of the Income Tax receipts showed a wonderful revenue, and I am satisfied that a similar impost of Income Tax will maintain the deserving poor in Old Age Pensions, and I don't see why we should delay one day, and I hope the House will be united in this request which I propose should be sent to his Excellency.

Mr A. Qualtrough seconded.

Mr Lucas: I am not in opposition to this motion; I cannot say that I agree with every word of it, but still I agree largely with it; and I would like to take

this opportunity of emphasising the fact that though we have gained a certain amount of Reform, which the hon. member for Rushen told us was to be accompanied by Retrenchment—we have one Deemster less, and we have two High-Bailiffs instead of four—there is a leak in the boat still, a very much larger leak than this. We have various Boards of Tynwald—the Local Government Board, for example. What does it matter what Boards we have, when there is Government Office over all? You have an authority there, which seems to be able to appoint people to all sorts of offices, and to spend any amount of money, without consulting those Boards which are set up to administer the Island's affairs. On the last occasion the Financial Statement was before the Court, a sum of £250 was provided to pay for a bacteriologist. I don't know who appointed that official, but I believe that he has since been appointed, and that his salary is nearer £350 than £250. I am certain that the Tynwald Court never made that appointment, and from what I can ascertain, the Local Government Board, who are the people one would expect to have had to do with this matter, were never consulted, either. I believe, further, that the person so appointed has practically nothing to do. That is one instance; there are plenty of others. There is a suggestion that a veterinary surgeon should be appointed for the Island. I don't know whether he will be appointed in the same way as the last-mentioned official, but it is quite possible, for wonderful things are done, and we may never have anything to say about it. We are treated like children, and the various Boards of Tynwald are treated like children, and if a whole-time veterinary surgeon is appointed, and his staff set up, it can easily run into £1,000 or £1,500. Then there is a Medical Officer of Health, and one or two other appointments, so that the amount of money we have saved by Constitutional Reform is absolutely lost, because far more has gone in other ways—not by the will of the Tynwald Court, but of a far more powerful authority, Government Office. We have gone in for Reform, and we may be pleased or otherwise with what we have got, or are about to get. But one thing has occurred, especially since the war began, that if we had control by the British Treasury before, we certainly have it now, and of a very grand-motherly description. It is far more im-

portant, to my mind, to deal with questions of this sort than with some of the "Reforms" that we have been so busy about. During the war, the question arose of giving assistance to boarding-house keepers. That was a very natural thing for us to do, and a good thing, and we had the money provided to deal with the matter. Were we allowed to deal with it? No. Why? Because the British Treasury wanted to have their say in the matter. Quite right that they should advise us, and see that we are not going to go bankrupt; but the action they took in that matter was grandmotherly in the extreme. A committee of three was appointed to administer that money. The Treasury insisted that they should have two nominees out of the three—the majority. Not to spend their money, mark you, but ours. I thought that one of the most monstrous things that I ever heard of. That was one of the things that one would expect a body with spirit to be dead against, but I don't blame the Tynwald Court, for it was a case of Rome being burning, and they had to get on. It is asked, what good did that money do? I believe it did a good deal, but it might have done much more, if it had been more under the control of the members of the Tynwald Court. It is that sort of control that we must fight against, and the sooner we begin the better. Because, to carry on as we have been carrying on of late, is absolute nonsense. There ought to be more control over the public appointments made in the Island. Whether it is the Governor, or Government Office, or whoever it is that does it, it is time for the thing to be checked.

Mr Norris: I desire to support the resolution moved by the hon. member for Rushen. While not in agreement with all that has been said by him, and while not following the last speaker—on the points that he raised, there are, I think, two opinions—I desire to associate myself with the expression of the pleasure which this House and the people of the Island have received in the arrival of the first considerable stage of Constitutional Reform. In my opinion, the retrenchment which has been brought about has been considerable, and has given great satisfaction to the people of the Island. Because money is floating out at another end, that is no reason in the world why we should not still pursue our object of bringing about

retrenchment wherever it can be accomplished. But there are other questions besides that of an Executive, or a Finance and General Purposes Committee of this House or of the Tynwald Court. The position of the matter, so far as I understand it, is this: The Macdonnell Committee recommended the setting-up of a Committee of Tynwald. It was not an Executive in the sense that we desire, and which ultimately this Island must possess, but it was the first stage of an Executive. We all regret extremely that the Home Office did not accept that recommendation. But although it was not accepted, the House will certainly not rest content until it has been achieved, and in a practical form. But meantime, we have to accept the position of things as they stand to-day, and have stood for some time. Treasury control is in being, and will remain in being, whether we like it or not. And Government Office control is more or less in being. For the amount of Government Office control that is exercised, personally, I largely blame the House which has just been dissolved. I feel satisfied that the House has got powers, enormous powers, of bringing about control of the affairs of the Island, if it will only exercise them. And I hope, a little later in the day, if the opportunity occurs, when bringing forward my own motion, to indicate how that control will have to be exercised. But let me ask one question. This Committee will have to be set up. Why consult the Treasury at all? What is to prevent any member of the House, or of the Court, at the next sitting, moving this resolution, "That this Court requests His Excellency to appoint from the Court a number of persons"—it may be five, or it may be seven—"to be associated with his Excellency in the government of the Island, and especially in finance"? What is to prevent the Governor accepting that motion? Must he consult London? Certainly not. If his Excellency took that course upon such a motion, it would meet our views to a considerable extent, and justify us in proceeding in that way. If no other member moves such a resolution at the next sitting of the Tynwald Court, I will move it, and let the Governor of this Island, who is the sole executive, justify the refusal of a reasonable request, which I feel sure will be carried both in the Keys and in the Council. Again, I would point out that there are other questions of Constitutional

Reform that remain to be dealt with. A Bill was passed in the last House, which included a reform of the judicature. But one of the recommendations of the Macdonnell Committee, one of the decisions of the Home Office, was that the Governor should no longer sit in either the Court of Appeal in the Civil Division, or the Court of General Gaol Delivery, and I take it that this House, in carrying this motion to-day, requests that Bills should be submitted in order to bring about this most desirable reform, and all those other reforms that have been recommended from the Home Office. The Home Office distinctly laid it down, for another thing, that the judges should not be members of administrative or executive bodies, should not be members of the Governor's Executive. That recommendation, also, must be submitted to us, and made law. The question of the High-Bailiffships has been referred to. At the last meeting of the late House, his Excellency pleaded with the House, practically—"No!"—to make the two High-Bailiffships into one, and have a whole-time official, instead of one engaged in private practice. It was not contended that this would lead to retrenchment, but, in my opinion, it would have led to efficiency. What did the late House do? It went into private sitting, and afterwards asked the Governor to continue the existing arrangement. What are we to do, when we ask his Excellency to consult us, and then, when he does so, turn down the proposals which he deliberately places before us? How can we ask him to consult us on other matters? I regret extremely that his Excellency did not ignore that decision, and submit the question to the new House. I join in asking his Excellency to submit to the House the rest of the Reform proposals, and I trust—for I have no doubt that he will accept and act on the advice of the House—I trust that when these proposals come down to us, we shall deal with them in a manner worthy of the best traditions of the House, and the best interests of the Island.

