

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates
[Hansard]

Legislative Assembly

WEDNESDAY, 5 JUNE 1878

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, 5 June, 1878.

Questions.—Volunteer Bill.—Formal Motions.—Parliamentary Shorthand Cadet Class.—Electoral Districts Bill—committee.

The SPEAKER took the chair at half-past three o'clock.

QUESTIONS.

Mr. MORGAN asked the Secretary for Public Instruction—

1. Is he aware that the resident farmers on Emu Creek, in the Warwick district, subscribed the sum of £30 to assist in building a State school in that neighbourhood?

2. Have tenders been called for the construction of the building?

3. If so, when will the work be commenced?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL (Mr. Griffith) replied:—

1. Yes.

2. Yes.

3. The tender for the building has been accepted, and the contractor is believed to be preparing the timber with a view to begin work on the ground immediately.

Mr. MACFARLANE (Ipswich) asked the Colonial Secretary—

Is it the intention of the Government to bring in this session a Publicans' Law Amendment Act?—if so, when?

The PREMIER (Mr. Douglas) replied:—

The Government are not prepared to bring in a Bill dealing with the whole subject during the present session.

VOLUNTEER BILL.

Mr. PALMER introduced a Bill to amend the law relating to the Volunteer Forces in Queensland, and moved that it be read a first time.

Question put and passed, and second reading made an Order of the Day for Thursday the 13th instant.

FORMAL MOTIONS.

1. Mr. MURPHY moved for leave to introduce a Bill to encourage and protect life insurance and other like provident arrangements for insurers and their families.

Question put and passed.

2. Mr. PERKINS moved—

For leave to introduce a Bill to enable the Toowoomba Gas and Coke Company (Limited), incorporated under the provisions of The Companies Act of 1863, to light with gas the town of Toowoomba and its suburbs, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

Question put and passed; and the Bill having been introduced, was read a first time.

By Mr. MORGAN—

That a select committee be appointed, with power to send for persons and papers, and to sit during any adjournment of this House, to inquire into the allegations set forth in the petition of Patrick McNamara, of Warwick; such committee to consist of Mr. Perkins, Mr. Tyrel, Mr. Graham, Mr. Macrossan, and the mover.

By Mr. PERSSE—

That there be laid on the table of this House, the report of the Chief Engineer of the surveys of the Fassifern railway.

PARLIAMENTARY SHORTHAND CADET CLASS.

Mr. WALSH said he rose for the purpose of moving, with the permission of the House, that the paper which he held in his hand, and which had been circulated that morning, being a report from Mr. Senior, Principal Shorthand-writer, on the progress and prospects of the Parliamentary Shorthand Cadet Class, be published in *Hansard*. His reason for doing so was that he thought it desirable that publicity should be given to the report, because there might be others besides those immediately interested who would have their attention directed to it.

The SPEAKER: I do not see how it can be inserted in *Hansard*, unless it is read to the House. *Hansard* only records what takes place in the House.

Mr. WALSH: I think you can give instructions to that effect, it being a parliamentary paper.

The SPEAKER: No.

Mr. WALSH said, if the House would permit him, he would read the report.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member will have to make a motion.

Mr. WALSH said he would conclude with a motion. The report was addressed to the Speaker, and was as follows:—

Brisbane, 24th May, 1878.

SIR,

I have the honour, in compliance with your instructions of last Wednesday, to present a report upon the position and prospects of the Parliamentary Shorthand Cadet Class.

As I had the honour of stating in my last half-yearly report, the class now consists of eleven members, viz:—R. Morris, O. de Pigott, C. A. Bernays, W. F. O'Carroll, E. Black, V. Black, T. F. Hassall, R. H. Brown, R. J. Kelly,

H. Hurman, and R. P. Earle; all but the last two having joined the class at the beginning, viz., October 2nd, 1876.

I am glad to be able to say that the class has made good progress. A few of the cadets had some knowledge of shorthand previous to their connection with the class. The others, who are lads averaging fifteen or sixteen years of age, can now write well enough to take dictations from the *Hansard* staff, and under the special arrangement sanctioned by yourself and the honourable the Premier at the commencement of the session, are employing the present (the fourth) term in practical work in connection with *Hansard*, in lieu of class-room attendances.

This arrangement will, I hope, enable me, at the close of the term, to make my final examination, and it will be their own fault if the whole of the pupils have not by that time attained a degree of efficiency which will entitle them to a certificate. All that can be taught in class-room has been taught; the rest depends upon the perseverance of the pupils in putting into private practice the principles with which they have been made acquainted.

It will naturally be some time before any of the pupils are advanced enough to report for *Hansard* in the Legislative Assembly. The smallness of the chamber, which fosters a more rapid style of speaking than would be possible in a larger hall, and its deficient acoustic properties (from a gallery point of view) make it imperative to aim at a higher average of reporting skill than is the standard even in the House of Commons' reporting gallery; and it would be too much to expect that this could be attained without considerable experience. As teacher of the class, however, my work is done when—to quote the words of the Regulations (Reg. 10), ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, July 12, 1876—the pupils have attained a degree of competency sufficient to enable them to assist the staff in transcribing "their notes."

It will, therefore, be a matter for congratulation to both teacher and pupils, if, the present rate of progress being maintained, the entire class can, at the end of the term, be reported entitled to the certificate, by which—again quoting the Regulations (Reg. 11)—they will, after the requirements of *Hansard* shall have been provided for, "be entitled to such nomination in the public service as the Premier may see fit, or as may be prescribed by departmental regulations arising from the desire to obtain the services of those who may hold the aforementioned certificate."

Eleven youths, if present prospects are fulfilled, will thus have been taught a profession at a cost of fifteen guineas each, and will have placed before them the opportunity of careers in the public service. If this be not the result of the teaching they have received, it will be—I take the liberty of repeating—only because of their own want of diligence in private practice during the present term.

I have &c.,

W. SENIOR,
Principal Shorthand Writer.

To the Honourable the Speaker.

He begged to move the adjournment of the House.

No other honourable member rising,

Mr. WALSH withdrew his motion with the consent of the House.

ELECTORAL DISTRICTS BILL—
COMMITTEE.

The Speaker left the chair, and the House went into committee to resume the consideration of this Bill.

The PREMIER moved that schedule No. 2, as follows, stand No 2 Schedule of the Bill :

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF FORTITUDE VALLEY.

Commencing on the left bank of the Brisbane River and bounded thence on the south by Boundary street bearing west to Gregory terrace on the north-west by Gregory terrace north-easterly to the north corner of portion 269 on the north-east by the north-eastern boundaries of portions 269 77 76 and 75 to Ann street and crossing that street to the north-western boundary of portion 34 thence on the north-west by Ann street along part of portion 34 and portions 55 and 56 to the road to Bulimba Ferry thence easterly and north-easterly by that road to the Brisbane River and thence by the Brisbane River upwards to the point of commencement.

Mr. McILWRAITH asked whether the motion was put with the view of its being negatived?

The PREMIER said that, on the contrary, he meant to carry it if possible.

Mr. McILWRAITH said, that after the decision of last night, and after the Government had had time to reconsider their position with respect to the Bill, they ought to have seen that they were not justified in acting in this informal and inconsistent way. The committee were now asked to pass the schedule of an electorate which had no existence. The schedule adopted last night was inconsistent enough, but the present case was far worse, and the Government must see that they were not acting in a proper manner. As he had before pointed out, the proper way was to alter the schedules in accordance with the previous decision of the committee, and then alter it, if they were strong enough, on recommitment. Business would certainly not be expedited by the method now pursued, and it could only result in a lamentable waste of time. He was perfectly prepared to fight out the matter on the recommitment of the Bill, and, if necessary, a call of the House might be made for the purpose. Perhaps, even proposals for a compromise might be listened to. If some honourable members on the Ministerial side voted consistently with their expressed opinions, the schedule would never pass in its present form, for they had declared that even if it was decided to retain both electorates, they would prefer three members instead of four. Did the

Government intend to give two members to North Brisbane, and only one to Fortitude Valley?

The PREMIER: No.

Mr. McILWRAITH said the Premier was doing all he could to block business, for it was not likely the Opposition would follow the dictation of the Government when they did not know what the Government meant to do.

The PREMIER said the question decided last night was that there should be two electorates. That was an important decision, and the object he had in view was to a great extent attained by the division which took place. He was merely proceeding now in the course indicated by that division, by asking the committee to accept the schedule describing the electorate of Fortitude Valley. At the proper time he should move the recommitment of the Bill for certain purposes, one of which would be the reinsertion of the words "North Brisbane, two members," "Fortitude Valley, two members," in place of "North Brisbane, three members." He did not feel called upon now to state the course he should pursue when that time arrived, but he should submit himself to the decision of the committee on that point, having gained his principal object last night, of the subdivision of the district.

Mr. McILWRAITH said it was something to get an admission from the Premier that a decision of the committee ought not to be annulled a few days after it was arrived at by the action of the Government. In his opinion, the effect of the division last night was to show that they ought to have brought in a schedule in accordance with the previous decision of the committee, when a far larger majority decided that North Brisbane and Fortitude Valley should be amalgamated; and that decision the Government ought to have obeyed. Now that they had got into a greater mess than ever with the Bill, they proposed to insert a schedule to which there was no corresponding electorate, and the Premier said he did so in obedience to the decision arrived at last night. It was a pity this course had not been taken before, and then all the discussion that had taken place would have been avoided. He would ask the Premier now to bring in a schedule consistent with the previous decision of the committee that North Brisbane and Fortitude Valley should be one electorate returning three members.

The PREMIER said he had charge of the Bill, and he did not intend to surrender the conduct and policy of it to honourable gentlemen opposite. This was an essential part of the policy of the Bill, and he proposed to deal with it in the present way.

Mr. McILWRAITH said that if the Premier meant to take his own course, without giving any reasons for it, he would find it

would give him great trouble. They were not going to be led blindfold, and if the Premier did not choose to speak, they also could be silent, but no progress could be made thereby.

Mr. PALMER said the stand the Premier took on the second reading of the Bill was something grand. He was not going to allow a single principle in it to be altered. But where was the Bill now, the original Bill? Where were the Attorney-General's grand clauses? They had gone, and the Bill had gone. Last night the Premier talked about catching a division, but if ever a man caught a division, the Premier caught it last night; for, as the Premier knew very well, if all the members of the Opposition had been present, the Bill would have been nowhere. He had opposed the Bill from the first, and would oppose it to the bitter end. If the Premier could not support the Bill by fair argument, let him withdraw it, and cover himself up with it in glory.

Mr. IVORY said, that if the Premier would adhere to one line of argument, some good might be done; but to change the argument to suit the object in view, was simply illogical. To-night the Premier had admitted the necessity of carrying out a decision of the committee, and yet he refused to carry out a previous decision of the same body, for which there was a much larger majority. The ground, therefore, of his present argument was cut from under him. The Premier's next argument was, that it was part of the policy of the Bill. They all knew the policy of the Premier, which was to shift his position whenever occasion arose, and to turn like a weathercock in whatever direction the wind was blowing. In fact, the Premier's present argument applied with equal strength to the bringing forward of the amended schedule.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said they were beginning to get some light as to the object of the Opposition. The object of the honourable member for Port Curtis was avowedly to compel the Government to withdraw the Bill. It was pretty well known that the Bill did not suit the views of the Opposition. However that might be, he did not know what the honourable member for Maranoa wanted. The committee decided last night that the electorate of North Brisbane should include the present electorates of North Brisbane and Wickham, and yet the honourable member now suggested that the electorate of Fortitude Valley should be eliminated. Such a position could not be maintained, and it was only wasting time to talk about it. North Brisbane and Wickham having now been disposed of, Fortitude Valley must be provided with representation. As to the alterations that had been made in the measure, it should be remembered

that this was a Redistribution Bill, and that the readjustment clauses, which had been withdrawn, were not an integral portion of it. Did the honourable member for Port Curtis remember how his Bill of 1872 was cut and hacked after it had been recommitted four times?

Mr. McILWRAITH said the lawyers and the Government were determined to make discoveries. The Attorney-General had just made the great discovery that the Opposition did not like the Bill. Had he listened to the debate on the second reading, he might have made that discovery long ago from his own (Mr. McIlwraith's) speech. Last night the Minister for Lands made the great discovery that his object was to divide and conquer. As the honourable member knew, there were only two ways of conquering or getting a majority on his side of the House, one to divide the Ministerial party, and the other to see them come over *en masse* to the Opposition, and God knew he did not want that. Although the Attorney-General apparently admitted that the schedule was inconsistent with the Bill, yet the Premier argued that in deference to the decision arrived at last night, he had determined to bring it forward.

The PREMIER: I did not say in deference to the decision, but that a decision had been come to, and that I was glad of it.

Mr. McILWRAITH said the difference was one of words, not of facts, and in any case his construction was borne out. It was quite inconsistent with the Bill to carry out the wishes of the committee as expressed last night. Their contention was, that the Government should have given the committee a schedule in accordance with the decision arrived at last week. There was no intention on his side of the committee to disfranchise Fortitude Valley, and no member had said anything to warrant such an assumption. If the objection was to the name Fortitude Valley being left out, he was quite willing that it should be inserted, instead of Brisbane, or that the name should be North Brisbane and Fortitude Valley, but the Opposition did not want to let the Government get them into a trap, as they were trying to do. The Government wanted to get the schedule passed as drafted, then they would try to secure two members for North Brisbane, and having obtained that, they would make an *ad misericordiam* appeal for two members for the Valley, throwing upon the Opposition the onus of resisting it. The Opposition wanted to treat Fortitude Valley and Brisbane fairly, and believed that they were doing so in giving them three members; they believed that they would be treating them exceptionally fair by giving them three members, with the right to each elector to vote for two members, thus giving the minority a chance of being represented.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the question before the committee was simply whether there should be an electorate of Fortitude Valley. The honourable member for Maranoa said the schedule was inconsistent with the Bill; it was inconsistent with one division of the committee, but it was consistent with a later division in a fuller House. That, however, was simply a matter of words. Voting for the motion did not affect the question as to how many members should be given to Fortitude Valley. It merely decided the question as to the boundaries. If the electorates of North Brisbane and Fortitude Valley were to be divided, then the proposed boundaries were the fairest that could be adopted. He believed that the honourable member for Fortitude Valley would bear out this assertion.

Mr. McILWRAITH said that the plain way in which the Attorney-General put the matter suggested a point of order. He said that the question was whether there should be an electorate of Fortitude Valley. If that was so, it was not competent for the committee to deal with it, for they had already decided that Fortitude Valley should be struck out.

