SECOND

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

FIRST SESSION.

RESOLUTION No. XIV.

Whereas in times past the Pacific Cable Board included in its public news service reports of the progress of West Indian Cricket teams touring abroad; and

Whereas the Pacific and West Indian Cable Undertaking was recently sold to a Communications Company, as stated in footnote (4) on page 82 of the 1930 estimate; and

Whereas that footnote also stated, inter alia: The Communications Company will be under the control of the several Governments concerned through an Advisory Committee to the extent that the Company will be required to consult the Advisory Committee on questions of policy including any alteration in rates, and without whose assent no increase of rates prevailing at the date of the formation of the Company is to be made; and

Whereas the attention of this Council has been directed to a report that the Cable Company has now decided not to include in the public telegrams any news whatever of the progress of the first West Indian cricket team to visit Australia; and

Whereas this Council voted \$2,775 at the last Annual Session and \$4,349 (1931 Draft Estimate, p. 83, Head XLII., item 12) at the present Annual Session in part payment of a capital liability of £8,185 fixed at the sale of the Cable Undertaking as this Colony's share of the outstanding balance of the West Indian Telegraph Loan:

- (1.) Be it Resolved,—That this Council is of opinion that the cessation of the free cricket news service is undeniably a question of policy involving an increase of rates, and as such cannot be put into effect without the approval of the Advisory Committee;
- (2.) That this Council requests Government, through its representative on the Advisory Committee, to protest vehemently against the unprecedented action taken by the Communications Company.

Passed by the Legislative Council this 17th day of December, 1930.

M. B. LAING, Clerk of the Council.

(M.P. 5817/30).