Mr Southward: I agree with my colleague, Mr Clucas, that in the main the resolution proposed by the hon. member for Rushen should be passed. I cannot agree with all that has been said by various speakers. In connection with the matter of Old Age Pensions and National Insurance, during the years of war, it was not possible to grant Old Age Pensions,

simply because they would cost £20,000 to £25,000 a year, and during the years of war the Government of the Island was in a difficult position because of the many calls on the Accumulated Fund, owing to the various grants referred to by my colleague. There was the grant in aid of the boarding-house keepers, and the loans in relief of rates, and we were in the position that we did not know when the war would end, or the amount of money that would come out of the Accumulated Fund, so that it was impossible to deal with Old Age Pensions. (Mr A. Qualtrough: "Question.") It is, of course, only a matter of opinion. While I say that, I may say that I am heart and soul in favour of Old Age Pensions being brought in at the earliest possible moment. I am not satisfied with the amount given in England, and think that our old people should be treated more liberally. Rightly or wrongly, I take credit for raising this matter in the late House. I felt that though many of the members were in sympathy with the object, and had so expressed themselves, it was necessary that the House should be tied down to some definite point. With that object in view. I moved that some system of National Health Insurance should be introduced into the Isle of Man, and that the Governor be asked to prepare legislation dealing with the matter at once; to which was added Old Age Pensions, which my friend the hon. member for Rushen, Mr J. Qualtrough, has worked for, for so many years. As an outcome of that, a deputation interviewed the Lieut.-Governor, Lord Raglan, who met us in a most sympathetic spirit. He informed the deputation that he was ready to make arrangements for Health Insurance at once, but with regard to Old Age Pensions, he could not bind either himself or his successor till they knew where they stood with regard to Insular taxation. I am glad to say that Health Insurance and Old Age Pensions will both come into operation very shortly. The Bills will be laid before us in a few months' time, and as far as I am concerned, I will work and do my level best in order to get these Bills passed with the utmost dispatch. The hon. member for Ayre, Mr Clucas, referred to the appointment of the Committee to deal with the grants to boarding-house keepers, and he seemed to imply that Tynwald did not object, but I should like to point out these facts. Tynwald, when

the matter was laid before them, objected to the nominations by the Treasury, and elected three members from Tynwald. Unfortunately the Treasury officials would not hear of this, and because the matter was urgent, Tynwald had to give way. Then, Mr Speaker, it has been said that the old House did nothing for Reform. I may point out that in the early days of the last House, measures dealing with reform—seven Bills in all—were laid before the House, and one or two of them were taken up and passed. One of them dealt with the election of members to the Legislative Council, and I had the honour of moving an amendment to the clause providing for the election by the House of Keys of members to the Council chamber. I wanted the people to elect them to the Council chamber, and I still feel that that was the right course to adopt. If the people voted these men direct to the Council chamber, it would be much more satisfactory all round. With regard to reform, the Bills passed the old House, and were sent up to the Council, and the Council hung them up. The Governor said that he would not deal with any contentious matter during the war. Since the war has been over, we have had the first instalment of these Bills, that dealing with elections to the Council having been passed. I support the motion of the hon. member for Rushen.

Mr A. H. Teare: There have been one or two references by previous speakers as to the conduct of the previous House. The hon. member for Ayre said it was impossible to deal with pensions for the old people of the Island during the war. I entirely and totally disagree with him. I believe that at any time during the past ten or twenty years, the Island could have granted pensions, and it is a standing disgrace to everyone of us who is or has been connected with the Legislature that they have not been provided. I do not need to say any more on that point, as pensions are now at the door. I moved in the late House an amendment to the hon. member's motion that pensions and insurance be extended to the Island on the English lines, as I am satisfied that the only satisfactory system will be to ally ourselves to England. However, we will see when the new Bill comes before us.

Mr Southward: On a point of order, the hon. member for Ramsey is not stating the facts. He moved that the Governor be requested to have the English Acts—

The Speaker: That is not a point of order. If the hon. member is making a misstatement, it will be within the knowledge of members.

Mr A. H. Teare: I don't think that matters much. The point was whether the Island's finances could stand the strain of pensions, and I am sure that the majority of us agree that they could. (Hear, hear.) Then the hon. member for Ayre, Mr Clucas, is quite mistaken as to the efforts of the House to control finance, and the shameful bread strike that occurred. Lord Raglan told us in April that the Treasury would not give way, and on July 4th he told us it was impossible to get control, and yet a fortnight later he congratulated us on the concessions made—all within fourteen days. I believe that the late House vindicated and asserted its right to control finance in a manner which had never been attempted before. With regard to the appointments, it is true that the appointments are made by the Governor, but the salaries are voted by Tynwald. With regard to Treasury control during the past few years, it is all very well to talk of democratic control in times of peace, but everyone in the House knows that in time of war we must have autocratic control. In the main, I am in sympathy with the resolution, though I think it is unnecessary. We know that Old Age Pensions are here, only waiting to be dealt with by the House, and the question of financial control can be dealt with under the motion on the agenda in the name of the hon. member for North Douglas, Mr Norris. The hon. member for North Douglas has pointed out that there are many Reforms with regard to control that lie within our own power. We have got the first step towards practical reform to-day, and I am sufficiently conservative to wait and see how they work out, and how the new Council will assist in the good government of this Island, before going any further.

Mr Callister: I know this debate has gone on for a great length, and I will not keep you long. Much has been said about the stand of the people's representatives for control of the bread strike. There seems to have got about an impression that the people's representatives were against granting the cheaper loaf. That charge has been unjustly put on our shoulders. I don't blame any particular party for this except the Labour Party, who take credit for the cheap loaf, and spread it

round that the representative House was against it, and all that sort of thing. I say that the House was wholeheartedly in favour of the cheap loaf, but we could not sell our birthright for a mess of pottage. The Treasury wanted full control of the money to be derived from income tax, and was it reasonable to ask us, the representatives of the people of this Island, to hand over our powers. Already they had had £60,000 of ours, and were we to impose Income Tax up to 2s 6d in the £? Because that was the first proposal which we resisted and fought. The outcome was that we have now got control of that money, and it was always the opinion of the House that the surplus of Income Tax should be reserved for Old Age Pensions. I want to make that statement, as during the whole of the elections the members of the old House of Keys have been wrongly blamed for their action in this matter. There is one other matter I would like to refer to, and that is the powers exercised under the Defence of the Realm Act. It is time that "Dora" was thrown into the waste paper basket, and that the people of this Island were released from the actions and restrictions of that Act. An hon. member has given notice of a Shops Act, but at present the shops of the Island have to close under these regulations.

