LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Thursday 14 October 1982

The PRESIDENT (Hon. A.M. Whyte) took the Chair at 2.15 p.m. and read prayers.

OMBUDSMAN'S REPORT

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: I rise on a point of order, Mr President. This point of order relates to outstanding reports which have not been tabled in the Parliament and, in particular, to the Ombudsman's Report, which is presented to you as President. That report does not go to the Government. I think that you should advise the Council whether you have received that report, Sir.

The Hon. J.C. Burdett: What is the Standing Order?
The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: I will explain the Standing Order. Under section 29—

The Hon. K.T. Griffin: It does not apply, because Parliament has been prorogued.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: Under section 29 of the Ombudsman's Act, it is quite clear that once the Ombudsman's Report is completed he shall transmit that report to the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the House of Assembly and that the President and the Speaker shall 'forthwith' lay the same before their respective Chambers. My submission is that that word 'forthwith' means just that. If you, Mr President, have received that report I think that you should advise the Council and should now table that report, because that is what the Ombudsman's Act requires.

The PRESIDENT: I find no problem in the honourable member's request, since at this time a messenger from the Governor has not been announced. I have received the Ombudsman's Report and hereby table it.

ASSENT TO BILLS

His Excellency the Governor, by message, intimated his assent to the following Bills:

Appropriation (No. 2),

Judicial Remuneration,

Parliamentary Salaries and Allowances Act Amendment,

Public Finance Act Amendment,

Road Traffic Act Amendment (No. 2).

PROROGATION

His Excellency the Governor, by message, informed the Legislative Council that, at a meeting of Executive Council held at 12.15 p.m. today:

- (1) he issued a proclamation proroguing Parliament until 9 December 1982;
- (2) he issued a proclamation dissolving the House of Assembly as from 14 October 1982;
- (3) he issued a notice of intention to issue 47 writs for the election of members of the House of Assembly and one writ for the election of 11 members of the Legislative Council.

At 2.22 p.m. the Council adjourned.