Mr. BAILEY said, in his opinion, the question was, whether Fortitude Valley should be a portion of another electorate. The committee were asked to make it a separate electorate, which would involve merely a modification of a former division. He was astonished that there should be so much discussion over a point which had already been fully discussed. He believed that there were two or three members who had voted with the Government last night who were quite prepared to support a proposition that two members should be given to North Brisbane and one member to Fortitude Valley; they proposed to modify the number exactly in the way that he understood the Opposition desired. They objected to Brisbane being made a three-cornered electorate; they objected to the principle of representation by minorities unless it was tried in all populous constituencies. He thought that the suggestion which he gave last night would be acted upon, and that no difficulty would have been experienced in allowing Fortitude Valley to be a separate electorate returning one member, North Brisbane having two.

The Hon. R. PRING thought the second schedule might pass. The vote last night would affect neither the position of the Government nor of the Opposition. As he understood it, the Opposition were resisting an excess of representation being given to the metropolis. He did not understand that they had any objection to the "three-cornered electorate" of North Brisbane being repealed, and Fortitude Valley and North Brisbane being constituted separate

electorates. Let the schedule therefore stand, and when the Bill was recommitted the question would be, first, the subdivision of the two electorates, and then, whether they should be represented by one or two members.

Mr. McILWRAITH must confess that he should like to see the "three-cornered principle" tried; but if it would facilitate the passage of the business of the committee, he was quite prepared to accept the compromise just mentioned. He was quite willing to leave it to the Government to adjust the boundaries between the Valley and North Brisbane fairly and equitably, on the understanding, that the two electorates should not be given more than three members. This would save a great deal of discussion, and, from what had been said, would very likely save the Government from defeat.

The PREMIER thought the boundaries described in the schedules the fairest, and proposed to abide as nearly as possible by the original draft. He was happy to hear the moderate expression of opinion which had just fallen from the honourable member for Maranoa, and was quite willing to reciprocate. Although he felt it his duty to abide as far as possible by the principles of the Bill, he was, as he had already said, not indisposed to accept the decision of the committee as to whether two members or one should be given to Fortitude Valley when that question came before them. He should submit that question to the committee, and abide by their decision.

Mr. McILWRAITH said the honourable Premier proposed that they should do exactly as the Government wished them, and take the decision of the committee afterwards, as to the number of members which should be given North Brisbane and Fortitude Valley. Would the Premier explain what he had conceded on his part, and where the reciprocity lay?

Mr. PALMER said the best way out of the difficulty would be to make a call of the House. The Government were trying to steal a division now because they knew that some of the Opposition were away. They had said that this was a vital question upon which they staked their existence. Let them have a call of the House and let them see what the arguments of the Government were worth. The speech of the Attorney-General was beneath his own contempt, and that was saying a great deal.

The PREMIER said he did not think a call of the House was desirable. A very much more important question than the one before the committee was decided when the second reading of the Bill was carried. He did not propose to hang the fate of the Bill on the question of detail before the committee. As he considered that a much more important matter—the second reading—had been carried by a

large majority, he was not disposed to agree with the honourable gentleman that a call of the House was necessary to consider the important question of detail now before the committee.

Mr. KING differed from the Premier, and thought there were very good reasons why a call of the House should be made if it was asked for. Five members of the House were absent, and four of these it was well known would have voted with the Opposition. He did not suppose that the Premier would claim the honourable members for Clermont, Dalby, Burke, or Leichhardt. There would consequently have been a clear majority against the decision arrived at last evening had these members been present. He did not think the Government would be justified in, or that they would like to be suspected of attempting to pass an important measure in the absence of members who would make a majority. There was no doubt that the question in dispute was not whether North Brisbane and Fortitude Valley should be amalgamated, but whether they should receive three or four members. The Government were perfectly well aware that the four members he had referred to would vote for only three members being given, and under these circumstances he did not think they were justified in passing their Bill when they knew that there was a majority opposed to it. At any rate, if they formed the determination to attempt to pass it, could they expect to succeed? There was a precedent to justify members opposing for the purpose of gaining time for their reinforcements to arrive. Now, to avoid all cause of dispute, they were asked to agree to a call of the House. From all that he could ascertain, the only point about which there was any difference was whether three or four members should be allocated to North Brisbane and Fortitude Valley; the rest of the Bill could be gone through in one night.

Mr. BEATTIE said the point in dispute was not as stated by the honourable member for Ravenswood, but whether Fortitude Valley should be combined with North Brisbane. The boundaries for North Brisbane had been fixed last night. If the committee decided to carry the schedule now proposed for Fortitude Valley, he would feel it his duty when the Bill was recommitted that the words two members should be substituted for one. He did not think it right of the honourable member for Ravenswood to say that the question was whether there should be three or four members for North Brisbane and Fortitude Valley.

Mr. PRING would ask, what was the advantage of a call of the House? The member for the Leichhardt was in the "Never-Never country," and all the calls of the House could not secure his attend-

ance. Why should there be a call of the House because three members of the Opposition did not choose to attend in their places? One of the absent members sat near him three days ago; one was in his place last week, and one was prevented from attending through sickness. If members of the Opposition would not attend to assist their friends, a dray and team of bullocks had better be sent to fetch them.

Mr. MOREHEAD was glad to see the honourable member for North Brisbane in something like his old form again. A very good reason had, however, been given why a call of the House should be made. This was admittedly the most important measure brought forward during the present Parliament, and as they had had very close divisions upon it, he considered a very good reason had been furnished why there should be a call. They wanted to get every member who could possibly be got to assist in the discussion of this measure. He was very certain that if the honourable member for North Brisbane had been the representative of some outside constituency instead of the metropolis, he would have insisted upon, he might almost say yelled and shouted for a call. Considering that the divisions had been so close, and that, as had been pointed out by honourable gentlemen, if all the members of the House could have been present, the Government would have been in the minority, he maintained that it was the duty of the Government to allow a crucial test to be taken. Let them either abandon the Bill or their offices or go to the country; let them elect to die as honourable men, if they had not lived as such; let them come boldly forward for once and not shrink. Why should the Premier object to a call of the House? Was not his objection an admission that the Government were afraid to meet the House if all the members were brought together? He took it, that the Premier, instead of refusing the request, should have courted a call of the House; but the Government had seen the handwriting on the wall; they had been weighed in the scales and been found wanting. Why did they not die like men; why shrink from the inevitable, for there was no doubt their doom was sealed. There was no doubt their majority had dwindled away during the last year or two, and that their supporters had left them. He trusted that the Premier would die decently, and not object to a call of the House. Supposing the proposition was put that there should be a call of the House, and the Government gained the day, what would the outside public think but that they were afraid. He maintained that the Premier should be ashamed of himself to refuse, and he felt very sorry that the honourable gentleman should have been backed up in his refusal by that con-

stitutional authority, the member for North Brisbane.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL was understood to say that the discussion about a call of the House did not deserve serious consideration. Honourable members knew very well that the Bill must be passed before the first of August; and that if it was not, it could not be passed this session. The question now before the committee was, whether Fortitude Valley should be constituted a single electorate. If a minority of the House should carry against the wishes of a majority, that Fortitude Valley and Brisbane should be given four members instead of three, then would be time to resort to these tactics. If the committee proceeded now with the schedules, the Opposition would be exactly in the same position for obstructing what they considered unfair. It would hardly be expected by the honourable member for Maranoa, that the Government would agree without a division to Fortitude Valley having only one member.

Mr. PALMER said the question was not as put by the Attorney-General, but whether a majority of one should override a previous decision carried by a majority of three. The Government should at once proceed to make a call of the House. He believed himself that they did not want to pass the Bill. He (Mr. Palmer) did not want to pass it; he never said that he did; he did not believe in it. But the Government might be as honest as he was, and say that they did not wish it to pass.

Mr. McILWRAITH said he had tried all he could do to prevent the Government from obstructing their own measure, and to force them into the right channel of doing business. He would show the committee, at all events, how the business should be conducted. The Attorney-General had said that the meaning of the proposition for a call of the House was to throw aside the Bill.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL: So it is, by delay.

Mr. McILWRAITH said that when he made the suggestion, it never struck him that that would be the result. So far as such a motive was concerned, the Attorney-General was entirely wrong, whether a call would have that effect or not. They had up till the 1st of August; and a call of the House might be consented to for next Wednesday.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the call could not be made till next Tuesday, and it would then take a fortnight for the members to meet, according to the Standing Orders.

Mr. McILWRAITH said three weeks would bring them to the 26th June, which would leave five weeks in which to pass the Bill. In the meantime, the remainder

of the Bill could be proceeded with, and then the remainder could be passed in five minutes after the one point in question was decided. He was surprised, after the plain statement he had made, that the honourable member for Fortitude Valley should rise and say that the question was not whether there should be three members or four, but whether the electorates should be separate. So long as he was assured that the two districts would only return three members between them, he was perfectly satisfied with the result, and would concede the rest. He only wished that the Government would give an assurance that they would not press for a recommittal of the Bill to-night, or Tuesday night. If they would promise not to try and rush the Bill through, he was willing to let the clause go, and take the decision of the committee upon the question of three or four members afterwards. He would say, that if any injustice were done to any of the constituencies concerned, it would be forced upon them entirely by the action of the Government. If it were found, for instance, that Fortitude Valley with a larger population had only one member allotted to it, while Brisbane had two, it would be owing to the clumsy way in which the Government had insisted on doing business. They (the Opposition) had insisted in a fair way that those constituencies should only have three members instead of four, and the way in which they should be allotted lay with the Government. If he had an assurance that the Government would not rush the measure through so as to have a recommittal before next Wednesday, he was willing to let the schedule go, and get on with the rest of the Bill.

Mr. PRING perfectly understood what the honourable member for Maranoa had just stated, and that he had made a concession. Although he (Mr. McIlwraith) was in favour of three-cornered constituencies—as recommended by the honourable member for Toowoomba—nevertheless he was willing that the electorates should be separated; and let the question be, whether the number of members should be three or four, so that there might be two for Fortitude Valley and one for North Brisbane, or two for Brisbane and one for Fortitude Valley, so long as the representation was not extended beyond three members. He (Mr. Pring) thought that was fair enough.

Mr. McILWRAITH said the Premier should reply to the offer that had been just made, and give some information on the point.

The PREMIER said he wished to approach the honourable member in as friendly a spirit as possible. It appeared to him that they might make good progress to-night. The electorate of Fortitude Valley would have to be considered as to its boundaries

and the number of its members. If they should succeed in carrying what they thought it was their duty to propose, so far as the two members for the Fortitude Valley electorate was concerned—though the signs of such success were not very evident at the present time—what the honourable member wished should be done. An opportunity would be obtained for making any change that might be considered desirable in that respect on the recommittal of the Bill. If, on the other hand, the schedules were carried to-night, he took it that there would be no need to proceed with the recommittal.

Mr. McLLWRAITH said, surely the honourable gentleman was not so ignorant of parliamentary custom as not to know that that was no concession at all. They (the Opposition) were entitled to recommit the Bill themselves, and it was no concession for the Premier to say that he would allow the recommittal. If the Opposition were strong enough to carry any amendment they proposed, they were strong enough to carry the recommittal. It would help greatly to facilitate business if the Premier would give the promise he (Mr. McIlwraith) had asked, as they would then know where they were going to pause. That was the point the honourable gentleman lost sight of. They might get through a great deal if the honourable gentleman would not keep everything in a mystery. It only led to an enormous amount of talk, and he could assure the Premier that he had not the slightest chance of carrying the recommittal. With the object of getting the business of the committee done quickly, he (Mr. McIlwraith) would agree that if the Premier would not to-night ask for a recommittal, he would go on with the schedule. They had no intention of allowing the Bill to be recommitted, and therefore it would be better to consent to fix a point, beyond which he would not go to-night, or on Tuesday next.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said there were a great many amendments to be made in this Bill in recommittal, and the question of time seemed to have been lost sight of. Every week's delay in the passage of the Bill was equivalent to a vote against it. Unless it were read a third time within the next week, there would hardly be time for it to be passed by the end of July. The honourable member was anxious to carry Fortitude Valley with one member only.

Mr. McLLWRAITH said he never expressed an opinion on that, or tried to curtail Fortitude Valley in any way. He had said that the metropolitan districts should only have three members.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that was only a matter of words. If the honourable member succeeded in carrying the constituencies with only three members, to-night, there was no reason why the Bill

should not be at once recommitted. Otherwise, there would be a delay for another week, and the postponement till this day week meant the postponement of the third reading till this day fortnight. He did not suppose the Council would like to hurry over the Bill. Another thing to be considered was, that the maps would have to be prepared and sent to the various electorates, so that every week's delay was a serious impediment to the passage of the Bill.

Mr. IVORY said the desire of the leader of the Opposition was not to give Fortitude Valley only one member, but to point out that the metropolitan constituencies should have only three. He did not wish the responsibility of saying that only one member should be granted to a large electorate like Fortitude Valley to be thrown upon him. He (Mr. Ivory) would ask the Premier whether, in the event of the electorates of North Brisbane, Wickham, and Fortitude Valley, being separated, and having only three members allotted to them, he (the Premier) was prepared to bring down a fresh schedule, with freshly-adjusted boundaries? The leader of the Opposition was not at all desirous that the Government should shove upon him the responsibility of allotting only one member to Fortitude Valley.

Mr. Fox thought that the Government, by the irregular course that they had adopted with regard to the introduction of the Bill and the schedules, had brought these difficulties upon themselves. He thought they would themselves admit, that after passing North Brisbane and Fortitude Valley as one electorate, that arrangement should have been observed on the schedule. No doubt the Opposition would be justified, after the course which had been taken by the Government, in opposing the progress of the Bill and the schedules. He would not go into the merits or demerits of the question.

Mr. THOMPSON said the point was very simple. The Government attempted to fix the boundaries, and would throw upon the Opposition the responsibility of allotting three members to two nearly equal electorates. The stand which the Opposition had taken was, that they would give three members, whom the Government might divide as they liked; and the Government would have the responsibility of seeing that justice was done as to the boundaries. If the number of members were changed, the alteration in the boundaries was part of the business of those who had charge of the Bill.

The PREMIER said he thought the matter had been wrongly stated. He was quite prepared to consider the boundaries of Fortitude Valley the second time. As they proceeded to discuss those boundaries

in the schedule, any moderate proposition that the committee might come to as to the division of the electorates according to their relative proportions of population, would be willingly entertained and provided for, if it were desired on the part of those most interested.