Mr Norris: Are we discussing the Shop Hours Act?

The Speaker: I do not wish to interrupt the hon. member. The resolution is a long and involved one, and it is impossible to confine the debate in the same way as if the resolution was more concise. Where the field is so wide, I am sure that the hon. member will confine his remarks as much as possible to the resolution.

Mr Callister: I am speaking on control, and I wish to show that it is absolutely out of our hands with regard to this. With regard to the appointment of a bacteriologist, there will be plenty of work for him to do even if he only analyses seeds. There are thousands of acres sown down with weed instead of grass. We have to put up with all sorts of things under the Defence of the Realm Act, though the war is over long ago. A poor woman in the country has to close her shop at six o'clock in the evening in spite of the fact that her closing does not save any coal or light, while other shops in the neighbourhood—drink shops—can keep open till 9-30. What is sauce for the goose

ought to be sauce for the gander; and which is the most important? These shops have to close, though in many cases if they kept open, it would not involve one-pennyworth of light during a week. With regard to the appointment of one High-Bailiff, referred to by the hon. member for North Douglas, it would not have involved any saving, and to have two will be a convenience for each district. I think it only fair to give this explanation of the matter. If anything happens in Castletown or at the Point of Ayre, it can be dealt with by the man in the district. One would be no saving.

Mr Norris: I distinctly said that.

Mr Shimmin: We are to-day experiencing our first taste of reform, but like Oliver Twist, we are asking for more. The question of Old Age Pensions has been brought forward, and it is remarkable how, whenever this is brought forward, members are so willing to wander away to other matters of much less importance to the Manx people. I feel a certain amount of shame as a representative of the Manx people, that we have not at the present time Old Age Pensions, when old Manx people are dying of hunger. I hope the words used here to-day will bring them nearer.

Mr Corrin: I beg leave to support the motion brought forward by my colleague, the hon. member for Rushen. To bring the matter back to broad principles, we in the Labour Party want the broadest government possible, with the fullest financial control on democratic lines. At present the House of Keys has that measure of financial control that a woman has in her own house who is refused the right to handle the wages and buy the necessary requisites for the home. We feel that this is an important matter, which must be taken in hand and dealt with. The question of the bread strike has been mentioned. We of the Labour Party do not take all the credit for securing the cheaper loaf, but we do claim a share of the credit, because it was the Labour forces which raised the crisis which made a settlement possible.

Mr Alfred Teare: I do not wish to take up the time of the House, but I think I have a right to make one or two remarks about what has fallen from several members of the House. Members seem anxious to form all sorts of excuses so as to fasten the blame on people outside this House and to try and show that the House

is in no way to blame that matters for the public benefit have not been carried out. I hold that the House of Keys is not altogether unblameable in this respect. It is true that during the war the House's action was somewhat restricted, but I maintain that they were not justified in withholding Old Age Pensions. I would draw the attention of the House to last year's income tax yield, the yield of a war year. Though certain sections of the community were adversely affected by the war, yet the Island as a whole was prosperous—though some were hard hit, others have been in clover, which is proved by the yield of the first year of income tax. With regard to the cheap loaf, it seems strange that when it was in question—a matter that affected all, rich and poor—this matter of control should have been raised. There were many taxes imposed previously to this, when it could have been raised. There were the taxes on tea, and sugar, and various other things. Why did not the House fight for control when these taxes were being levied, when the taxes affected one section of the community more than others. The tea and sugar taxes bear more hardly on the poor, but when they were imposed there was no question of control raised. I agree with my colleague, the hon. member for Rushen, that we do not claim the whole credit for the cheaper loaf, but it was the strike that brought things to a crisis and secured to the House of Keys the amount of control that it enjoys. (Mr Dalglish: Question.) The facts have been proved over and over again. I agree with the principles expressed in the motion of the hon. member for Rushen, but think that it might go further, and call on the Governor to bring in a measure for Old Age Pensions. The report has been signed some weeks now, and nothing has been heard of it since. We have the money in hand, and the Act is needed.

Mr A. H. Teare: On a point of order, control was demanded on April 4th, 1918, by Mr Crennell.

The Speaker: That is not a point of order. If the hon. member for Douglas is wrong in his statement, it will be within the knowledge of the House.

The House adjourned for lunch.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The House resumed at 2-45 p.m.

The Speaker: We had better proceed at once with the election of members of the Council. In pursuance of the agreement we came to, I will call members to propose and second formally the persons to serve. After those persons have been proposed and seconded, the House will resume the debate on all.

Mr A. H. Teare: I have great pleasure in nominating as a member for the Legislative Council, the hon. member for North Douglas, Mr. Joseph Cunningham.

Mr. Callister: I have very great pleasure in seconding.

Mr. Shimmin: Before that is seconded I would like to propose that we appoint to this important branch of the Legislature men who have been elected in the first place by the people. To elect outsiders would be to violate the rights of the people whom we represent.

The Speaker: I am afraid I can hardly lay down that rule. The Act gives us power to appoint persons who are either within or without the House of Keys. I do not think we would be in order in moving any resolution curtailing those powers. (Hear. hear.)

Mr A. Qualtrough: I beg to propose the hon. member for Garff, Mr Kerruish.

Mr Cain: I have very great pleasure in seconding that.

Mr R. S. Corlett: I wish to nominate the late member for Ayre, Mr Alfred Christian, of Ballacorey. I believe we are to speak afterwards on it.

The Speaker: Yes, that is so.

Mr Southward seconded.

Mr Dalglish: I wish to nominate Mr Walter Quayle, of Peel.

Mr Joseph Qualtrough seconded.

Mr Southward: I nominate the hon. member for Rushen, Mr Joseph Qualtrough.

Mr Bridson seconded.

Mr J. D. Clucas: I beg to move Mr Edward Martin, of Castletown, who was formerly a member of this House.

Mr Daniel Teare seconded.

Mr Norris: I beg to propose the hon. member for Ayre, Mr Southward.

Mr Alfred Teare seconded.

The Speaker: Are there any other names? (Pause.) Then it is now open to debate.

