

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates
[Hansard]

Legislative Council

TUESDAY, 27 JULY 1875

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, 27 July, 1875.

Reports of the Joint Library Committee.—Despatch of Business.

REPORTS OF THE JOINT LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The PRESIDENT said, if there was no objection on the part of any honorable member present, he would move the adoption of the reports from the Joint Library Committee, which he, some time past, laid on the table, and which, he might say, had been adopted in another place. The recommendations of the committee, he fancied, were not such as the Council would be inclined to object to. The first report had reference to the providing of a sum of money for the purpose of procuring additional book-cases for the Parliamentary Library, and also recommended that an increase should be made to the salary of the Librarian to £400 a-year. Those matters had been before the Legislative Assembly and, he understood, had met with the concurrence of honorable members of that Chamber. The second report, was, that the Library should, for the remainder of the session, be kept open on Saturdays until the hour of five o'clock p.m., and on Sundays, from ten a.m. until four p.m. That, also, was brought under the notice of the Library Committee at the request of honorable members of the other House. He did not know that there would be any objec-

tion to it—at least, he presumed there would not be—on the part of honorable members of the Council, inasmuch as the other House had agreed to provide the extra expense which would be incurred in carrying out the new arrangement under which the Library would be kept open on Saturday afternoons, and be opened on Sundays. That expense would be about £1 a week; and the night watchman of the Parliament Houses had undertaken the duty of attending at the Library on Saturdays, after one o'clock, and during Sundays, from ten to four o'clock, to secure the safe custody of the books and other property of the Joint Library of the Houses of Parliament. If there was no objection, as there was no other business before the House, he would now put the proposition :—

That the progress report from the Joint Parliamentary Library Committee, laid on the table of this House on the 30th ultimo, and ordered to be printed; also, that the report of the said committee, laid on the table on the 15th instant, be now adopted.

The Hon. J. TAYLOR: Did he understand from the President that the Librarian was not to be in attendance on Saturdays and Sundays?

The PRESIDENT: No. Provision was made to get some other person to take the place; because, of course, it would not be reasonable to require the Librarian and the ordinary messenger to attend that extra time. The Assembly had agreed to provide for the extra expense; therefore there did not seem to be any objection.

Question put and passed.

DESPATCH OF BUSINESS.

In moving the adjournment of the House, the POSTMASTER-GENERAL said he had been under the impression that by this time the Appropriation Bill would have come up to the Council; but owing to the protracted debate that had taken place elsewhere, the Bill was not ready. However, the Council would have it before Thursday next, the last sitting day of the week, and, under the circumstances, he should like the House to be in a position to dispose of it with as little delay as possible.