Mr. IVORY said that any decision with regard to this second schedule would not be in the slightest degree binding upon the committee. They had been told that a certain decision which had been arrived at, fixing the number of members, was not binding, and he wished to know, if the schedule were carried, whether the Government would take up the position of saying that it was decided such should be the boundaries, and attempt to throw responsibility upon the Opposition?

Mr. PRING did not understand the Premier to say that if the schedule were passed, and if, on the recommittal, the number of three members should be adhered to, the schedule would remain. If, on the recommittal of the Bill, it were determined that only three members should be apportioned, then the honourable the Premier meant that an alteration should be made.

The PREMIER said that was just what he meant. If it was demonstrated that the alteration in the Fortitude Valley electorate, so far as the members were concerned, was desirable, no objection would be offered to the reconsideration of the schedule.

Mr. McILWRAITH said, if they were to consider the schedule without knowing whether the electorate was to return one member or two, how could they possibly come to a decision? The Premier told them the fixing of the boundaries was a mere matter of form, and they would find out afterwards how many members were to be given. That was not the way in which business should be conducted, and if the Government went on in that way, they would always be in a fog. The argument of the Attorney-General, that the Bill would be delayed so long, had not the slightest effect upon that side of the House and had none whatever upon this (Opposition). They (the Opposition) had no intention whatever of delaying the Bill, though the Government had taken the best possible way of delaying it. He (Mr. McIlwraith) had offered to make a concession, but there had not been the slightest concession made by the Government, showing that their wish was to block their own measure.

The PREMIER said the honourable member for Maranoa had said he did not conduct the business of the Bill properly. That might be his opinion. The alternative would be for the honourable member to take the matter out of his hands, and conduct it as it should be. As long as he (the Premier) occupied his position, he was

bound to be the judge of how he should conduct business, and his present object was to proceed as rapidly as possible. Why did not the honourable the leader of the Opposition get his forces mustered, so that there might be no delay on his part? That he had not done so, was not his (the Premier's) fault. As leader of the Opposition, he (Mr. McIlwraith) had criticised his conduct, and he (the Premier) was, therefore, justified in criticising the way in which the honourable member conducted the party he led. They did not wish to pass the Bill with undue haste, but it was necessary that prompt attention should be devoted to it.

Mr. FOX said it would have been better if the Premier had taken the advice of the leader of the Opposition, when he recommended that they should go back to the question of North Brisbane and Fortitude Valley. If that course had been taken, the majority of the committee would have confirmed his action, and they would have had a proper starting point. No good sound constitutional reason had as yet been offered for going on with the schedules.

Mr. McILWRAITH said he would point out to the Premier that greater progress would have been made if his suggestion had been taken. Rather than allow the business of the committee to be obstructed, he would allow the amendment to pass, so that they might make some good substantial progress in spite of the want of conciliatory spirit that had been shown. If every concession that was offered were accepted in the same ungracious way, he would tell the honourable Premier that he would not get on much with the Bill.

Mr. WALSH said that, looking at the Bill in his hand he saw that there was no such electorate as Fortitude Valley, yet all the afternoon the honourable Premier had been endeavouring to force the Opposition to pass a schedule showing the boundaries of that district. Such a thing had never been attempted before in an Assembly of rational men. It was putting the cart before the horse, as they were not to adapt the schedules to the clauses, but the clauses to the schedules. It was a new way of forcing the supporters of the Government into a way in which in future they should allow ordinary parliamentary proceedings to be carried on. If the Government had postponed the schedule on the previous evening and had then got the Bill recommitted for the purpose of introducing a set of schedules suited to the Bill, they would have acted in a reasonable way; but instead of doing that, they had adopted their present most extraordinary course, merely to gratify some honourable members sitting on their side of the Chamber. He had never said that he was opposed to the Bill, nor was he opposed to it, except for the defects which were always to be found

in any measure introduced by the Premier. He had voted for the amendment of the honourable member for Toowoomba it was true, but he was not going to oppose the Bill in its entirety, or to lay himself open to the charge of obstructing its passing. But he could charge the Government with obstructing it if they persisted in carrying out their present manœuvres. It was evident to him that the Government did not want the Bill passed; they would rather withdraw it and go to the country upon it, so as to be able to deceive the people of the country as they had been endeavouring to deceive the people of Brisbane and others who supported them. The motion before the committee was entirely unparliamentary, and if the Chairman had taken the proper stand he should have done on the previous evening, so much time would not have been wasted. It was wholly contrary to parliamentary practice that a schedule should be considered of an electorate which did not exist, and he would defy the Government to show one single instance where a similar bungle had been made in the way of attempting to pass a Bill.

Mr. MACROSSAN said that the honourable leader of the Opposition had very justly found fault with the honourable Premier for the way in which he had conducted the business of that Chamber, and the Premier had replied that he did not expect anything else from the honourable member. But the honourable gentleman was very wrong, as he must remember the time when Mr. Macalister was leader of the House, and that there was never then a single word said against the manner in which he conducted its business. In fact, Mr. Macalister was the only gentleman since he (Mr. Macrossan) had been in the House who had been able to conduct its business properly. The present Premier, on the other hand, was the only one who had conducted it in such a way as to delay it whilst expressing a wish to push it forward. If the honourable gentleman would only adopt a common straightforward way, and not mystify everything—for his whole conduct was mystification—he was quite certain the honourable gentleman would be able to conduct the business of the House as it should be conducted.

Mr. McILWRAITH said that, after the concession he had made to the Government, he did not mean to withdraw it, although the Government had not met it in the friendly way in which he expected they would have done. He was not going to withdraw the support he had promised to passing the schedule through the committee. If the Government persisted in doing their business in such an irregular way, he did not see that he was justified in stopping all progress of the Bill. He would, however, point out that, supposing no member was to be given to Fortitude Valley, the schedule was not a proper one, whilst if only

one member was to be given to it it might not be altogether correct, and, therefore, he must vote against it. It was also quite impossible that the Government could afford any assistance in the matter by throwing light upon it, as they did not know for how many members the schedule was intended. However, he was not inclined to stop business at that stage, and as the Government had made a mess of the matter, they must get out of it in the best way they could. He was quite willing to let them go to the other schedules so as to pass them through.

Question—that clause 2 of the schedule stand part of the schedule—put and passed.

The PREMIER moved that clause 3 stand part of the schedule, as follows:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF SOUTH BRISBANE.

Commencing at the mouth of Norman's Creek and bounded thence by that creek upwards to the south-east corner of portion 177 parish of South Brisbane thence by a road bearing west to the Brisbane River at the north-west corner of portion 1 parish of Yeerongpilly thence by the Brisbane River downwards to the junction of Norman's Creek the point of commencement.

Mr. WALSH said there was a want of clearness about the schedules, for instance, it said "thence by a road"—he should like to know what road that was. It might be misunderstood by the collectors of the rolls and by the candidates for the district, and the first election under the Bill might be vitiated through some error caused thereby.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said it was the old boundary of the district.

Mr. WALSH said there might be a dozen roads converging at that spot. He thought the honourable member for South Brisbane should give a guarantee that that road would be known by everyone, especially by roll collectors, and also whether it was likely to be continued as a road.

Mr. KINGSFORD said he could not say that it would always continue a road, but it had been one since the district was first formed.

Mr. WALSH said he was certain that if he sent in such a description of country he wished to take up, his application would be sent back by the Minister for Lands for more information.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL pointed out that the description was taken from the Bill introduced by the Government of which the honourable member was a member. There could be no difficulty in finding the road. It commenced at a bridge over Norman's Creek.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER moved that clause 4 stand part of the schedule as follows:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF ENOGGERA.

Commencing on the left bank of the Brisbane River and bounded thence by a road bearing

north-westerly along the north-east side of suburban portion No. 9 North Brisbane thence north by the east boundary of the General Cemetery Reserve and by the west boundary of suburban portion 315 North Brisbane to Petrie Terrace thence on the south by Petrie Terrace and the road along the southern boundary of the New Grammar School Reserve easterly to Gregory Terrace thence on the south-east by Gregory Terrace north-easterly to the north corner of portion 269 North Brisbane on the south-west by the north-eastern boundaries of portions 269, 77, 76, and 75 to Ann street thence by that street north-easterly to the junction of the Bulimba road and by that road easterly and north-easterly to the Brisbane River by that river downwards to its mouth thence by the shore of Moreton Bay westerly to the mouth of Cabbage-tree Creek thence by Cabbage-tree Creek upwards to the north-east corner of portion 27 parish of Kedron thence westerly by the north boundary of that portion to a road at the north-west corner of same thence by said road southerly to the north-east corner of portion 595 of same parish thence by the road forming the northern and western boundaries of that portion westerly and south-easterly to the north-east corner of portion 588 parish of Kedron thence west to the north-west corner of 588 thence south by the west boundary of that portion and a prolongation southerly to Kedron Brook thence by Kedron Brook upwards to its head and by the watershed separating Enoggera Creek from Samford Creek and the South Pine River westerly to D'Aguiar Range thence by that range south-easterly to the northern watershed of Moggill Creek thence by said watershed easterly to Taylor's Range by Taylor's Range easterly to One-tree Hill thence by a road easterly to the south-west corner of portion 296 parish of Enoggera thence by that road forming the south boundaries of portions 296 297 257 and 245 to the south-east corner of 256 at the head of Toowong Creek thence by Toowong Creek downwards to the Brisbane River and by the Brisbane River downwards to the point of commencement.

Clause 5 of the Schedule as follows was put and passed.

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF MORETON.

Commencing on the shore of Moreton Bay at the mouth of Cabbage-tree Creek thence by that creek upwards to the north-east corner of portion 27 parish of Kedron thence westerly by the north boundary of that portion to a road at the north-west corner of same portion thence by said road southerly to the north-east corner of portion 595 of same parish thence by the road forming the northern and western boundaries of that portion westerly and south-easterly to the north-east corner of portion 588 parish of Kedron thence west to the north-west corner of portion 588 thence south by the west boundary of that portion and a prolongation southerly to Kedron Brook thence by Kedron Brook upwards to its head and by the watershed separating Enoggera Creek from Samford Creek and the South Pine River westerly to D'Aguiar Range on the west by D'Aguiar Range and the range separating the waters of

the South Pine North Pine Caboolture Mooloolah and Maroochydoore Rivers from those of the Brisbane and Mary Rivers northerly to the Blackall Range on the north by the northern watershed of the Maroochydoore River to its mouth on the coast and on the east by the coast line southerly to the mouth of Cabbage-tree Creek the point of commencement inclusive of Brisbane Island.

The PREMIER moved that clause 6 stand part of the schedule, as follows:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF BULIMBA.

Commencing on the Brisbane River at the junction of Norman's Creek and bounded thence by that creek upwards to the north-west corner of portion 106 parish of Bulimba thence by the road forming the southern boundary of portion 177 parish of South Brisbane westerly to the main road from Brisbane to Ipswich thence by that road south-westerly to the eastern watershed of Woogaroo Creek thence by said watershed southerly to a point west from the south-west corner of portion 116 parish of Mackenzie thence by a line east to the Logan River at the south-west corner of that portion thence by the Logan River downwards to its mouth thence by a line easterly to the south end of Kussell Island thence again by a line east to the eastern shore of Stradbroke Island thence by the eastern shore of that island and the eastern and northern shores of Moreton Island northerly and south-westerly to Comboyuro Point thence by a line south-westerly across Moreton Bay to the mouth of the Brisbane River and thence by that river upwards to Norman's Creek the point of commencement.

Mr. FOOTE asked, if the boundaries were the same as those attached to the district previous to the introduction of the present Bill?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said, that the boundary between Bulimba and Oxley was changed; the Ipswich road was made the boundary line.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER moved that clause 7 of the schedule stand part of the Bill as follows:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF OXLEY.

Commencing on the Brisbane River at the mouth of Toowong Creek and bounded thence by that creek upwards to the south-east corner of portion 256 parish of Enoggera thence by the road forming the south boundaries of that portion and portions 257 297 and 296 and its continuation to One-tree Hill thence by Taylor's Range and the northern watershed of Moggill Creek to D'Aguiar Range thence by D'Aguiar Range south-easterly to the north-east corner of portion 172 parish of Moggill thence by the road forming the western and southern boundaries of portions 238 171 170 169 167 18 159 158 13 and 14 parish of Moggill to the Brisbane River thence by the Brisbane River upwards to Woogaroo Creek by that creek upwards to the Ipswich and Brisbane main road by that road north-easterly to the road at the southern boundary of portion 203 parish of South Brisbane thence by said road westerly to the Brisbane River at the north-west corner of portion 1 parish of

Yeerongpilly and thence by the Brisbane River downwards to the mouth of Toowong Creek the point of commencement.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER moved that Clause 8, as follows, stand part of the Bill :—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF LOGAN.

Commencing on the Logan River at the north boundary of the Logan Village Reserve and bounded thence by that river downwards to its mouth thence by a line easterly to the south end of Russell Island thence by a line bearing east to the east shore of Stradbroke Island thence by the east shore of Stradbroke Island and the coast line southerly to Point Danger thence by the southern boundary of the colony south-westerly to the eastern watershed of the Logan and Albert Rivers thence by that watershed and the Darlington Range northerly to a point east of the Tambourine crossing over the Albert River thence by a line west to said crossing thence by the Albert River downwards to the south-east corner of portion 3A parish of Wickham thence by the south and west boundaries of that portion thence by the west boundary of portion 19 and part of the south and the west and north boundaries of portion 391 of same parish westerly northerly and easterly to a road thence by that road north-westerly to the south boundary of portion 389 parish of Moffatt thence by part of the south boundary and also the eastern boundary of that portion easterly and northerly and by a continuation north to a point west of the south-west corner of portion 13 parish of Wickham thence by a line forming the western boundary of that portion and also the western boundary of portion 387 in the same parish northerly to a point east of the north-east corner of the Logan Village Reserve and thence by a line west to the point of commencement.