Mr A. H. Teare: I rise with a consider-

able degree of responsibility to support the candidature of several gentlemen who have been proposed for this honourable position. We have before us now some seven candidates, and upon the House is the responsibility of selecting four gentlemen who are to take upon themselves the new far-reaching duties of members of our new Council. I wish to support the gentlemen because of their individual capacity, and because I think they will form a representative quartette. Firstly, I will mention Mr John Robert Kerruish, Mr Joseph Qualtrough, Mr Joseph Cunningham, and Mr Alfred Christian. To-day we are to make our reform proposals effective, as representatives of the Manx people; we are to justify the policy which has been advocated so long by our practical selection of the most capable and the most efficient gentlemen for this position. To my mind, there are several outstanding qualifications which should mark every candidate. The first is experience; the second is sound judgment; and the third is sympathy with cautious political progress. The Legislative Council must not be a mere echo of the representatives of the people. If that was so, its independence would cease and disappear; its power and influence as a legislative assembly would be shorn of much of its value. It is no place for extremists of any school; its functions will be to revise, to supervise, to wisely moderate and direct the actions of government, to check hasty legislation, and to be above and beyond the winds of doctrine, and the currents of political feeling which from time to time sweep over any country. I am entirely opposed to the idea of territorial representation in the Island, and also to the idea that we should limit our selection to this House. I hope to show that in one of the candidates, who is not a member of this House, but who has just recently retired from its counsels, will be found one whose judgment and experience time has proved, who would make a very excellent member. We must not be circumscribed by the limits of the House. We must not weaken the House by removing from it hon. gentlemen who have just been returned for a definite purpose by their constituents. After a hard-fought election, we have arrived at a definite expression of the public mind on public questions, and we are here as individuals to carry that out to the best of our ability. Having regard to all these circumstances, I think that the four gentlemen whom I have ventured to refer

to will fulfil the conditions which this high office calls for. In Mr Joseph Qualtrough the Island has an experienced man of affairs who, through storm and sunshine, has fought for the best interests of the Island. I have often differed from the hon. member, but I am perfectly sure the interests of democracy are safe in his hands, and he will bring to bear on the counsels in another place that same wise judgment and experience which have always characterised him in this House. With regard to the hon. member for Garff, there we have the senior member of this House, who has all along, I believe, cast his votes in the interest of the Reform movement; he has been a faithful, devoted worker in the Legislature, and filled for a time with considerable ability the position you, Mr Speaker, now hold. I feel confident the House will renew its trust in him. With regard to Mr Cunningham, we are fortunate in having a man of affairs, a man of business, who has displayed keenness in matters of his own, which I believe he will bring to bear in matters of public concern. He has proved that he is in sympathy with progressive ideas. The last member of the quartette is Mr Alfred Christian, the ex-member for Ayre. He is known to many members of the present House, and his work and experience here need very little commendation from me. He has been a member of important Boards, and on almost every occasion he cast his vote soundly and wisely. Whilst the objection may be taken that he is not now a member of the Legislature, it is only fair to say that the reason is purely personal, purely a matter of health and strength. The strain of frequent journeys to Douglas in wintry weather he found rather too much for him, and I doubt not if he had offered himself for the constituency he would have been returned as member for Ayre. It may be said, if that gentleman is unable to attend the House of Keys, can he attend the duty of the Council? I think it will be within the imagination of members that the work of the Council will not be as strenuous and will not make such demands as the work of the representative chamber. Mr Christian has the confidence of the agriculturists of the Island, and the commercial men of the Island. He is not only a practical agriculturist, with a knowledge of the problems of agriculture, but he has taken a great

interest in the commercial affairs of the Island; he is interested in many public companies, and personally I have great confidence in his business judgment and ability. I believe that this quartette will be one which will represent the Manx people, one which we should not be ashamed of, and one which will fulfil its duty to the people in the fullest degree. There is only one other observation I would make, and it is this. There is a feeling—it has been expressed by the hon. member for Peel—that the selection should be confined to members of this House. I have yet to learn a sound and substantial argument why we should limit and circumscribe our selection. It was my intention to propose to this House a gentleman who was often mentioned—Mr Cormode—and also the Receiver-General, Mr John Thomas Cowell, but the idea of the gentlemen who would limit the selection to members of this House would be to keep out men of that type. I believe Mr Christian is a gentleman of that skilled type, and if this House decides to concentrate on these gentlemen, I think it will make a wise selection. I should like to say before I sit down that I trust the House will exercise its judgment to the full. I questioned the Speaker this morning on the important matter of plumping, and I think it is quite relevant to the subject to demand that every member shall exercise his vote to the fullest degree, and shall declare in the most definite sense his views, and vote for all four candidates that are required.

Mr R. S. Corlett: I rise to support the nomination of Mr Alfred Christian, of Ballacorey. I am not going to suggest to the House four members, as the hon. member for Ramsey has done. I shall be more modest, and shall only suggest one. I am one of the older members, and I have been in this House a longer time than Mr Christian. Some people think that the members of the Legislative Council should be selected from the Keys; I do not agree with that at all, but I think if a member has been a long time in the Keys, and has shown himself a good member, that qualifies him for a position on the Council. Therefore, I have very great pleasure in supporting Mr Christian. He is one of the leading agriculturists of the Island, and agriculture is one of our main industries. He is a very hard-headed man, of sound judgment. He has had considerable experience on boards of Tynwald, and

in my opinion he has been a very good member of this House. I venture to say if this House appoints him as a representative on the Council, it will give great satisfaction in the north of the Isle of Man. Mr Christian has not been quite so well lately, but he has not been in bad health. A man may not be well enough to fight a warm contest, and yet be able to take a quieter place in the Council, and I venture to hope the House will approve of this nomination. I ask them to do so.

Mr Cain: I am going to support four gentlemen, but not the four that have been named by the hon. member for Ramsey. The gentlemen whom I shall support are, Messrs Kerruish, Jos. Qualtrough, Cunningham, and Southward. I have reasons for supporting this. I have listened to the hon. member for Ramsey, but I have listened in vain for any argument or reason sufficiently convincing to persuade me to vote for any gentleman who is not already in this House. Now, the business before the House to-day is of a very unique character. The House is at a new page in its history. There are members in this House who have been here for years, and some who, unfortunately, are not here, through ill-health, who have striven to obtain this instalment of Reform which we are about to have at the present time. Some of those gentlemen who have spoken to-day, have been Liberals and Democrats, and have always advocated to trust the People. I am not going to say that there are not, outside of this House, gentlemen qualified in every respect—probably more qualified than most members of this House—for all the positions that are vacant. The only reason I am going to support members from this House is this, that if this House, recently elected, is going to elect persons from outside, they are going to deal a blow at the very foundations of democracy which the people of this Island have looked for and hoped for so long. For that reason, I am going to support members from this House. But, there is another reason. If there are gentlemen in this House who have given service ungrudgingly to the State for many years in this House, for the benefit of their fellows, have not they a prior claim to any gentleman from outside, however brilliant that gentleman may be? And for that reason, I am going to support the four gentlemen that I have named, and I do not think any argument or reason

can be adduced by any member of this House to show me I am wrong. It is rather astonishing that the trend of thought for many years past has been in this direction. Now, the Home Office, in 1911, suggested what I am advocating. Although, I admit, it is in the Bill that we can go outside, they did not suggest that it should be in the Bill; they suggested that the people should be represented. If you elect members from outside this House, to whom are those members responsible? I, for one, refuse to accept any responsibility for any gentleman who does not come before the electors of this Island to be elected in this House. For that reason, I shall vote for the selection out of this House.

