

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates  
[Hansard]

**Legislative Assembly**

**WEDNESDAY, 25 AUGUST 1875**

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## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

*Wednesday, 25 August, 1875.*

Payment of Members Bill.—Supply

## PAYMENT OF MEMBERS BILL.

Upon the Order of the Day being read for consideration in committee of the Legislative Council's message, of date the 7th July last (*vide* p. 694), said message was again read to the House by the Clerk.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, in moving that the Speaker do now leave the chair, said he desired to state, that in consequence of the absence of the honorable member for Warwick, Chairman of Committees, the honorable member for Springsure had kindly offered to discharge the duties for that day. He therefore moved—

That the Speaker do now leave the chair, and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the message; and that Mr. John Scott, member for Springsure, take the chair, as Chairman of Committees for this day.

Question put and passed.

The CHAIRMAN having reported to the House that the committee had come to a resolution, the report was adopted.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY then moved—

That the Bill be re-transmitted to the Legislative Council with the following Message, *viz.* :—

“MR. PRESIDENT,—

“The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's message of date the 7th ultimo, insisting upon their amendments made in the Payment of Members Bill, offer the following further reasons for continuing to disagree to those amendments, *viz.* :—

“1. Because this Bill, by the amendments of the Legislative Council, has been deprived of its main feature, a recognition of the services of members of the Legislative Assembly.

“2. Because a similar measure, with a different period for its commencement, was rejected by the Legislative Council last session, and the leading principle embodied in this Bill has, on other occasions, met with the same fate; and it is further considered, therefore, that the repeatedly expressed opinion of this branch of the Legislature, to which alone this Bill is intended to apply, should have weight, and the measure be further considered by the Legislative Council.”

Question put and passed.

## SUPPLY.

The COLONIAL TREASURER moved—

That the Speaker do now leave the chair, and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, further to consider the Supply to be granted to Her Majesty.

Mr. GROOM said, before the question was put, he should like to ascertain from the Government whether it was their intention to proceed with any land Bill at all this session? He understood, when they adjourned last week, that the first measure taken this week would be the Land Bill, and he thought they ought to proceed with it.

They had spent a great many evenings in Supply, which was in a much more advanced state than the Land Bill; and he, therefore, thought it would be well if the honorable the Colonial Secretary would inform the House as to the mode and manner of public business for the next fortnight. It was quite evident that the session was drawing to a close; members were gradually leaving and returning to their homes, and it would be very satisfactory if the honorable gentleman would tell them what measures he intended to take before the session terminated. There were some seventeen orders of the day on the paper; and if they were to have the usual massacre of the innocents, it would be as well to know what innocents were to be massacred. If some announcement of the kind were made, it would guide members as to their attendance. He did not believe in coming down to the House to do nothing; but if the Government desired to pass certain measures he was willing to come down and assist them in making a House, and carrying on public business. He knew the Land Bill would require a considerable amount of attention, and he should like to know if it were intended to proceed with it; and if it were, when, in order that members might be guided in their attendance.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY said he did not suppose that the Loan Estimates were not at all important; probably they were the most important matter before the House. The Land Bill stood the next Order of the Day, and it would have been proceeded with last night if it had not been for the adjournment. It was utterly impossible for him to lay down any distinct or definite rule as to the course of business without consulting the other branch of the Legislature. All he could do was to advance measures as quickly as he could; and he trusted, in a few days, he would be able to state what business was likely to be brought before the House.

Question put and passed.