

The Hon. P O FYSH laid on the Table a letter from Mr. J G Barrett, Secretary of the Trades Hall Council, Melbourne, on the subject of the employment of Coloured Labour on Mail Steamers, and moved that it be read.

The Hon. A. J THYNNE seconded. Carried.

The letter was read by the Secretary

COMMISSIONS.

The Hon. J G. WARD and the Hon. J A. COCKBURN presented their Commissions as Representatives of New Zealand and South Australia to the Conference.

PAPERS.

The following Papers were laid on the Table, and ordered to be printed:—

The Hon. J A. COCKBURN.—The Second Report of the Committee appointed at the Postal and Telegraphic Conference held at Hobart, 1892, for the purpose of drafting a Code of Rules and Regulations for the erection and laying of Electric Light and Power Wires.

The Hon. J G WARD.—Statement of Traffic *re* New Zealand-Sydney Cable Guarantee from 1st May to 31st December, 1894, also a statement of Estimated Traffic for the year ending 30th April, 1895; also Return of Telegraphic Business, New Zealand, 1894.

Return of New Zealand Telegraph Service, 31st December, 1894.

Correspondence on:—

Postage on Circulars from the United Kingdom.

Re Brisbane-Adelaide Mail Train

Italian Surcharges.

Newspaper Postage to the United Kingdom.

Electric Tramways—Light and Power

Pacific Cable.

San Francisco Mail Service.

Ocean Penny Postage.

The Hon. JOSEPH COOK tabled a letter from Mr D Michie, Agent of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Sydney, on the subject of the employment of Native Crews on the Boats of the Company, and also Report of a Deputation to the Postmaster-General of New South Wales from the Seamen's Union against the employment of Coloured Labour on Ocean Mail Steamers; also *re* a Minimum Wage. Received.

The Hon. JOHN GAVAN DUFFY (President) tabled a letter from Mr J Henniker-Heaton, addressed to Mr Warren, Melbourne. At a later period he would move that it be read. Received.

The Hon. J G WARD expressed his thanks to the Members of the Conference for the courtesy shown him in altering the order of business to meet his convenience. He moved the following as the

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Pacific Mail Service.
2. Pacific Cable.
3. Cable Guarantees, and proposed withdrawal of Victoria.
4. Consideration of proposed Official Code Vocabulary
5. Federal Mail Contract—
 - (a) Proposed extension of.
 - (b) Time of departure from Adelaide.
 - (c) Cold Storage.
 - (d) Coloured Labour
 - (e) Delay of Train at Adelaide for English Mails.

The Hon. J. A. COCKBURN seconded. Carried.

Pacific Mail Service.

The Hon. J G WARD moved—That this Conference re-affirms the desirableness of establishing a four-weekly service (alternating with the San Francisco Service) between Australia, New Zealand, and Vancouver, the Mail Steamers calling at one main port in New Zealand and such ports in Australia as may be determined upon.

The Hon. A. J THYNNE seconded.

After discussion, the Motion was agreed to.

Pacific Cable.

The Hon. A. J THYNNE moved—

That in the opinion of this Conference it is desirable that—

- (a) The construction, working, and maintenance of a submarine Cable through British territory or under British control from Vancouver Island to Australasia be under-