Mr Dalglish: I wish to support the gentleman whose name I proposed, Mr Walter Quayle, of Peel, and I can assure the House that though he is not well known to everyone, he is an exceptional and outstanding person for this position. He has the claims of a politician. No doubt the House has read the speech which he made in contesting the election for Peel, and I venture to say in that address there lies the ability of a man to represent the people in the Upper Chamber. It is rather mystifying to me to have sat here to-day, and heard certain members find fault with the late House of Keys, and now they claim that they are the only people capable of representing the people in the Upper Chamber, which, I understand, is the more responsible Chamber. How can they reconcile their views in this respect? Then, with regard to a candidate being rejected—that may happen to the best of men. We have known of the greatest statesmen in England being refused a seat in the House of Commons; so that we do not get the best men at all times through an election, as it is pretended. The men who succeed at the polls are often those who refuse to be consistent, and make their arguments fit in with the occasion. I venture to say the gentleman I nominate will be a credit to the Upper Chamber. He has the time and the ability; he is a young man, and he is as well read as the best of us in this country. He understands the political position in this Island equal to anyone. Therefore, I have great pleasure in giving the House the opportunity of selecting a man that they very rarely have the chance to support. We have suggested a number of old gentlemen

to go up to the Council; I say, let us have one young man, at any rate, to inspire them. I feel sure the Isle of Man will suffer no loss.

Mr Southward: I feel in a very awkward position at present, seeing I have been nominated as one of the candidates for election to the Council. I want to make my position perfectly clear, as far as I can. I have no wish whatever to go upstairs. I would much prefer to sit here, as I think I can do better work for my country, because, after all, my ideal is to work for all, and not for a certain section. But, I feel placed in a very awkward position in this way—that I thoroughly agree with the hon. member for Peel and the hon. member for North Douglas, Mr Cain, that members for the Council Chamber should be elected from the Keys. During the election in Ayre sheading, I made a statement to that effect. If the members who are sent to the Council Chamber are not sent from the House of Keys, my humble opinion is, you cannot carry out the principle embodied in the Reform Act—that is, of sending the people's representatives there. If you go outside the House, and take a gentleman who has not been in the House for a considerable time, or who has not been there at all, you cannot say that that gentleman represents the views of the people. I have thought seriously over this matter, and consider that it is necessary, in order to carry out the will of the people, that, as far as possible, members should be elected from the House of Keys. Now, some member, or members, may think I am trying now to plead for myself. I do not intend to do anything of that sort, but I do say, that, after my statement before the electors of Ayre, with regard to the representatives on the Council, and seeing that I have been nominated in this House for the position, I would be a traitor to my constituents as well, if I withdraw at this particular time. But, I should like to go this far and say—and appeal to this House as well—that they should not vote for me, but, rather, they should give the votes they intended to give me to my late honourable colleague, Mr Alfred Christian. If anyone is to drop out, then I hope I drop out, and he gets in. I do not know whether I have made my position clear, or not, but I have tried to do so. With regard to the hon. member for Rushen, I had the honour to nominate Mr Joseph

Qualtrough. I think his name appeals to all members of every shade of opinion in this House. He is an old and tried man, one who has gone in for progress, and I am glad to think, if he is elected to the Council Chamber, there will be progress made, and things will not be in the same position as they were before. I think one qualification which he possesses is this—that for many years he has been a great reformer, and the measure of reform that we to-day enjoy with regard to this matter has been largely due to the work of Mr Qualtrough. He was one of the founders of the Reform Bill, being associated with the late Mr Crennell and Mr T. H. Cormode, and I think that itself entitles him to a seat in the Council as one of its first members. With regard to Mr Cunningham, I think the town of Douglas is entitled to representation. Mr Cunningham will make a very useful member, and I am sure he will uphold the traditions of this House, and I heartily support his nomination. With regard to Mr J. R. Kerruish, we had the pleasure of electing him recently as Speaker of the House of Keys. Unfortunately, the pendulum has swung round, and he has been ousted, for the time, at any rate; but, I think it would be most fitting if this House showed its appreciation of the long services of Mr Kerruish, by sending him to the Council Chamber. I do not know that I have anything more to say; but I feel the great seriousness of the position to-day, and I trust that the House will give its very serious consideration to this matter, and vote for men who have at heart the good of the community and the happiness and well-being of the people of the Island.

Mr Alfred Teare: I desire to support the nominations of Messrs Cunningham, Joseph Qualtrough, Kerruish, and Southward. I contend that, under the Isle of Man Constitution Amendment Act, which is an Act to give the people some say in the Upper Chamber, the members who should be returned to that Chamber as representing the people should come from within this House. We have grumbled for many years that the Upper Chamber is quite outside the range of public opinion. Now, we have the opportunity of causing it to reflect public opinion, as public opinion was evidenced at the recent polls, by returning to the Upper Chamber members from this House. It has been said, but it cannot be argued logically, that that

Upper Chamber might be swayed one way or another from time to time, through four members of this House taking their seats there. But we have still a number of official members, and then the Governor has the right to appoint two more, and those four members who go from this House, as representing public opinion, will serve as a sort of leaven. Therefore, I think this House will do wisely and well in appointing four of its own members to those positions.

Mr Clucas: As I nominated Mr Martin, who is not at present a member of this House, I should like to say a few words on his behalf. I dissent entirely from the view that the Constitution Amendment Act would suffer, and that the people's cause would suffer, unless the members who are elected to the Upper Chamber are members of this House. If the late House of Keys had thought so, they would not have inserted into the passage of the Bill dealing with this election, the words, "or otherwise." I think you must consider those words, and so far as I am personally concerned, I am more inclined to consider the words "or otherwise" than the words "from among its own members." I cannot understand a member of this House, unless he is tired of active political service, desiring to go into the Council at all, and I cannot understand the argument which has been used this afternoon, that, because the hon. member for Rushen and others were prominent in the Reform movement, they should therefore be sent up to the Council. That would make it seem as if those gentlemen had been working for office for themselves, which I do not believe is the case, and in any case I should be sorry to see the hon. member for Rushen leave the floor of this House. I think we should make a very great mistake if we did anything to weaken the debating strength of this House. It is better to say that these new men shall come from outside. It is said that in that case this House would not have power over them, but I take it that the members who are supposed to go up from this House will not go there in any way as delegates from this House. I take it that they will go there to act honestly according to their own lights, and it is only on that understanding that I would vote for any man. But in choosing an outside man, I would like a man who had some legislative ex-