Mr. McLEAN said it was his intention to move, as an amendment, the following description :—

Commencing on the Logan River at the mouth of Jimboomba or Henderson's Creek and bounded thence by that river downwards to its mouth thence by a line easterly to the south end of Russell Island thence by a line bearing east to the eastern shore of Stradbroke Island thence by the eastern shore of that island and the sea coast southerly to Port Danger thence by the southern boundary of the colony south-westerly to the eastern watershed of the Logan and Albert River thence by that watershed and the Darlington Range northerly to the southern watershed of Cedar Creek thence by that watershed to the south-eastern corner of portion 70 parish of Tambourine thence by the south boundary of that portion westerly to the Albert River thence by that river upwards to the north-east corner of portion 3A parish of Wickham thence by the north boundary of that portion westerly thence by the west boundary of portion 19 and part of the south and west boundaries of portion 391 of the same parish westerly and northerly to the south-east corner of portion 382 parish of Moffatt thence westerly by the south boundaries of that portion and portion 384 in the

same parish to the south-west corner of portion 384 thence by a line bearing south to a point east of the south-east corner of portion 381 in the same parish thence by a line bearing west and the southern boundaries of that portion and portion 363 in the same parish to the south-east corner of portion 353 in the same parish thence by Jimboomba Creek to the Logan River at the point of commencement.

The object he had in moving the amendment was to take in that portion of the Logan electorate which the Bill proposed to cut out, including the village of Logan, the interests of which had been always identified with the Logan electorate and Brisbane. The difference in population caused by the amendment would be very slight.

Mr. FOOTER said that the object of the Bill was to give a more extended representation to the colony, which he had no doubt it would do to a considerable extent. In the schedule set forth, however, it was intended that Ipswich and West Moreton should have an additional member. But the object of the amendment of the honourable member for Logan was to take a piece off Fassifern and tack it on to the Logan. If that were done it would disfranchise Fassifern; for the effect of the move was, that whilst this Bill proposed to give seven members to Ipswich and West Moreton, by a careful manipulation of the electorates it would simply, instead of giving the member to Fassifern, give it to the Logan. Consequently, the additional member proposed to be given to the West Moreton group would be given to East Moreton. That was the object of the amendment before the committee, and he hoped it would not be agreed to. The Government professed to stick closely to their Bill, and when he moved a previous amendment, which would have been a great improvement on the present boundaries, they objected to it. He hoped that what was sauce for the goose would be found sauce for the gander, and that Government would do justice now, as they did on a previous occasion, by sticking closely to their Bill. It was clearly proved at the last election that the Logan voters outvoted the other portion of the district, 97 per cent. being polled on the Logan, and not more than 30 per cent. in the other part of the district—a fact which spoke for itself. If the amendment of the honourable member for Logan were carried, the effect would be that Fassifern proper would be disfranchised, and instead of West Moreton having an additional member, it would only have six members as before, and the seventh would be given to East Moreton.

The PREMIER said there must be some misunderstanding as to the amendment, for really it would meet the views of the honourable member for West Moreton better than he thought, because it took a

portion away from the adjoining electorate, and included it in his own. The amendment proposed rather improved upon the description given in the Bill, and proposed to revert to the present description of the electorate. The description in the Bill rather enlarged the electorate of Fassifern; but the amendment of the honourable member for the Logan proposed almost to revert to the present description, and he thought, perhaps, it was an improvement.

Mr. McLEAN said that the honourable member for West Moreton had mistaken his amendment. A portion of the Logan electorate had been taken away to give a representative for Fassifern, and the only thing he (Mr. McLean) proposed was, to take in return a portion which was more identified with the Logan electorate from what was proposed to be Fassifern, and give it what was more in connection with the Fassifern electorate, and was situate nearer to Brisbane. The proportion of voters he proposed to take in would come into the Logan, so that there would be no possibility of swamping Fassifern in any way. Under this Bill, Fassifern as it stood was not entitled to a member, considering the number of its population as compared with other portions of the colony, and had actually to draw upon another electorate for a certain number to entitle it to have a member. However, his amendment was in favour of West Moreton, if the honourable member would only see it in that light.

Mr. FOOTE said that if the motion of the honourable member was in favour of what he (Mr. Foote) proposed, then he had better accept his (Mr. Foote's) proposition, and take his, which was a natural boundary. West Moreton did not want to be swamped, but if the honourable member's amendment were carried, the additional member, instead of being given to his (Mr. Foote's) district, would be given to East Moreton. He would move as an amendment the words—

Commencing at eastern termination of proposed new boundary dividing Bremer from Fassifern, and bounded thence by Undullah parish boundary to Woollaman Creek thence by that creek downwards to its junction with Crow's Creek upwards by that creek and the watershed dividing the Teviot Brook waters from the Logan waters to the Main Range about three miles north of Mount Clunie.

If that boundary were accepted, it would give the honourable member for Logan more scope of country than he proposed himself. He (Mr. Foote) did not know if he was right in asking the acceptance of this amendment at the present stage of the discussion; but it would be a much better boundary, and would be doing justice to Fassifern at the same time; and, further, would give West Moreton what the Government professed to give it. If the boundary

of the Logan was altered as proposed, an additional member would not be given to them, but to East Moreton.

Mr. McLEAN said the amendment the honourable member wished to propose would have the effect of disfranchising Fassifern altogether, for it would not have the population basis to entitle it to representation as proposed by the Bill. He, however, was going to entitle them to a representative. He did not want a greater scope of country himself, but the Government found it necessary to take a considerable portion of his electorate and tack it on to Fassifern to entitle it to a representative at all. To extend the Logan electorate, as the honourable member proposed, would reduce the Fassifern electorate to such an extent that the effect of it would be to disfranchise it altogether. If the amendment proposed by the honourable member were carried, he should be compelled to go in for an alteration in the boundaries.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that the Fassifern boundary suggested by the honourable member for West Moreton only gave a population of about 1,100, and a male adult population of 400, according to the last Census returns.

Mr. THOMPSON questioned the correctness of the returns, and said he could not understand how Fassifern could have such a small number. However, as to the motion before the committee, the proper plan would be for the honourable member for Logan to propose his amendment, and when it was submitted as a substantive motion, then the honourable member for West Moreton could propose his amendment upon it.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that the honourable member for West Moreton objected to the amendment of the honourable member for Logan, because the latter did not go far enough. He complained that too many were thrown into the Fassifern from the Logan electorate. That was what the question really came to; and if it came to be divided, as proposed by the honourable member for West Moreton, the Logan electorate would be much more than twice as large in proportion to Fassifern—indeed would be as five to one.

Mr. FOOTE said it seemed something very strange that whenever anything objectionable was brought up, the Attorney-General came down with the number of the population. The interests of the district of West Moreton were very greatly increased—were ten times increased in value—since the House made it an electorate to return a member to Parliament, and, therefore, he could not understand the objection of the Government. He should press his amendment, and hoped it would be carried.

Question—That No. 8 stand part of the schedule—put and negatived.

Mr. McLEAN moved that the new schedule, as read, stand No. 8 in the schedule of the Bill.

Mr. FOOTE then moved his amendment.

Mr. McLEAN submitted that the amendment could not be put. It was a description of the Fassifern and not the Logan electorate. In the event of that description of the Fassifern electorate being carried, he should, in the interests of his constituents, be compelled, on the population basis, to go in for two representatives for Logan. It was far too large for one member, and he was confident the justice of that House would not allow such an injustice, as was proposed, to be perpetrated on the Logan electorate.

Mr. FOOTE said the question was, what should be the boundary dividing the Fassifern and Logan electorates? and that was the proper time for him to move his amendment, and the honourable member for Logan must not expect to put in the places he proposed by a side-wind. If the amendment was not proposed now, it could not be done afterwards. It would be no use bringing it on at a later period, when the Fassifern electorate was on, for the simple reason that if the clause was carried he should not be in order in moving that a certain portion of the Logan electorate be attached to Fassifern, more than was already proposed to be given. He had two legitimate reasons for putting his amendment, and one was, that Fassifern should not be disfranchised. If his amendment was adopted, however, the electorate would be easily defined; but he was afraid that difficulty would be experienced by the change, and that it would produce a great deal of confusion if the Bill was carried. People would think they were in one electorate when they were in another, and as there was no distinguishing mark to the parishes, when the time came for taking the next Census, they would find that some two-thirds of the population were not taken, as on the last occasion.

The PREMIER said the amendment made the boundaries between Logan and Fassifern the same as at present.

Mr. McLEAN said he intended to stand by the new schedule he had moved, for the simple reason that the Government, in apportioning the population in the different electoral districts, had found it necessary to take a considerable portion of the Logan, and to add it on to Fassifern to entitle it to a representative. He might state that the amendment would bring the Logan electorate considerably above the number required by the figures prepared by the Government, and it would be not only an injustice to the Logan, but to Fassifern also, because, at the present time, even with the existing boundaries, Fassifern was short of the required number.

Mr. THOMPSON thought it was not desirable to alter existing boundaries if it could possibly be helped. The residents in the district of Fassifern considered they belonged to that district, and voted in that way, and if another artificial boundary were now adopted between Logan and Fassifern, the effect would be to disturb the people, and it would be some time before they would shake down into their places. He could quite understand the feeling of the honourable member for Logan; but he could not sympathise with him, because, if his electorate had too many in it, the southern portion of that electorate must be formed into a separate electorate. The interests of the two were totally distinct. The southern portion was extremely fertile: it had been settled upon by a great many Germans, who were doing well; and there was nothing to prevent the honourable member in the course of twelve months applying to separate the lower part of the Logan district into a new electorate, taking the Nerang River or the Coomera as the northern boundary, and, probably, the Coomera would be the better boundary.

Mr. McILLWRAITH said that at present he did not feel in a position to express an opinion on either of the proposed amendments. He should like to know how the number of population would be affected by the proposed change.

The PREMIER replied that the amendment of the honourable member for West Moreton would add about 400 persons to the Logan electorate over the number proposed in the original schedule.

Mr. McLEAN said that fully 500 persons would be transferred by it from Fassifern to the Logan.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the present Logan electorate contained a total population of 3,899, and 1,155 adult males. Under the original schedule in the Bill, it would contain a population of 3,384, and 1,029 adult males. The district of Fassifern contained at present a population of 2,375, and 672 male adults.

Mr. FOOTE said that if his amendment were carried, it would leave the boundaries of Logan and Fassifern the same as before, and as they would return the same number of members, it could not make much difference; while if the amendment of the honourable member for Logan were carried, it would quite swamp the Fassifern electorate. The West Moreton group was supposed, under the Bill, to return seven members, and if the amendment of the honourable member were carried, the seventh member would be handed over to East Moreton. He thought it was a sort of political dodge to obtain extra representation.

The PREMIER said that perhaps the disparity of population would be a less evil than the disturbance of the ideas of

the inhabitants. He thought the honourable member for Logan might as well accept the amendment, especially as it tended in the direction of giving a second member to the district when the proper time came.

Mr. McLEAN asked why the Premier did not consider that when drafting the Bill, instead of reducing the size of the electorate in order to give the requisite population to Fassifern? As to the disturbance of existing ideas and interests, the Bill disturbed the boundaries of nearly every electorate in the colony. The object of the honourable member for West Moreton was to enable Ipswich to control the Fassifern electorate. He had moved his amendment in the interests of his constituents, who considered that by the original schedule of the Bill they would be quite shut out from their old associations in connection with the Logan electorate. He certainly could not be accused of political dodgery in this matter—nothing could be farther from him than such an idea.

Mr. FOOTE said he did not accuse the honourable gentleman of political dodgery, but he must see that the effect of his amendment would be to disfranchise Fassifern.

Mr. McILWRAITH wished for a little further explanation. The Logan had a mean population of 2,207, and Fassifern of 1,752, and the amendment of the honourable member for West Moreton would take away 500 from Fassifern and add them to the Logan, making the numbers 2,707 and 1,252 respectively. Surely some better reason ought to be given for making such a disparity in the numbers. He did not see how the interests of the people could be so far apart as to warrant it, and the alteration would cut directly into the principles of the Bill as enunciated by the Premier.

Mr. THOMPSON said he had an impression that a great deal of settlement had taken place in Fassifern during the last two years.

The PREMIER said a great deal of settlement had taken place there, and more was expected. He did not attach much importance one way or other, to the settlement of this question; no serious injustice would be done either way.

Mr. WALSH said he was willing to help the Government with the Bill in every way he could; but he felt he was getting into a fog, and wanted to know which way the Government intended to move in the matter.

The PREMIER said, as the original schedule had been omitted, he felt rather inclined to favour both amendments. The opinions of the people whom they affected ought to have some weight in the matter; but it did not much matter which way the question was decided.

Mr. WALSH said the honourable gentleman's position was—

"How happy could I be with either,
Were t' other dear charmer away."

Mr. McLEAN would like to point out that in the Logan there was a total male adult population of 1,521, whilst in Fassifern there was only 735. If they deducted Polynesians, the Logan would have 1,155 male adults, and Fassifern only 652. Whichever way they chose to take it, the adult population of one district was about double that of the other, and for that reason he proposed that a portion of the Logan should be added to Fassifern, so that both might agree as nearly as possible with the principles of the Bill.

Mr. FOOTE said it was very evident that the object of the honourable member was to secure another member for the Logan and to disfranchise Fassifern. The effect of adding 500 voters from the Logan district would simply be to disfranchise Fassifern. The honourable member for Warrego had asked whether the interests of the two were not identical. They were not, for one was an agricultural population and the other was a grazing and dairying population. As to the question of settlement, it had been something very extensive in the Dugandan scrub and at Fassifern itself during the last two years. He believed that the male adult population had almost doubled itself, and that within three or four years the Fassifern Scrub would be as much settled as the Rosewood Scrub was at this moment.

Mr. IVORY would like to know the cause of the deep interest which the honourable member for West Moreton seemed to show with regard to the Fassifern electorate. It was quite clear that there was something between Ipswich and Fassifern connected with the proposed alteration to cause the honourable member to support the amendment so warmly. The Government were almost bound to support the honourable member for Logan. They should stick as nearly as possible to their own calculations, and support him, more especially as the honourable member for Fassifern was not present, and the interests of the electorate were being looked after by a gentleman who must really be supposed to have no connection with it, so far as the House was concerned.

Mr. McLEAN said that the member for West Moreton had stated that his proposal would make a difference of 500 electors in the Fassifern electorate. He had stated that it would make a difference of 500 in the population, which was quite another matter.

Mr. FOOTE would state, in reply to the honourable member for Burnett, that possibly his interest in Fassifern was as much as the honourable gentleman who represented it. It was a district which

traded largely with Ipswich. He was sorry the honourable member for Fassifern was not present. He believed that he would have been had he known that the question would have come on that evening, and that he would have supported his amendment.

