

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates  
[Hansard]

**Legislative Council**

**THURSDAY, 16 MAY 1872**

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## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

*Thursday, 16 May, 1872.*

Conduct of Public Business.

## CONDUCT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS.

Routine matters and Orders of the Day  
having been disposed of,

The POSTMASTER-GENERAL moved the adjournment of the House until Wednesday next.

The Hon. H. G. SIMPSON said he should like very much to know, before the House agreed to the motion, whether there was any probability of the Council having anything to do on Wednesday; and, if so, what. It seemed to him to be useless for honorable gentlemen to come to the House day after day with nothing before them. The honorable member representing the Government had postponed the only Bill left on the paper until Wednesday week; and it was clear the Council were not required to meet on Wednesday next to consider that. The only reason for their meeting, before Wednesday week was, that possibly some arrangement might be come to between the Government and their opponents in another place, and that a certain amount of business might be done there. If the honorable gentleman would look into the matter, he would see that it was almost impossible that anything could come up from the Assembly, even supposing that, on Tuesday next, some agreement should be made. Surely he did not expect that the Council would have the Appropriation Bill to deal with next week! If there was any reasonable probability that such should be the case, he (Captain Simpson), for one, would not object to the adjournment of the House from day to day; but, if there was not, he must object decidedly to come to the House for nothing, because it would be wasting time. Honorable members could, it was true, absent themselves, and not make a House; still that was an indirect way of doing a thing which, he thought, should be done in the correct way. He believed it would be better to adjourn to a period when there was some reasonable prospect of having work to do, than to be dancing attendance on another place for nothing; and with that view, and to elicit the opinions of honorable members, he would move by way of amendment, that the Council adjourn until next Wednesday week, the 29th instant.

The POSTMASTER-GENERAL said he could hardly agree with the honorable and gallant gentleman, that the Council were dancing attendance on another place. Honorable gentlemen came to the House to do their duty. If any business should be brought before them, they would have the opportunity of performing it. He could not tell when it might happen that business would be ready; but he trusted that, for the good of the country, it would be by Wednesday next. He knew it was inconvenient for honorable gentlemen to come from the country to attend the Council when there was nothing for them to do; and he should be willing to save them and himself that inconvenience. But as a Bill might come up, he thought that the least they could do was to be ready to deal with it. If necessary, he should consider it to be his duty to divide the House upon the question; and he hoped that honorable gentlemen would support him.

The question was put, and the amendment was negatived. The original motion was affirmed.