perience. I would not say that, because a man has not got that experience, he may not be a very capable man of affairs, and a very suitable man, and might not do very well in the Council. But primarily, I am very strongly in favour of having somebody who has had legislative experience. Of course, that applies very strongly to Mr Alfred Christian, and it also applies to Mr Edward Martin, who was a member of this House before I came to it, and continued a member for at least seven years, and was, I believe, a very useful representative. Anyhow, I do know, and I think it is the opinion of most people, that he is a very shrewd, level-headed man, and that he has a knowledge both of town and country, and I think that is a very important matter. Three of the gentlemen whom it is proposed to send up are, anyhow, men of urban experience, as opposed to agricultural. While I never was one of those who raised the question of town versus country, I feel that it is wise, so far as possible, to divide representation among these interests. I should like to see one member representing each High-Bailiff's district. It may be said that in the Eastern district, Douglas would have the preponderating voting power. But you have only to turn to the example of the United States, where, while the House of Representatives is elected on a popular basis, the Senate consists of two representatives from each State, elected by the Legislature of the State, quite irrespective of the size of the State. A large State like New York has no more representation than the State of Washington, on the Pacific coast. I know that the hon. member for Ramsey expressed views against what he called the territorial system, but I am very strongly of the opposite opinion. The same views were expressed by the hon. member for North Douglas, Mr Cain, whom I think I should congratulate upon the speech he made to-day, which shows the debating strength that is coming into the House, as was also shown by certain other new members. Perhaps this is not a sufficient compliment from me, who am a new member of this House; but as a man who had some experience of the House of Keys before, I feel that the House is to be congratulated upon the ability shown by those members who have entered the House for the first time. Mr Cain has argued that we do not follow the principle of trusting the people if we do not send up men who

are members of the House of Keys, but I am afraid I cannot follow that argument at all, because, if his view is right in that matter, then the Act is wrong. The hon. member for Ayre, my colleague Mr Southward, seems to have the same view, which, as I say, is contrary to mine. The hon. member for South Douglas, Mr Teare, is also tied to that idea. But I would impress very strongly upon the House the great desirability of not in any way weakening this House. It is all very well to say that we don't know who is outside the House, and that able men may be sent in to fill the vacancies. You may get good representatives at the bye-elections, but you may get bad, and if these men outside are so good, why don't they succeed in getting in, instead of the men who do get in? I think it is better to stick to the evils that you do know, rather than fly to those that you know not of, and on that principle, I feel assured that we would be well advised in electing, as far as possible, gentlemen from outside the House. I do not see that the mere fact that gentlemen have not been before the public for election affects the matter at all. I don't see that it matters even if they have failed at the poll. There may be too many men offering in one constituency, and the electorate choose which man they prefer of the lot, but that does not prove that they would have rejected the other man, if the man they specially favoured had not been there. I beg to support the nomination of Mr Martin, and I hope he will be elected.

Mr Norris: I rise to support the nomination of the four gentlemen who have been elected to this House. I think if we confine our selection to those gentlemen, we are proceeding along certain lines of principle that we ought to take as a guide in the selection of those who ought to go to the Upper House. The whole object of reform, as I understand it, is to democratise the hitherto official and nominated Legislative Council—in a word, to bring the people of this Island into touch with the Legislative Council, and the Legislative Council into touch with the people. That has always been our aim. That has been the aim of every member who has spoken here to-day who has taken any part in the Reform movement, including the hon. member who has just sat down. It is true that our action is limited. The proposal before the Reform

Commission, that the members of the Legislative Council sent by the people should be directly representative of the people, was supported by myself and others, and I think we had a large body of public opinion behind us, but others did not want it. It is my opinion that while they have been preaching reform, now we are confronted with it, they want to keep it away. (Hear, hear.) The action of this House is, as I said, strictly limited. We are only asked to elect four members out of a Council of ten, and the responsibility of this House for those four members is their responsibility to the people of this Island. Speaking for myself, I, in the clearest manner, undertook before my constituents that I would not vote for any member to go to the Legislative Council, as appointed by this House, unless he had been previously elected to this House, and I doubt very much if any member to-day would stand before his constituents and say he would not trust their selection to this House to be good enough to go to the Legislative Council. I agree that the House not only has the power to go outside, but it is right that it should have the power. It is a contingency which may arise, and it is right that provision should be made for it. We can all conceive circumstances where, in a close contest, a most able man might fail to be elected to this Legislature, and whose services it is in the highest degree desirable should be obtained. Has anything of that kind happened in the late election? I think not. Has any man lost his seat on a close vote—a man whose policy has been good and true and whose constituents have only thrust him out by a narrow vote? Not such occasion has arisen, in my opinion, to bring back a most able man, whom the Legislature should have. Therefore, as far as this House is concerned, I think our choice should be limited. There is provision in the Bill for such men to go to the Legislature. His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor has power, and not only has power, but he must appoint two gentlemen to the upper chamber, and, I may point out, he can only elect those two members after the selection of this House has been made; thus permitting the Governor to nominate those very men whom this House is asked to-day to nominate. I think this House should do its own work

and leave other people to do their work. I think the Act clearly contemplates that we should confine our selection to this House. I believe the hon. member for Rushen, in giving evidence before the Reform Commission, clearly indicated that, while he desired there should be an opportunity of going outside this House, yet that power should only be used if we felt there had been excluded from this House most desirable men. Amongst the nominations made to this House this morning, I do not think it could be contended in the least that either of the three gentlemen is really in that position. I do agree with what has been said, that it is our duty, so far as possible, to reflect the spirit of the people in the Legislative Council, and, in selecting men from this House, we are putting the responsibility ultimately upon the people. We are getting as near as we can to direct election. I had the honour of proposing the hon. member for Ayre, Mr Southward, and I should like to make one or two remarks with regard to the appeal—the extraordinary appeal—which Mr Southward makes to us not to vote for him. He himself told his constituents that members should be elected from this House. Now he himself comes to this House and asks us not to elect him—he himself being a member of this House—but he asks us to elect a gentleman who has already made us his mind to retire from the Legislature. For Mr Alfred Christian, personally, I have the greatest regard—equally for Mr Southward. We are not discussing the personalities of these gentlemen, but I trust this House will absolutely ignore Mr Southward's appeal on that score, and will send Mr Southward to the Upper House. With respect to the other gentlemen who have been mentioned—Messrs Kerruish, Qualtrough, and Cunningham—I do not think there is any need for me to make any remarks. But I think it well to look at the position adopted to-day by the hon. member for Ayre. In the case of the hon. member for Ayre, Mr Clucas, he tells us that he is in favour, largely, of the territorial system prevailing. Well, has not this House attempted to indicate its appreciation of that in the nominations. Can a thing be said for Mr Christian that cannot equally be said for Mr Southward? Has he not an equal interest in agricul-