Mr. McILWRAITH thought it a great pity that the Government did not stick to their own boundaries, or give good reasons for supporting an amendment. The committee must look to the Premier for information to guide them in the matter.

The PREMIER said the position was this: The honourable member for the Logan wished to have a change of the Logan electorate, and had a clause prepared and circulated. It was the pleasure of the committee to strike out the original schedule, and then came the honourable member for West Moreton with a boundary still further to the west of the one they were now discussing. He understood that the present proposition was a compromise between the extreme boundary of the honourable member for West Moreton and the boundary proposed by the honourable member for Logan. The extreme boundary of the honourable member for West Moreton could not have been accepted by the Government.

Mr. McILWRAITH asked how could it have been a compromise? It might have been arranged privately.

The PREMIER: It was.

Mr. McILWRAITH said the committee could not therefore know anything about it. He wished, however, to bring before the committee the position in which the electorates would be placed. They must discuss the matter from the tables provided by the Attorney-General. In table 2, the population of the Logan was given at 2,207 and of Fassifern at 1,752. He understood the Attorney-General to say that by adopting the amendment a population of 500 would be shifted from one electorate into the other. Was that so?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he was only speaking of the total population at the time. On the total population basis, the difference would be 515; on the male adult it would be 126; and on the mean basis 320.

Mr. PERKINS said the Premier had said that he agreed with both propositions, but he (Mr. Perkins) should like to hear which one the Government really intending accepting.

Mr. McILWRAITH said that now he had succeeded in getting information as to what population would be transferred from one electorate to the other, if the amendment of the honourable member for West Moreton was carried, he would put it before the committee. The Logan electorate, as proposed by the Government, had a population of 2,207; and the electorate of Fassifern, 1,752. The effect of the proposed amend-

ment would be to transfer 320 from the Fassifern to the Logan electorate. Before the committee adopted the opinion of the Premier, that the amendment should be adopted, surely some reason ought to be given for making so violent a change. What astonished him most was that the Attorney-General acquiesced in the argument used by the honourable member for West Moreton that settlement was taking place so rapidly, and supported the honourable member on the grounds that his own tables were defective. The Government should either support one side or the other. He stood there to see justice done, and to prevent any electorate from being under-represented. Logan had more than its quota of population now, and he was not going to assist in giving it more.

The PREMIER said that a change had been proposed by the honourable member for the Logan, and one had been proposed by the honourable member for West Moreton; and it seemed that the present proposal would meet the views of both. As the population of the two districts qualified them for two members, it was not a very important matter where the line was drawn between them; and in adjusting it was necessary to give and take. The largest portion of the population, in this case, must inevitably go to the Logan electorate. There was no doubt some importance to be attached to the arguments of the honourable members for West Moreton and Bremer who were both well acquainted with the district. He had professed his willingness to accept the amendment under the impression that it was a compromise which had been arrived at by the parties interested.

Mr. WALSH said that the Premier seemed to confess that there had been a great deal of immorality going on between the honourable members sitting on that side, when he said that an understanding had been come to by which the Bill was to be hacked about, the Premier himself being an accomplice. He was very sorry to see the Premier weak enough to get up and make such a confession.

Mr. McILWRAITH would like to know what the amendment now before the committee was?

The CHAIRMAN said it was the amendment of the honourable member for West Moreton.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the question was this: The honourable member for the Logan had proposed certain boundaries which he had described, and the honourable member for West Moreton had moved to omit all the words of that description with a view to inserting the boundaries he desired.

Mr. MOREHEAD said it was just a question, whether the opinion of the honourable member for Logan, or that of the

honourable member for West Moreton should be carried, the Government having expressed their willingness to vote for either or both. The position which the Government now occupied, was an anomalous one, and he should like to hear some expression of opinion from them. He should vote for the honourable member for the Logan, believing that he knew most about the district; and when the amendment of the honourable member for West Moreton was put, he should call for a division.

Mr. PRING said that, as he understood the question, the Government had thought fit to submit to the boundary of the Fassifern electorate being altered, and, therefore, that question had been put and carried. It had the effect of striking out that portion of the Bill, and leaving a blank. The honourable member for the Logan now wished to define the boundaries, according to a description he had furnished, by way of amendment; and the honourable member for West Moreton said "No; put back Fassifern as it was."

Mr. PERKINS would call the attention of the committee to the fact of private meetings of members having been held to determine the boundaries of the electorates. He also was interested in those electorates, but he had never been consulted. He had heard the confession from the honourable the Premier, that there was some understanding or misunderstanding as to how the boundaries of the electorates should be determined, but it would be better that they should not have their dirty clothes washed in public. It was a very unfortunate thing for the country that matters should be so settled, but he feared it was only an indication of the way in which more important matters were determined in Brisbane. He found the Premier was able to bend and be pliant—able to agree, and see no objection. That was a very fine excuse for allowing very objectionable things to pass unnoticed; and he thought the little arrangement between the honourable member for the Logan and the honourable member for West Moreton looked very like a job—as though the honourable the Premier had tried to accommodate both. He should stand by the honourable member for Logan.

Mr. THOMPSON said the Premier appeared to be "all things to all men, that possibly some might be saved." He said he would like to vote for either. Surely the amplitude of his complaisancy knew no bounds. But, that any compromise had taken place, he (Mr. Thompson) denied, as both parties were, at the present moment as bitter as possible over a matter which was not worth fighting about. It was useless to disguise the fact, that at one time the Government gave the people of Fassifern to understand that they

were prepared to run a railway through their district. The part of the population of Fassifern interested in that railway it was proposed to overpower by electors of the Logan, which had nothing at all to do with that question. He should vote with the honourable member for West Moreton.

Mr. WALSH said the question was now much narrowed down. It was because of the confession of the honourable the Premier, which showed that a certain amount of immorality had taken place, that he (Mr. Walsh) took the stand he did. Whether it was outside or inside the Chamber it did not matter; but the Premier told the committee that he understood there had been some compromise on the subject, whilst now it turned out that the honourable gentleman's supporters were not so bad as he thought they were.

Mr. McLEAN said that a great deal more had been made about the little caucus matter than it really deserved. The fact was, that he had met the honourable member for West Moreton in the lobby, and had spoken to him on the subject of the boundaries, and he said that he would consult with the honourable members for Ipswich and Bremer. Afterwards, the honourable member told him that it was proposed to extend the electorate back to the old boundary, to which he replied, that he should stick to his amendment—that was all that had happened.

Mr. IVORY agreed with the honourable member for the Warrego, that there was a certain amount of immorality in the whole matter, as, if any arrangement had been come to between honourable members as to the boundaries of the Logan electorate, it should have been between the honourable members for Fassifern and the Logan, and not between the Premier and the honourable member for West Moreton.

Question put—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—and the committee divided:—

AYES, 21.

Messrs. Morehead, McIlwraith, Graham, Walsh, Kingsford, Low, Hockings, Macrossan, Macfarlane (Rockhampton), McLean, Pring, Ivory, Groom, Murphy, Tyrel, Perkins, Beattie, Bailey, Fraser, Fox, and J. Scott.

NOES, 8.

Messrs. Dickson, Thompson, Garrick, Foote, Griffith, Douglas, Miles, and Macfarlane (Ipswich).

Question—That the new clause as read be clause 8 of the schedule—put and passed.

The PREMIER said that he would move formally, that clause 9 of the schedule stand part of the Bill, as follows:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF IPSWICH.

Commencing at the junction of Deebing Creek with the Bremer River and bounded

thence by that river downwards to the east boundary of portion 74 parish of Ipswich thence by a road bearing south to the south-east corner of the reserve for Botanic Gardens and Public Recreation thence by a road bearing west to Deebing Creek and by that creek downwards to the point of commencement.

He moved it formally, as, owing to an alteration which had been made in the Bill, by which two members were given to Ipswich instead of one, he understood that the honourable member for Ipswich wished to move an amendment.

MR. MACFARLANE (Ipswich) moved, that the schedule be omitted with the view of inserting the following:—

Commencing at the junction of Bandanba Creek with the Bremer River and bounded thence by Bandanba Creek upwards to the south-east corner of portion 207 parish of Ipswich thence by a road bearing west and forming the southern boundaries of portions 207 208 209 305 306 and 311 parish of Ipswich thence by the eastern and southern boundaries of portion 315 in the same parish to Deebing Creek thence by that creek upwards to the road at the north-east corner of portion 180 parish of Purga thence by that road west to Warrill Creek at the south-east corner of portion 10 same parish thence by that creek downwards to the Bremer River thence by that river downwards to Mehee Creek at a point west of the north west corner of section 25 North Ipswich thence east to the north-west corner of that section thence north-easterly by Wyndham-street to the north-east corner of section 30 thence by Pine-street south-easterly to the north-east corner of section 31 thence by De Lacy street north-easterly along the northern boundary of section 31A to a creek near Gulland's special lease thence by that creek downwards to the Bremer River and by that river downwards to the point of commencement.

That new boundary would simply bring in the whole of the municipality of Ipswich as one electorate, and would include a small addition from the suburban population on the eastern part of the electorate.

MR. McILWRAITH said the correct practice was not being followed; the committee having carried certain amendments, it was the duty of the Government to repeat them in the schedule themselves. The committee had decided that the proposed electorate of Bremer should be conjoined to Ipswich, and it was the duty of the Government to have brought down amended forms of schedule with proper descriptions of the electorates. He should like Ministers to say whether the description given was in accordance with the instructions given by the committee, and included those portions that were intended to form the electoral districts of Bremer and Ipswich.

MR. PRING said that this Bill having been introduced by the Government, he presumed that the schedule had been prepared upon a certain basis, and whatever that basis was, it had, at all events, been

discussed by the House, and the districts had been carved out and well ascertained by the Government. He was, therefore, surprised that they should allow their schedule to be negatived without giving some explanation, though he had no doubt that the honourable member for Ipswich was quite correct in wishing to alter the boundaries. What he could not understand was, that the Government should stand by and allow their proposed boundaries to be set aside without saying a single word.

MR. WALTER SCOTT objected to the amendment passing without information from the Government. He did not object to the amendment, but the committee should be supplied with fuller information. They should have a plan placed before them showing the boundary, and also whether the amendments in the schedules followed out the basis that the Ministry proposed to adopt.

MR. THOMPSON explained that, by the Bill as introduced, there was to be a district called Bremer with one member, but it was altered, and the present electorate of Ipswich with Bremer was allowed to return two members, and Bandanba one member. This was done instead of putting Bremer and Bandanba together, and he thought it was an improvement.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL said it was agreed that the district within the external boundary of Bremer should have three members, that Ipswich should have two of them, and the surrounding district one. That settled, the Government had to devise the fairest means of effecting it; and with such materials as the Government had at their disposal—the Census returns, the population, and the natural boundaries—they found that the boundary as proposed now comprised a population about twice that of the remainder, which was to be called Bandanba; that was as near as the Government could get at it.

MR. THOMPSON said Ipswich had no objection to the boundary proposed, neither had Bandanba; and as there was no allegation or suggestion of unfairness, he thought the boundary, as defined, might be accepted.

MR. WALSH said there might be no objection to the proposition, but the Government should not allow a private member to do their work.

THE PREMIER said that the proposition was an improvement on the schedule, and that it might be accepted as coming from the honourable member who had moved it, but with the full consent and cognizance of the Government.

MR. MACROSSAN said that it might be said that the honourable member for Ipswich and Bandanba were alone concerned in this question, but he considered it was a matter which concerned the whole

House. The Attorney-General had told them that the boundary was the fairest, and he might go still further and say what the populations of Bandanba and Ipswich were.

Mr. MOREHEAD said that while the Attorney-General was getting the information, which he should have had by him, he should shortly occupy the time of the committee. This Bill was the most wonderful Bill, and these schedules the most wonderful schedules he had ever seen. The Bill had been dissected, altered, and realtered over again, and there was only one instance in which the Ministry had not given in. In all the other amendments they were defeated, and had only been supported by the members for Ipswich and West Moreton. He was sorry the Government had given way, not only on the main principles of the Bill, but also on every objection that had been raised to the schedules. They had not even the pluck to sustain their own schedules, but when an objection was raised by one of their own supporters, and they thought he had strength enough to carry an amendment, they gave way, and as he had pointed out on one occasion, they were lamentably disappointed.

The PREMIER: There has been only one alteration.

Mr. MOREHEAD said there had been several alterations; there was one now before the committee, and so far as they had got in the schedules, there was not one in which there had not been a deviation made from the original. The Bill was bad enough at the start, and it had been supplemented by amendments suggested by that side of the House. In fact, the Bill, as it now stood, irrespective of the schedules, had been made by that side of the House, and the schedules had been mutilated, altered, and added to at the beck and will of any member who chose to raise an objection, although they had been told by the Premier that he would allow no alterations in the Bill in committee. He thought the Premier had better withdraw the Bill, for he could do no good with it. He (the Premier) did not wish to carry it through committee, and if he did, he would wish it to be defeated elsewhere.

Mr. McILWRAITH said he wished the committee to understand that what members on that side of the House wanted was, an assurance from the Government that they had prepared this schedule in accordance with the order of the House, and were responsible for it. It was an extraordinary proceeding, when the Government were ordered to bring in a new schedule, that a private member should move it in committee; and, watching the Bill through committee, it was his duty to see that the instructions of the House were carried out. They had no objection to the schedule, but wished to have an assurance from the Gov-

ernment that it corresponded with the vote of the House the other night, which affirmed that Ipswich and Bremer should be amalgamated, and that Bandanba should be a separate electorate.

The PREMIER said the previous decision of the committee was that Ipswich should have two members, on the understanding that the boundaries were to be altered. The Government were responsible for the description of the boundary now moved by the honourable member for Ipswich.

Mr. MACROSSAN said he would like to know from the Attorney-General if he had got the returns of population previously referred to?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he had not been able to find them, but he had arrived at the result by the same means. As nearly as he could ascertain, the population of Bremer and Ipswich was about 7,000 or a little over; and that of Bandanba was something under 4,000. The male adult population bore the same proportion.

Mr. McILWRAITH asked if the schedule embodied the whole of the old Bremer electorate?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said it did not. The population of the electorates of Ipswich and Bandanba was divided in the proportion, as nearly as possible of two to one, keeping the country separate from the town.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER moved schedule 10 as follows:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF BREMER.

