

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates  
[Hansard]

**Legislative Assembly**

**WEDNESDAY, 19 APRIL 1871**

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## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

*Wednesday, 19 April, 1871.*

Census Bill.

## CENSUS BILL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved—

That the Speaker leave the Chair, and that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, for the purpose of considering the desirableness of introducing a Bill for the taking of a census.

He had heard it said that there was likely to be some discussion upon the Bill, and he would therefore leave it to honorable members to say whether they would take the discussion on the present motion, or when the Bill was brought on for a second reading, or when it was under consideration in committee. He would leave that matter entirely with the House, and would, at present, content himself with simply moving that the Speaker do now leave the Chair, and that the House go into Committee of the Whole.

Mr. ATKIN said he did not think there would be any objection to the present motion; but he knew that several honorable members deeply regretted that the taking of a census was the only measure proposed by the Government with a view to additional representation. Of course, in order to provide for additional representation, it was necessary that a census should be taken; and the introduction, by the Government, of a Bill for the taking of a census, was an admission on their part, that there was a necessity for additional representation. As honorable members knew, he had introduced a Bill for this purpose. He did not mean to say that it was a perfect measure, but honorable members would have an opportunity of expressing their opinions upon it, on the following day, when it would come on for a second reading. Now, the way in which the Census Bill would be dealt with, might, to a great extent, depend upon the way in which the Additional Members Bill was received. Under those circumstances, he thought it might be well that the motion now before the House should be agreed to, that the Bill should be allowed to pass through its initiatory stages, and that the discussion upon it should be deferred till a future day.

The motion was then agreed to.

the various important matters