ture? Does he not equally represent the North of the Island? If the hon. member favours the territorial system, why does he come to ask us to return Mr. Edward Martin, while Mr. Qualtrough, who has been nominated, would equally represent the southern district of the Island? I think, in restricting our choice to members of this House, we are acting in the only way we can act if we are equal to our professions. For Mr. Quayle, personally, I have the greatest admiration. I hope he will soon become a member of this Legislature, but that we should be asked to send to the Upper House a man who has never sat in either Branch of the Legislature, and who is quite irresponsible to the people of this Island, is, at this time of day, asking too much. I have great pleasure in supporting the nomination of these four gentlemen. We are not reducing the debating strength of this House. The hon. member for Ayre, Mr. Clucas, has himself admitted that you have got new debating strength in. I would have preferred a younger man. I am sorry that amongst the nominations we have not a younger, more virile man. From that point of view, I would have preferred a man who is ruled out for the reasons I have named. We have put forward a fair, honest, straight selection. I was hoping that the member for Ramsey would have allowed his name to be put forward. A fair nomination has gone, which, I think, will give satisfaction to this House. It will not infringe any of the principles of democracy which would make the Reform Bill to be carried out in spirit, and I trust these four gentlemen will be returned to-day.

Mr. Jos. Qualtrough: There are one or two matters I would like to point out to the House. When the matter was before the House, it was suggested that the Island should be divided into four districts. I believe that found much favour, as, under that scheme, each district would have one representative. The difficulty that hon. members felt was, that if the Island was divided into four districts, there would be few men who would undertake the cost of a contested election. The cost would be excessive. Sheadings are bad enough, and if there were four constituencies, it would be impossible to get men to stand. I think that most people think the four districts should be represented, and I also agree that it is desirable, where possible, only to send

to the Council men who have been elected to the House. In this case, we have a number of gentlemen nominated, only one of whom is from the west of the Island—Mr. Quayle,—and I think, therefore, that this is a case where we should make an exception to the general rule, as we must take into consideration the claims of each part of the Island. As no one has felt it right to nominate one of the sitting members from the west of the Island, we have only the name of Mr. Quayle from that district. From the north of the Island, you have Mr. Southward and Mr. Kerruish nominated, you have the hon. member for North Douglas to represent the Eastern Division, a man of true worth, who will bring into the deliberations of the Council the sentiments he has always expressed; and, for the south of the Island, my name is mentioned. I have laboured late and long for this measure of reform, and if the House considers me worthy of the honour, I thank you. I ask the House, on this occasion, to make a departure from the opinion that only members of this House should be elected, so that the four districts of the Island can be represented. I can assure the House that, in Mr. Quayle, they will have a very valuable member, and one who will give satisfaction. He holds views on political subjects similar to the views I hold myself. I believe that he would be a worthy member for the western district.

Mr. Ambrose Qualtrough: I beg to support Mr. J. R. Kerruish and Mr. Jos. Qualtrough. These are the only two I will vote for, and no others.—(Laughter.)—I object to the licking up of the Glenfaba members by supporting Mr. Quayle, because someone wants their votes. That sort of thing was tried at the Rushen election, with great success; but it should not be tried in the House.—(Laughter.)—I am going to vote for Mr. J. R. Kerruish and Mr. Jos. Qualtrough.

A ballot was then taken, Messrs. Gill and J. D. Qualtrough being selected by the Speaker to be scrutineers.

The Speaker: Three of the persons nominated have obtained the necessary majority of votes. Mr. Joseph Qualtrough has obtained 19 votes; Mr. Cunningham, 18; and Mr. Kerruish, 16. I will ask the House, therefore, to ballot again between the remaining names to fill the fourth vacancy.

Mr. Norris: Would it be in order to ask

for the votes given to the other candidates?

The Speaker: I think so. Mr Southward has 10; Mr Christian, 8; Mr Quayle, 7; and Mr Martin, 3.

A second ballot was taken, and the Speaker announced that Mr Southward was elected, having obtained 13 votes; Mr Christian had received 7; Mr Quayle, 4; and Mr Martin, none.

The Speaker: The House has now to decide which two out of these four gentlemen should go first out of office. Would it be the wish of the House that those two gentlemen who received the highest number of votes should remain in office longest, and that the two who received the lowest number should go out of office first?—(Voices: "Agreed").

Mr A. H. Teare: I move we ballot. That is the fairest way.

Mr Clucas: I second that. It is the practice usually adopted in such cases. I don't mean that we should vote upon it; but that the four names should be put into the ballot box, and the first two that come out should be the names of the gentlemen who retire first.

Mr A. Qualtrough: I object to that. The House has shown the greatest confidence in certain two men, and they should stay in the Council longest, and those other two that have only scraped in—(laughter)—should go out first. I move that.

Mr Norris seconded.

Mr A. Qualtrough's resolution was put as the amendment, and there voted:—For: Messrs Callister, Dalgleish, Kermode, T. S. Corlett, Bridson, Corrin, Jos. Qualtrough, A. Qualtrough, Norris, Cain, Cunningham, Alfred Teare, Goldie-Taubman, J. D. Qualtrough, and the Speaker—15. Against: Messrs R. Sayle Corlett, Southward, Clucas, Daniel Teare, Kerruish, Gill, and A. H. Teare—7.

The amendment was then put as the substantive motion, and carried without dissent.

RIGHTS OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL TO APPEAR IN THE KEYS.—STANDING ORDERS TO BE AMENDED.

Mr Clucas: May I point out that, under the Constitution Amendment Act, certain members of the Legislative Council, nominated by the Governor, can appear in this

House, with our consent, and they have to conform to such Standing Orders as this House may make. I think it is advisable that this House should at once appoint a Standing Orders Committee, as used to be the case, and proceed to make the necessary Standing Orders. I move that a committee of three be appointed.

Mr. A. H. Teare: I second that. I think it has been apparent to-day that some new standing orders are necessary, even in the conduct of this election. Whilst I am on my feet, I notice that one of the members of the last Standing Orders Committee was the hon. member who has just sat down. I think I would be in order in nominating Mr. Clucas.

Mr. Norris: In supporting this motion, I would suggest that it should be included among the duties of this committee, to recommend to the House what action it should take in connection with clause 3 of the Constitutional Bill. Under that clause, we have the power by requisition to ask the Governor at any time to hold a Tynwald Court. It may be that this House would decide to have regular meetings of Tynwald.

The Speaker: I think the Committee should confine itself to this particular business. This is the regular Standing Orders Committee which is always appointed.

Mr. A. Qualtrough moved that Mr. Norris be a member of the committee.

The motion that a Standing Orders Committee be appointed, to deal with the drafting of the Standing Order required under section 21 of the Isle of Man Constitutional Amendment Act, and other questions concerning the Standing Orders which might from time to time arise, was carried unanimously.