Commencing on the Brisbane River at the junction of Kholo Creek thence by that creek upwards to a point east of the south-west corner of portion 44 parish of Kholo thence west to said corner thence north by the west boundary of portion 44 and a prolongation thereof to D'Aguiar Range thence by D'Aguiar Range south-easterly to the north-east corner of portion 172 parish of Moggill thence by the road forming the western and southern boundaries of portions 238 171 170 169 167 18 159 158 13 and 14 parish of Moggill to the Brisbane River thence by the Brisbane River upwards to Woogaroo Creek thence by that creek upwards to the Brisbane and Ipswich main road by that road easterly to the eastern watershed of Woogaroo Creek thence by that watershed southerly and by the watershed separating Bandanba and Oxley Creeks to Mount Woolman thence by the Mount Flinders Range southerly to the head of Woollaman Creek at a point east from the north-east corner of portion 76 parish of Normanby thence west to that corner thence westerly by a road forming the northern boundaries of portions 76 75 74 100 99 93 111 116 117 118 119 120 121 and 3 of same parish to the north-west corner of portion 3 on Warrill Creek thence by that creek downwards to the south-east corner of portion 31 parish of Jebropilly thence by the south and west boundaries of portion 31 westerly and northerly to the south-east corner

of portion 21 of same parish thence by the south boundary of that portion west to a road on its south-west corner thence by the road on the west boundaries of portions 21 194 190 187 185 184 183 74 75 and 78 parish of Jeebropilly bearing northerly and north-westerly to the Bremer River thence by the Bremer River downwards to the south-west corner of portion 33 parish of Brassall thence by a road forming the western boundaries of portions 33 362 360 359 382 11 159 160 163 164 and 165 to the western-corner of portion 175A of same parish thence by the road forming the north-western boundaries of portions 175A 174 173A 172A and 171A parish of Brassall to the north corner of portion 477 of same parish thence by the road forming part of the western boundary of portion 481 and the western boundary of portion 505 and the western and north-western boundaries of portion 606A parish of Brassall to its northern corner thence by a line bearing east to the south-west corner of portion 255 of same parish and a line in continuation thereof to the Brisbane River easterly to the south-east corner of portion 367 parish of Brassall and thence by the Brisbane River downwards to the junction of Kholo Creek the point of commencement—exclusive of the electoral district of Ipswich.

He said the only alteration required in this schedule, in order to make it square with the previous amendment was to substitute "Bandanba" for "Bremer." Honourable gentleman, on referring to clause 4, could see that it had been decided to have an electorate called "Bandanba" and the description under the heading of "Bremer" was really now that of "Bandanba," which surrounded the electoral district of Ipswich as just passed. He moved, that the word "Bandanba," be substituted for "Bremer."

Mr. THOMPSON said some honourable members might not be quite *au fait* as to the meaning of this, but it was simply that the boundaries of "Bremer" would stand as in the description, but the name would be "Bandanba."

Schedule put and passed, as "Electoral district of Bandanba."

The PREMIER moved:—Schedule No. 11 as follows:—

No. 11—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF ROSEWOOD.

Commencing on the right bank of the Brisbane River at the north boundary of portion 322 parish of Tarampa and bounded thence by the north boundary of that portion westerly to a road thence by the road forming the western boundaries of 322 319 335 336 363 364 and 369 parish of Tarampa to the south-west corner of 369 thence by the eastern boundaries of portions 382 and 393 parish of Tarampa thence by the southern boundary of the last mentioned portion westerly to its south-west corner thence by a line south to the northern boundary of portion 646 parish of Tarampa thence westerly by that boundary and the northern boundary of portion 642 of same parish and by a line westerly to the Little Liverpool Range thence by that range southerly

to the south-west corner of portion 74 parish of Alfred thence easterly by the southern boundaries of portions 74 and 51 parish of Alfred the south boundaries of portions 53 68 and 69 parish of Ferguson and northerly by the east boundaries of portions 69 66 and 59 of that parish to the south-west corner of portion 64 of same parish thence by a road bearing east to the north-east corner of portion 17 parish of Mutdapilly and by the south boundaries of portions 6 7 9 and 13 parish of Mutdapilly bearing east to the left branch of Warrill Creek thence by Warrill Creek downwards to the south boundary of portion 31 parish of Jeebropilly thence by the south and west boundaries of that portion thence by the south boundary of portion 21 and by the road on the west boundaries of portions 21 194 190 187 185 184 183 74 75 and 78 parish of Jeebropilly bearing northerly and north-westerly to the Bremer River thence by the Bremer River downwards to the south-west corner of portion 33 parish of Brassall thence by a road forming the western boundaries of portions 33 360 362 359 382 11 159 160 163 164 and 165 to the western corner of portion 175A of same parish thence by the road forming the north-western boundaries of portions 175A 174A 173A 172A 171A and 477 parish of Brassall to the north corner of 477 thence by the road forming part of the western boundary of portion 481 and the western boundaries of portions 505 and 606A thence north-westerly by the road forming the north-east boundaries of portions 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 80 81 82 91 and 92 parish of Walloon to the north corner of portion 92 thence south-south-westerly by a road forming the north-west boundaries of portions 92 93 94 95 and 96 thence by same road continued in a westerly and north-westerly direction forming the northern boundaries of portions 225 226 227 276 321 285 315 315 328 541 550 and part of the north boundary of portion 552 parish of Walloon to the south-west corner of portion 192 parish of North thence northerly by a line forming the west boundaries of portions 192 and 201 parish of North and a continuation thereof bearing north to the south-west boundary of portion 175 of same parish thence by the south-west boundary of said portion 175 north-westerly to the Brisbane River and thence by that river upwards to the point of commencement.

Mr. FOOTE said he had an amendment to move, in connection with this schedule, that he should like to see carried. He believed an expression of opinion had been given during the discussion to the effect that electorates should be grouped together where it could be conveniently done, and he thought this was a case in which it could be done. The electorates of Rosewood and Stanley were situated side by side, and he thought it would be wise to group them together to return the same number of members as the Bill proposed to give them. He, therefore, begged to move that the electoral district of Rosewood be postponed with a view of amalgamating it with Stanley afterwards,

The PREMIER said the honourable member proposed, in fact, to omit this schedule in order to afterwards couple it with Stanley. He submitted, however, that they had already decided this question on a previous occasion, when the committee determined to retain Rosewood and Stanley. At that time he referred to the possibility of a junction of the two electorates; but it was only a remote contingency, and the House having affirmed by a large majority that Rosewood should be retained, he felt bound to support the schedule as it stood.

Mr. McILWRAITH said the reason the Premier had just given for opposing the motion of the honourable member for West Moreton was the very reasons he (Mr. McIlwraith) and other members on that side of the House had been trying for the last two nights to force upon this Government, in relation to the electorate of North Brisbane. That was the reason the honourable gentlemen now urged against one of his own side, when he did not like the amendment, as a sound reason. It was trying to destroy the amendment of the honourable member for West Moreton, by the legitimate weapons that the Opposition used against the Government in the previous case he had mentioned. It served the honourable member for West Moreton right, for he supported the Premier in that division, by which the decision of the committee was rescinded. He (Mr. McIlwraith) was perfectly consistent in voting with the Premier on this occasion, because it was the doctrine he had been preaching all through the Bill. They had declared that Rosewood should be one electorate and Stanley another; and if the honourable member wished to have them joined, he would have an opportunity of trying to do so when the Bill was recommitted. He should oppose the amendment, because this was not the proper time for proposing it.

Mr. FOOTE said that if he were to have an opportunity afterwards for moving his amendment, he would for the present withdraw it.

Mr. THOMPSON thought that before that was done, an understanding to the effect should be given by the Premier.

Mr. WALSH said it was no doubt quite understood between the Premier and the honourable member for West Moreton that the opportunity should be given to him, in order to smooth down certain little difficulties when the Bill came to be recommitted, and he believed that the two had entered into a compact to that effect. It was very strange that the Premier did not take this constitutional and parliamentary course when it was urged upon him last night by members of the Opposition.

Mr. PRING said the reason was obvious. A different course of action must be pursued

by a Government beaten on one part of its own measure, and a Government carrying another part of the same Bill through victoriously.

Mr. IVORY failed to see the difference in this instance.

The PREMIER said that while he did not agree with the proposal of the honourable member for West Moreton, he had no objection to allow him an opportunity to bring it forward.

Mr. WALSH wished to know in what way that opportunity was to be given. There was a great deal more in this than appeared on the surface. Were the Government going to make fish of one and flesh of another? Were they going to recommit the Bill generally, or only in favour of their supporters?

Mr. MACROSSAN said that, while on principle he was strongly inclined to support the system of three-cornered constituencies, he was glad the Government would not permit any alteration being made in consequence of the absence of the honourable member for Stanley. He hoped that before the subject was gone into again, the opinion of that honourable member, who understood the localities quite as well as the honourable member for West Moreton, would be ascertained.

The PREMIER, in reply to the honourable member for Warrego, said, that when the Bill was recommitted, he would afford the honourable member for West Moreton an opportunity for raising this question; he need not say more than that.

Mr. FOOTE said he would try to ascertain the opinion of the honourable member for Stanley, before bringing on his amendment.

The PREMIER said he happened to know that the honourable member for Stanley was in favour of the existing arrangements.

Mr. WALSH protested against allowing Government to enter into compacts with their supporters in this way. When the Bill was recommitted, it ought to be recommitted as a whole. Government would have a very large majority if they were permitted to make ducks and drakes of it in this way.

Question—That schedule No. 11 stand No. 11 of the Bill—put and passed.

Schedule No. 12 was negatived in consequence of the adoption of the amendment of the honourable member for Logan.

The PREMIER moved that the following new schedule be schedule No. 12 of the Bill:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF FASSIFERN.

Commencing on the Logan River at the mouth of Jimboomba or Henderson's Creek and bounded thence by that creek upwards to the south-east corner of portion 353 parish of Moffatt thence by a line bearing

east and the southern boundaries of portions 363 and 381 and a prolongation thereof to a point bearing south from the south-western corner of portion 384 in the same parish thence by a line bearing north to the south-western corner of that portion thence by the south boundaries of that portion and portion 382 in the same parish easterly thence by part of the west and south boundaries of portion 391 and the west boundary of portion 19 in the same parish southerly and easterly thence by the north boundary of portion 3A parish of Wickham easterly to the Albert River thence by that river downwards to the south-west corner of portion 70 parish of Tambourine thence by the south boundary of that portion easterly to the southern watershed of Cedar Creek thence by that watershed to the Darlington Range thence by that range and the eastern watershed of the Albert and Logan Rivers southerly to Macpherson Range forming the southern boundary of the colony thence on the south by that range westerly to the Great Dividing Range thence northerly by that range and the Little Liverpool Range to a point west of the south-west corner of portion 74 parish of Alfred thence by a line bearing east and forming the south boundaries of portions 74 and 51 of that parish and portions 53 68 and 69 parish of Ferguson thence by the east boundaries of portions 69 66 and 59 of same parish bearing north to the south-west corner of portion 64 of same parish thence by a road bearing east to the north-east corner of portion 17 parish of Mutdapilly and by the south boundaries of portions 6 7 9 and 13 parish of Mutdapilly bearing east to the left branch of Warrill Creek thence by Warrill Creek upward to the north-west corner of portion 3 parish of Normanby thence easterly by the northern boundaries of that portion and of portions 121 120 119 118 117 116 111 93 99 100 74 75 and 76 parish of Normanby and by a line in continuation thereof bearing east to Woollaman Creek thence by Woollaman Creek upwards to Mount Flinders Range thence by that range northerly to Mount Goolman thence by the watershed between Oxley and Bandamba Creeks north-easterly to a point west of the south-west corner of portion 295 parish of Perry thence east to the south-east corner of that portion and by its south boundary and a continuation thereof on an east line to the Logan River at the south-west corner of portion 116 parish of Mackenzie thence by the Logan River downwards to the point of commencement.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER moved that clause No. 13, as follows, should stand part of the schedule—

No. 13.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF STANLEY.

Commencing on the right bank of the Brisbane River at the north boundary of portion 322 parish of Tarampa and bounded thence by the north boundary of that portion westerly to a road thence by the road forming the western boundaries of portions 322 319 335 336 363 364 and 369 parish of Tarampa to the south-west corner of 369 thence by the eastern boundaries of 382 and 393 of same parish thence by the southern boundary of the last mentioned

portion westerly to its south-west corner thence by a line south to the northern boundary of portion 646 parish of Tarampa thence westerly by that boundary and the northern boundary of portion 642 of same parish and by a line westerly to the Little Liverpool Range thence by that range southerly to the Great Dividing Range thence westerly and north-westerly by the Great Dividing Range to a point west of the south corner of portion 543 parish of Drayton thence east by a line passing through the south corner of that portion to a point south of the south-east corner of portion 216 parish of Geham thence by a line north to the said south-east corner of 216 thence by the eastern boundary of that portion and a line in prolongation thereof to the Great Dividing Range thence by that range northerly and north-westerly to the watershed separating the Brisbane river from the Burnett River thence by that watershed north-easterly and easterly to the watershed separating the Brisbane River from the Mary River thence by that watershed south-easterly to D'Aguiar's Range thence by that range southerly to a point north of the north-west corner of portion 44 parish of Kholo thence by a line south and the west boundary of that portion to the south-west corner of same thence east to Kholo Creek and by that creek downwards to the Brisbane River thence by the Brisbane River upwards to the south east corner of portion 367 parish of Brassall thence by a line west passing along the south boundary of portion 255 to the northern corner of portion 606A of same parish thence by the road forming the north-western boundary of that portion south-westerly thence north-westerly by the road forming the north-east boundaries of portions 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 80 81 82 91 and 92 parish of Walloon to the north corner of portion 92 thence south-westerly by the road forming the north-west boundaries of portions 92 93 94 95 and 96 parish of Walloon thence by same road continued in a northerly and north-westerly direction forming the northern boundaries of portions 225 226 227 276 321 285 315 315A 328 541 550 and part of the north boundary of portion 552 parish of Walloon to the south-west corner of portion 192 parish of North thence northerly by a line forming the west boundaries of portions 192 and 201 parish of North and a continuation thereof bearing north to the south-west boundary of portion 175 of same parish thence by the south-west boundary of portion 175 north-westerly to the Brisbane River and thence by that river upwards to the point of commencement.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER moved that clause No. 14, as follows, should stand part of the schedule;—

No. 14.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF DRAYTON AND TOOWOOMBA.

Commencing on the summit of the Great Dividing Range at a road at the south-east corner of portion 536 parish of Drayton and bounded thence westerly by the road forming the southern boundaries of portions 536 531 530 522 521 398 171 170 163 427 and 426 to the road at the south-west corner of 426 thence

by the last-mentioned road northerly forming the west boundaries of portions 423 and 425 to the road at the north-east corner of portion 466 thence westerly by the road forming the northern boundaries of portions 466 465 461 and 460 of same parish to the road at the north-west corner of 460 thence southerly by the road forming the west boundaries of portions 460 459 452 445 242 24 23 22 21 20 11 28 and by a line south to a road at the north-west corner of portion 3 parish of Eton Vale thence by said road easterly forming the northern boundaries of portions 3 4 and 5 of same parish and thence easterly to the summit of the Great Dividing Range and thence by that range easterly and northerly to the point of commencement.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER moved that clause No. 15, as follows, should stand part of the schedule :—

No. 15.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF AUBIGNY.

Commencing on the Toowoomba and Dalby Railway at the north-west corner of portion 35 parish of Watts and bounded thence by the western boundaries of portions 35 36 and 37 southerly to Oakey Creek thence by that creek downwards about five chains to a road at the north-west corner of Jondaryan P.P. XV thence by that road southerly to the north-east corner of portion 1652 parish of East Prairie thence south by the west boundaries of that portion of portion 1404 a part of 1401 same parish to Mount Irving thence south-easterly by the northern boundaries of portions 129 130 118 117 parish of Motley and the watershed separating Umbiram Creek from Westbrook Creek south-easterly to the north-west corner of portion 847 parish of Westbrook thence south-easterly to the north-east corner of that portion thence by a line easterly to the north-west corner of portion 3 same parish thence southerly by the western boundaries of that portion and portion 6 to the south-west corner of portion 6 thence easterly by the southern boundaries of portions 6 7 8 9 Westbrook Pre-emptive Purchases XLVII and XLVI and portions 49 47 45 46 41 40 38 37 35 57 56 parish of Eton Vale and by the south boundaries of Eton Vale Pre-emptive Purchase XXIII the south-east corner of that portion at Hodgson's Creek thence by that creek upwards to the south-west corner of portion 643 parish of Drayton thence east by the south boundaries of 643 644 and a line in prolongation thereof to the western boundary of Eton Vale Pre-emptive Purchase XXI thence northerly by part of the western boundary of that portion to its north-west corner thence easterly by its northern boundary thence southerly by part of the east boundary to a point east of the south-east corner of portion 644 parish of Drayton thence by a line east and the northern boundary line of portion 59 of same parish to the summit of the Great Dividing Range thence by that range to a point west from the south corner of portion 543 parish of Drayton thence east by a line passing through the south corner of that portion to a point south of the south-east corner of portion 216 parish of Geham

thence by a line north passing through said south east corner of that portion and a line in prolongation thereof to the Great Dividing Range thence by that range northerly and north-westerly to a point north-east from the north-east corner of portion 1109 parish of Milton thence by a line south-west to said corner thence by the northern and western boundaries of that portion westerly and southerly to the north boundary of portion 1988 parish of King thence westerly and southerly by the northern and western boundaries of portions 1988 and 1948 to the northern boundary of portion 1949 parish of King thence west to a road at the north-west corner of that portion thence by said road south and west to the south-west corner of portion 255 parish of Watts thence by that road south to the north boundary of portion 28 of same parish thence by the northern and western boundaries of that portion westerly and southerly to a point north-east from the eastern corner of portion 7 parish of Watts thence south-westerly to that corner and by the south boundary of portion 7 to its south-west corner thence by a line south to the north-west corner of portion 35 parish of Watts the point of commencement—exclusive of the electoral district of Drayton and Toowoomba.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER moved that clause No. 16, as follows, should stand part of the schedule :—

No. 16.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF DARLING DOWNS.

Commencing at the north east corner of portion 1652 parish of East Prairie and bounded thence southerly by the west boundaries of that portion portion 1404 and a part of 1401 same parish to Mount Irving thence south-easterly by the northern boundaries of portions 129 130 118 117 parish of Motley and the watershed separating Umbiram Creek from Westbrook Creek to the north-west corner of portion 347 parish of Westbrook thence south-easterly to the north-east corner of that portion thence by a line east to the north-west corner of portion 3 same parish thence southerly by the western boundaries of that portion and portion 6 to the south-west corner of portion 6 thence easterly by the southern boundaries of portions 6 7 8 9 XLVII XLVI parish of Westbrook and portions 49 47 45 46 41 40 38 37 35 57 56 parish of Eton Vale and by the south boundary of Eton Vale pre-emptive purchase XXIII to the south-east corner of that portion at Hodgson's Creek thence by that creek upwards to the south-west corner of portion 643 parish of Drayton thence east by the south boundaries of portions 643 644 and a line in prolongation thereof to the western boundary of pre-emptive purchase XXI thence northerly by part of the western boundary of that portion to its north-west corner thence easterly by the northern boundary thence southerly by part of the east boundary to a point east of the south-east corner of portion 644 parish of Drayton thence by a line east and the northern boundary line of portion 59 to the summit of the Great Dividing Range thence by that range south easterly to

the southern boundary of the colony thence by the range forming the southern boundary of the colony south-westerly to the watershed separating the waters of the Condamine River from the Dumaresq River thence by said watershed to Mount Domville thence by the watershed separating the Weir and Moonie Rivers from the Condamine River to the watershed separating Wilkie's Creek from the Condamine River by that watershed northerly to the road at the north-west corner of portion 15 parish of Weale thence by that road easterly to the north-east corner of portion 13 same parish thence southerly by part of the east boundary of that portion to a point west of the north-west corner of portion 370 parish of Weale thence by a line east forming the northern boundaries of said portion 370 portion 363 parish of St. Ruth and south boundary of portion 262 of last-mentioned parish to the western corner of portion 107 parish of West Prairie thence by part of the western boundary of that portion south-easterly to its south-west corner thence by the southern boundaries of portions 107 126 129 and 198 same parish easterly to the south-east corner of last-mentioned portion thence by a line bearing north forming the eastern boundaries of portions 198 and 128 parish of West Prairie to the north-eastern corner of last-mentioned portion thence by a line bearing south about 75 degrees east to the north-west corner of portion 1662 parish of East Prairie and thence by the northern boundaries of that portion and portion 1652 same parish south-easterly to the north-east corner of portion 1652 the point of commencement—exclusive of the electoral district of Warwick.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER moved that clause No. 17 as follows, should stand part of the schedule:—

No. 17.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF WARWICK.

Commencing at the junction of Jack Smith's Gully with Swan Creek and bounded thence north-easterly by that gully to the north-east corner of portion 28 parish of Canning thence northerly by the eastern boundaries of portions 31 32 36 52 53 54 55 same parish and by a line bearing north-westerly to Freestone Creek thence by Freestone Creek downwards to the north-west boundary of portion 66 parish of Canning thence by a line bearing south-westerly being the north-west boundaries of portions 66 67 68 71 72 79 80 and 100 of that parish to the western boundary of last-mentioned portion thence by the western boundaries of portions 101 and 102 to the north boundary of portion 113 parish of Canning at the head of Campbell's Gully thence south-westerly by the north-western boundaries of portions 113 114 125 and by Campbell's Gully downwards to the eastern boundary of portion 184 parish of Warwick thence by a line bearing north along the east boundaries of portions 184 and 360 to the north-east corner of last-mentioned portion thence by a west line forming the north boundaries of portions 360 361 362 463 364 365 366 367 454 453 452 451 450 449 200 199 198 197 196 195 194 193 to the north-west corner of last-mentioned portion thence by

part of the west boundary of portion 193 south to the south-east corner of Canning Downs pre-emptive purchase V parish of Leslie thence by the south boundary of that pre-emptive purchase westerly to the Condamine River thence by that river downwards to a road forming the western boundary of portion 230 parish of Warwick thence by said road southerly to the south-west corner of portion 518 thence by a road easterly along the south boundary of that portion to Sandy Creek thence by Sandy Creek upwards to the south-west corner of portion 487 thence by a line east forming the south boundaries of portions 487 484 481 and a prolongation thereof to a road at the south-western corner of portion 320 parish of Warwick thence by that road easterly to the south-east corner of portion 39 same parish thence by a road northerly to Rosenthal Creek at the north-east corner of portion of thence by that creek downwards to the Condamine River thence by the Condamine River downwards to a road on the western boundary of Canning Downs Pre-emption by said road to the north-west corner of that pre-emptive thence by the road forming the northern and part of the eastern boundary of Pre-emptive Purchase No. 1 and the northern boundary of Pre-emptive Purchase No. 2 and a line in prolongation thereof easterly forming the northern boundaries of Canning Downs Pre-emptive Purchases V and VI to Swan Creek and thence by Swan Creek upwards to the junction of Jack Smith's Gully the point of commencement.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER moved that clause No. 18, as follows, should stand part of the schedule:—

No. 18.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF DALBY.

Commencing on the Toowoomba and Dalby railway at the north-west corner of portion 35 parish of Watts and bounded thence by the western boundaries of portions 35 36 and 37 of that parish southerly to Oakey Creek thence by that creek downwards westerly about five chains to a road at the north-west corner of Pre-emptive Purchase XV. Jondaryan thence by that road southerly to the north-east corner of portion 1,652 parish of East Prairie thence by the northern boundaries of portions 1,652 and 1,662 to the north-west corner of the last mentioned portion thence by a line bearing about north 75 degrees west to the north-east corner of portion 128 parish of West Prairie thence by the eastern boundaries of portions 128 and 198 of same parish southerly to the south-east corner of the last-mentioned portion thence by a line west forming the southern boundaries of portions 198 129 26 and 107 of same parish to the south-west corner of the last-mentioned portion thence by a line north-westerly to the west corner of said portion 107 thence by a line west to the Condamine River thence by the Condamine River downwards to the west boundary of portion 227 parish of Myall thence north-easterly by the western boundary of that portion to a road thence by the road forming the north-western boundaries of portions 206 183 182 181 159 and 158 to the south-western corner of portion 232 parish of Myall thence by a road

northerly to the north-west corner of portion 268 of same parish thence by a road east to the north-east corner of portion 189 parish of Dalby and by a line east to the north-east corner of portion 182 thence by a line north to the south-east corner of portion 83 parish of Cumkillenbar thence north by the eastern boundary of that portion to its north-east corner thence east to the north-east corner of portion 20 of same parish thence north by the western boundaries of portions 463 437 461 443 469 445 and 439 parish of Cumkillenbar to the north-west corner of the last-mentioned portion thence east by the north boundaries of portions 439 and 452 of same parish to the south-west corner of portion 433 thence north by the western boundaries of portions 455 and 316 to the north-west corner of same thence easterly by the northern boundaries of portions 316 470 450 438 62 and 61 to the north-east corner of the last-mentioned portion parish of Cumkillenbar thence by a line north to the north branch of Myall Creek thence by Myall Creek upwards to the eastern boundary of portion 1 containing 150 acres at the head of that creek thence by a south line to the marked line of road from Cooyar Creek to Dalby thence by said road north-easterly to the Great Dividing Range thence by that range south-easterly to a point north-east from the north-east corner of portion 1109 parish of Milton thence by a line south-westerly to the north-east corner of said portion thence by the northern and western boundaries of that portion westerly and southerly to the northern boundary of portion 1988 parish of King thence westerly and southerly by the northern and western boundaries of portions 1938 and 1948 to the northern boundary of portion 1949 parish of King thence west to the road at the north-west corner of that portion thence by the said road south and west to the south-west corner of portion 255 parish of Watts thence by that road south to the north boundary of portion 28 of same parish thence by the northern and western boundaries of that portion westerly and southerly to a point north-east of the eastern corner of portion 7 parish of Watts thence south-westerly to the eastern corner of said portion and by the south boundary of same to the south-west corner thence by a line south to the north-west corner of portion 35 parish of Watts the point of commencement.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER moved, That the clause No. 19, as follows, should stand part of the schedule:—

No. 19.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF CARNARVON.

Commencing at Mount Domville and bounded thence by the watershed separating the Macintyre Brook from the waters falling into the Weir River south-westerly to the junction of Macintyre Brook with the Dumaresq River at the southern boundary of the Colony south-easterly and north-easterly to the watershed separating the waters falling into the Dumaresq River from those falling into the Condamine River thence by that watershed north-westerly to Mount Domville the point of commencement.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER, in moving that clause No. 20—electoral district of Condamine—should be omitted from the schedule, said the schedule purported to describe the electorate of Condamine which was altered on consideration of the fourth clause, when an amendment was carried, that instead of “Condamine two members,” the words “Northern Downs one member,” and “Balonne one member,” should be inserted. To give effect to that amendment he proposed to describe the electorate of “Northern Downs,” in the form in which it was now being circulated, the only difference being that it would be called “Northern Downs,” as proposed by the member for Dalby, instead of Condamine, as printed. The double electorate of Condamine, as originally proposed, would therefore be divided in accordance with the resolution already come to by the committee. He confessed that they had had considerable difficulty in arriving at a division. The division they had adopted was really a choice of difficulties. They had simply adopted the old electorate of “Northern Downs,” connecting the district of Goondiwindi with the Balonne, as the least objectionable arrangement that could be made. He stated at the time that he should be prepared to test the opinion of the committee on the question of division, but, on fuller consideration, he had come to the conclusion that the simplest solution, if the electorate was to be divided at all, was to adopt the nomenclature and boundaries suggested by the member for Dalby.

Question—That clause No. 20 be omitted—put and passed.

The PREMIER proposed the insertion of the following new clause, as clause No. 20, of the schedule:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF NORTHERN DOWNS.