Mr Southward moved that the committee consist of three, and that the members be Messrs Clucas, A. H. Teare, and Cain.

Mr Cain: While I am very much obliged to the hon. member who has just sat down, I think it would be much better if an older member of the House was put on that committee. I have no wish to stand at all; I think that there are members better qualified.

Mr Cunningham seconded the nomination of Mr Norris.

Mr Southward agreed to accept the

withdrawal of Mr Cain, and to propose Messrs Clucas and A. H. Teare.

Mr Kermodé seconded.

Mr Clucas: Does Mr Norris, also, feel that he is a new member? He may be a very excellent member of the committee, but I cannot see the distinction between the two members for North Douglas, if one is to be exercised.

Mr Cunningham: Mr Norris is a new member of the House, certainly, but he is in a sense a very old member. Sitting in another very honourable position in this chamber, he learnt all there was to be learnt concerning the workings of this House, and I think that his experience there should count for something here.

Mr Corrin nominated Mr Alfred Teare.

Mr A. Qualtrough seconded.

Mr A. H. Teare: Standing Order No 81 provides that all members are bound to serve on committees. I think the hon. member for North Douglas is bound to act, if the House presses for him.

Mr Cain: I am in the hands of the House.

Mr Clucas: In all my long experience, I only once got off serving on a committee. And I was appointed to a great many.

It was agreed that the Committee should be enlarged to five, and that Messrs Clucas, A. H. Teare, Cain, Norris, and Alfred Teare should be appointed.

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM.

The Speaker: We will now continue the debate on the hon member for Rushen's motion.

Mr Dagleish: In support of this resolution, I would like to say, with regard to the matter of control, I am pleased to see that, now we have in the House an element of Labour, and I hope that when next the matter of control comes forward that Labour will support the House of Keys, rather than what they did the last time, when we had a contest with the Treasury. It can be truly said, as has been repeated here, that the mistakes of the Labour Party during the bread strike nearly lost us control. Instead of the Party being on the side of Tynwald, they made it the more difficult for Tynwald to carry on the fight for control. I do not know what effect it had on the election, but it has been stated by Labour again

and again, that they were the people who secured control and the 9d. loaf, and that the House of Keys and Tynwald were against the loaf. That was a wrong and dishonest argument to use, and the claim should have been refuted at the time. I, being only a new member, did not feel called upon to deny it, but I think it was the duty of old members to put the case before the community. The people who carried on the campaign against the House of Keys were the very people that should have backed up the House. The House were always in favour of the nine-penny loaf. I only wished to clear that point. I am pleased to see Labour in the House, and if at any time should the same sort of thing occur, I hope they will back up the House of Keys.

Mr Joseph Qualtrough (replying on the debate): I don't think I can follow all the hon. members who have supported the resolution, as there have been so many matters brought into the question that it is impossible to deal with them all. I will take up a number of them, as far as I can possibly answer them. I am pleased to have had the privilege of initiating a discussion on such important matters. It has given me the impression that the question I raised was very important, and a question that must come up for settlement at an early date. I am satisfied that the House will pursue the question step by step, and that the Government will see the uselessness of withholding from the Manx people the social benefits demanded. I want to congratulate some of the hon. members on their maiden speeches, and I am delighted to have raised a subject which has given the new members an opportunity of speaking. It has given the new members an opportunity of presenting their views to the House, which otherwise they would not have had to-day. I congratulate them on the discussion which has been raised, and what has been said has strengthened my position very considerably. I want to refer to one or two things that have been said. The hon. member for Ayre, Mr Clucas, takes a very strong stand against the control of the Treasury. His point was that the grandmotherly control was valueless. I have never known, during my long experience, that the Treasury control has saved the Manx people a penny where waste has occurred. It has been up to the representatives of the people to do that, and the more they are left on their own, the more

they will do so. We pay our way, and meet all claims for interest and repayment of loans, and there has never been any expenditure that we could not meet. It is quite time the Treasury gave over treating us as juniors or as children under their guardianship. The hon. member for Ayre also referred to the control in Government Office. I don't want to get up against Government Office, but there are a number of things put before us in the Budget which, when they come before Tynwald, are never discussed. They are put in at the sweet will of someone who is beyond the scope of the representatives of the people. My suggestion is that if we had a General Purposes Committee, responsible to the Court, they could be dealt with in a businesslike way. The hon. member for North Douglas (Mr Norris) made some reference to another question. He said that we had absolute power at present, and we could appoint a committee. The hon. member is quite mistaken; we cannot do anything of the sort. The Governor could not accept such a committee, and even if he was willing, the Imperial authorities would refuse to allow a committee to encroach on his privileges. It was suggested in the Reform petition that there should be an Advisory Council, but it was found that it was impossible to have such a committee to dictate to the Governor, and not responsible to him. It would not work at all. It would be impossible to carry out what the hon. member suggested. What I want is a committee to examine the expenditure in the votes to be laid before Tynwald. At present we know nothing except that they have been approved by the Governor, and they are invariably passed rather than members will run up against the Governor. The hon. member also made reference to the appointment of High-Bailiffs. It was made clear that the appointment of one High-Bailiff would not effect any saving,

and we did not see, therefore, that anything was to be gained. Then I come to the hon. member for Ayre, Mr Southward, who said that Old Age Pensions were not practical during the war, as they would cost £20,000. I want to say that we should have had Old Age Pensions long before the war. In 1908 Mr W. M. Kerruish, a member for South Douglas, promoted a Bill on the subject. The Governor would not have it, and it failed because the House of Keys did not put their backs to the wall. If we had at that time put our backs to the wall, we would have had Old Age Pensions years and years ago. At that time, whenever there was a question brought forward that was in the interests of the people or of democracy, only six members were found to support the people's cause, two Qualtroughs, the two Kerruishs, Crennell, and Cormode, that is all.

At this point the Speaker drew attention to the fact that time had expired.

Mr A. H. Teare: I move that the House stand adjourned till a fortnight to-day at 11.

Mr Southward seconded.

Mr A. Qualtrough: I move 2 o'clock.

Mr Joseph Qualtrough: I propose a week to-day.

Mr Callister seconded.

The Speaker: We will decide the day first, and then settle the hour.

There voted for a week's adjournment:— Messrs Callister, Dalgleish, Kermode, J. D. Clucas, D. Teare, Gill, Bridson, Shimmis, Norris, Caan, Cunningham, Alf. Teare, Taubman, J. D. Qualtrough, and the Speaker—15. Against: Messrs R. S. Corlett, Southward, Kerruish, T. Corlett, Corrin, Joseph Qualtrough, A. Qualtrough, and A. H. Teare—8.

It was agreed that the meeting should start at 2-30, and the sitting stood adjourned till Tuesday, December 2nd.