Commencing at the road at the north-western corner of portion 15 parish of Weale thence by that road easterly to the north-east corner of portion 13 of same parish thence southerly by part of the east boundary of that portion to a point west of the north-west corner of portion 370 parish of Weale thence by a line east to the Condamine River thence by the Condamine River downwards to the western boundary of portion 227 parish of Myall thence north-easterly by the western boundary of that portion to a road thence by the road forming the western boundaries of portions 206 183 182 181 159 and 158 to the south-west corner of portion 232 parish of Myall thence by a road northerly to the north-west corner of portion 268 of same parish thence by a road east to the north-east corner of portion 189 parish of Dalby and by a line east to the north-east corner of portion 182 thence by a line north to the south-east corner of portion 33 parish of Cumkillenbar thence north by the eastern boundary of that portion to its north-east corner thence east to the north-east corner of portion 20 of same parish

thence north by the western boundaries of portions 463 437 461 443 469 445 439 parish of Cumkillenbar to the north-west corner of the last-mentioned portion thence east by the north boundaries of portions 439 and 452 of same parish to the south-west corner of portion 433 thence north by the western boundaries of portions 433 and 316 to the north-west corner of the last-mentioned portion thence east by the northern boundaries of portions 316 470 450 438 62 and 61 parish of Cumkillenbar to the north-east corner of the last-mentioned portion thence by a line north to the north branch of Myall Creek thence by Myall Creek upwards to the eastern boundary of portion 1 containing 150 acres at the head of that creek thence south to the marked line of road from Cooyar Creek to Dalby thence by that road north-easterly to the Great Dividing Range thence by that range westerly to the watershed separating Tehanning Creek from Yuleba Creek thence southerly by said watershed to a point west of the junction of Tehanning Creek with Dogwood Creek thence east to the said junction thence by Dogwood Creek downwards to its junction with the Condamine River thence by that river upwards to the north-east corner of Murilla Run thence by the eastern boundaries of Murilla Dunwoodie and Woodstock Runs southerly to the watershed separating the Condamine River from the Moonie River at the south-east corner of the last-mentioned run thence by that watershed easterly and south-easterly to the watershed separating Wilkie's Creek from the Condamine River and thence by that watershed north-easterly to the point of commencement.

Question put and passed.

The PREMIER moved that the new clause, as follows, should stand as clause No. 21 in the schedule of the Bill:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF BALONNE.

Commencing on the southern boundary of the colony at the junction of the Macintyre Brook with the Dumaresq River and bounded thence by the watershed separating the Macintyre Brook from the waters falling into the Weir River north-easterly to Mount Domville thence by the watershed separating the Weir and Moonie Rivers from the Condamine River north-westerly and westerly to the south-east corner of the Woodstock Run thence by the eastern boundaries of the Woodstock Dunwoodie and Murilla Runs northerly to the Condamine River thence by that river downwards to the junction of Dogwood Creek thence by Dogwood Creek upwards to its junction with Tehanning Creek thence by a line west to the north-east boundary of Balle Run thence by the northern boundaries of the following pastoral runs Balle Warkon Amoollee Horsetrack Creek Coombarngo bearing west thence by part of the north-east and north-west boundaries of Bainbilla North Wollombolla North Yambugle North Bungil North and Gunda Gunda North bearing south-westerly thence by the south-west boundaries of Oberina and Pannonia to the southern boundary of Lower Deepwater and by the south boundary of Mount Abundance and its prolongation west to the watershed separating Mungallala Creek from the Warrego River

thence south by the said watershed to the twenty-ninth parallel of south latitude at the boundary of the colony thence by said boundary to the junction of McIntyre Brook with the Dumaresq River the point of commencement.

Mr. McILWRAITH hoped the honourable member for Balonne would insist upon the Government giving him a chance, when the Bill was recommitted, of altering the fourth clause so as to put opposite "Balonne" two members instead of one, on account of the accession of population which had been made to the district. One of the principles of the Bill was that no district should be disfranchised, and the Balonne would be, to a certain extent, disfranchised if a large addition were made to the population and no additional representation given. The proper way would be for the honourable member to move an amendment, and if he did so he would have his (Mr. McIlwraith's) most cordial support.

Mr. Low said he would be most happy to adopt the suggestion of the honourable member for Maranoa, and he hoped the Premier would have no objection to accede to the proposal.

Mr. IVORY hoped the Premier would now rise and, as in the case of the honourable member for West Moreton, promise to give the honourable member an opportunity of bringing in the amendment. It was due to the honourable member for Balonne, who was a very staunch supporter of the Government, that he should have a like opportunity.

Mr. Low said that by giving the addition suggested, the Government might get another member as ready to assist them as he had been. It would be a pity therefore to refuse him.

Question—That the new clause stand as clause No. 21 in the schedule of the Bill—put and passed.

On the motion of the Premier the following clauses of the schedule were passed as printed:—

NO. 21.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF MARANOA.

Commencing at the western watershed of Dogwood Creek at a point bearing west from the junction of Dogwood Creek and the Tehanning Creek and bounded thence on the south by a line bearing west to the north-east corner of Balle Run then by the northern boundaries of the following pastoral runs Balle Warkon Amoollee Horsetrack Creek and Coombarngo bearing west then by part of the north-east and north-west boundaries of Bainbilla North Wollombolla North Yambugle North Bungil North and Gunda Gunda North bearing south-westerly then by the south-west boundaries of Oberina and Pannonia the southern boundaries of Lower Deepwater and by the south boundary of Mount Abundance and its prolongation west to the watershed separating Mungallala Creek from the Warrego River on the west by watershed separating Mungallala Creek and the Maranoa River from the Warrego River north-

erly on the north by the watershed separating the Maranoa River and Balonne River from the Dawson River easterly and on the east by the western watershed of Tchaning Creek southerly to the point of commencement.

No. 22.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF WARREGO.

Commencing at the southern boundary of the colony where the 29th parallel of south latitude intersects the watershed between the Warrego River and Mungallala Creek and bounded thence by that watershed and the watershed separating the Maranoa River from the Warrego River northerly to the Great Dividing Range thence by the Great Dividing Range in a general north-westerly direction to the watershed separating the Warrego River from the Barcoo River thence by said watershed south-westerly to the 26th parallel of south latitude thence east by that parallel to the 141st meridian of east longitude thence south by said meridian being part of the western boundary of the colony to the 29th parallel of south latitude at the southern boundary of the colony thence by said boundary easterly to the point of commencement.

No. 23.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF MARYBOROUGH.

Commencing on the Maryborough and Gayndah main road at the south-west corner of allotment 1 of section 174 parish of Maryborough and bounded thence by a road running north along the west boundaries of sections 174 175 and portions 224 and 225 of same parish to Saltwater Creek thence by Saltwater Creek downwards to the Burrum road thence by that road north-westerly to a point west from the north-west corner of portion 50 parish of Walliebum thence by a line east to said corner and by the northern boundaries of portions 50 and 47 of same parish and a line in continuation thereof east to a point north of the eastern corner of portion 11 parish of Walliebum thence south to a road at said corner thence by the north-west boundary of same portion south-easterly to a road at the south-east corner of the portion thence by the road south-westerly to the north corner of portion 3 of said parish thence by the road forming the north-east boundaries of portions 3 and 4 of same parish and by the road forming the south-east boundary of portion 4 south-westerly to the Mary River thence south-easterly crossing that river to the north-east corner of portion 130 parish of Elliot thence southerly by the eastern boundary of that portion to a road at the north-east corner of portion 140 of same parish thence by said road south to the south east corner of portion 141 of same parish thence by a line south to a point east from the north-east corner of portion 76 parish of Bidwell thence west to that corner and by the northern boundary of that portion westerly to Jumpa Creek thence by Jumpa Creek downwards to Tinana Creek thence by Tinana Creek upward to the road at the south-east corner of portion 50 parish of Tinana thence by that road westerly along the southern boundaries of 50 196A and 196 parish of Tinana and portion 202 parish of Young to the south-west corner of that portion thence by the same road west to the south-west corner of portion 19 parish

of Young thence by a line forming the southern boundary of portion 20 west to the Mary River and by the Mary River downwards to the Maryborough and Gayndah road at the point of commencement.

No. 24.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF GYMPIE.

Commencing at the junction of Gympie Creek with the Mary River and bounded thence by a line bearing north 35 degrees west about 28 chains thence by a line bearing north 55 degrees east about 135 chains thence by a line bearing south 35 degrees east to the north corner of the Cemetery Reserve thence by the northern and eastern boundaries of that reserve easterly and southerly to its south corner thence by a line south 35 degrees east to Deep Creek thence by Deep Creek downwards to the Brisbane road thence by the Brisbane road south-easterly about one mile to a small creek running direct into the Mary River thence by that creek downwards to the river and thence by the river downwards to the junction with Gympie Creek to the point of commencement.

No. 25.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF WIDE BAY.

Commencing at the mouth of the Mary River and bounded thence on the east by the sea-coast southerly to the mouth of the Maroochydore River thence north-westerly by the northern watershed of that river to the Blackall Range thence by that range and the watershed of the Mary River and its tributaries southerly westerly and north-westerly to the range separating the waters falling into the Burnett River from those falling into the Mary River thence by that range in a north-westerly direction to a spur range forming the western watershed of Degilbo Creek thence by said spur range to the junction of Degilbo Creek with the Burnett River thence north-easterly and easterly by the Burnett River downwards and to the south-west corner of portion 1 parish of Electra thence east by the south boundary of that portion to the south-east corner of same thence by a line bearing south-east to the southern watershed of the Elliot River thence by that watershed easterly to the mouth of the Elliot River and thence by the sea-coast southerly to the Mary River the point of commencement including Great Sandy Island and all other islands adjacent thereto and exclusive of the Electoral Districts of Maryborough and Gympie.

No. 26.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF MULGRAVE.

Commencing at the mouth of the Elliot River and bounded by the southern watershed of that river westerly to a point south-east of the south-east corner of portion 1 parish of Electra thence by a line north-west to said south-east corner of portion 1 thence by south boundary of that portion west to the Burnett River thence by the Burnett River upwards to its junction with Degilbo Creek thence by the western watershed of that creek in a south-westerly direction to a point where the main road from Maryborough to Gayndah intersects same thence by a line bearing west crossing the Burnett River to the western watershed of Reid's Creek thence by said watershed and a spur ridge north-westerly to the junction of Three-moon Creek with the Rawbelle Creek

thence by the watershed separating Three-moon Creek from Rawbelle Creek northerly to the watershed separating the Burnett River and the Colan River from Kroombit Creek Boyne River and Baffle Creek thence by that watershed to the head of Littabella Creek thence by said creek easterly to the sea-coast and thence by the sea-coast south-easterly to the mouth of the Elliot River the point of commencement.

The PREMIER said that in consequence of representations which had been made on a previous occasion, he proposed to submit to the committee a proposition that Burnett and Taroom should be separated. In making that arrangement, the Government recognised the prospects of the Burnett as an improving and settled district. It was proposed to maintain the old boundary of the Burnett, and to attach that district to the Leichhardt district. He would briefly refer to the new electorates as proposed. The Burnett would be the old Burnett district. The Leichhardt would include Taroom, and be slightly modified on its north-west frontier by having detached from it a certain portion of territory beyond the Belyando, which it was before proposed to include. The Mitchell district would remain as it had been, with one exception, that it would be divided. He would, therefore, ask the consideration of the committee to the four electorates as proposed, namely,—Burnett, Leichhardt, Mitchell, and Gregory. He now moved that the following new clause should stand as section 27 in the schedule of the Bill:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF BURNETT.

Commencing where the Maryborough and Gayndah main road intersects the western watershed of Degilbo Creek thence by a line bearing west crossing the Burnett River to the western watershed of Reid's Creek thence by said watershed and a spur ridge north-westerly to the junction of Three-moon Creek with Rawbelle Creek thence by the watershed separating Three-moon Creek from Rawbelle Creek northerly to the range separating Kroombit Creek from the Burnett River thence by the watershed separating Kroombit Creek from the Burnett River westerly and by the watershed separating the Burnett River from the Dawson River southerly to the Great Dividing Range thence by the Great Dividing Range south-easterly to the watershed separating the Brisbane and Burnett Rivers thence by that watershed north-easterly to the watershed separating the Mary River from the Burnett River thence by that watershed in a north-westerly direction to a spur range forming the western watershed of Degilbo Creek and thence by said spur range north-westerly to where the Maryborough and Gayndah main road intersects being the point of commencement.

MR. IVORY said he had no objection to the proposed new arrangement; but one part of the description was simple nonsense, and had been the laughing-stock in his district ever since it was printed. There were two creeks called Three-moon Creek and Rawbelle Creek, which were

supposed to run to a point where they joined. The fact of the matter was, they never joined at all, but effected their junction with the Burnett at a distance of about ten miles apart. In altering the boundaries that mistake should be adjusted; and he would therefore move, by way of amendment, that the words "Three-moon Creek with" in the fourth line of the description be omitted.

Question put and passed.

MR. IVORY moved that after the words "Rawbelle Creek" in line 4 the words "with the Burnett River" be inserted.

Question put and passed, and the clause as amended agreed to.

On the motion of the PREMIER, the succeeding sections, as printed, were put and passed:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF ROCKHAMPTON.

Commencing on the Fitzroy River at North street and bounded thence by that street south-westerly to the west corner of section 122A being the Hospital Reserve thence south-easterly by the south-west boundary of that section and a road to the north corner of portion 274 parish of Rockhampton thence southerly by the western boundaries of portions 274 275 276 and by a road westerly to the north-west corner of portion 138 same parish thence by a road forming the western boundaries of portions 138 and 107 thence easterly by a road forming the south boundaries of portions 107 104 and 103 thence southerly by a road forming the western boundaries of portions 51 52 and 53 thence easterly by a road forming the south boundaries of portion 53 and the General Cemetery Reserve to the Dawson road thence northerly by that road to the south corner of section 134 thence easterly by a road forming the southern boundaries of sections 135 131 and 130 to the south corner of section 117B thence north-easterly by a road forming the south-eastern boundaries of sections 117B 118A 119A 120 and 121 to the Fitzroy River thence by the Fitzroy River downwards to the junction of Thozet's Creek with said river thence by Thozet's Creek upwards to a road at the western boundary of portion 151 parish of Archer thence by that road northerly to the south-east corner of portion 46 same parish thence west by a road to the south-west corner of portion 52 parish of Archer at Moore's Creek thence by Moore's Creek downwards to the Fitzroy River and by that river upwards to North street at the point of commencement.

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF BLACKALL.

Commencing at the south side of the Fitzroy River at a point bearing south from the summit of Broadmount and bounded thence by a line bearing southerly to the watershed separating the Fitzroy River from Raglan Creek thence by that watershed and the watershed separating the Fitzroy River from the Dee River and Gogango Creek westerly to the Northern Railway thence by the eastern watershed of Gogango Creek north-westerly to a point east of a point on the Fitzroy River ten chains below Windah head station thence west to the Fitzroy River and by

that river upwards to the junction of Gogango Creek thence by a line north-westerly to the watershed separating the upper and the lower waters of the Fitzroy River and by said watershed and the northern watershed of Marlborough Creek north-north-westerly and north-easterly and by a spur range northerly to Mount Wellington thence by a line north-east to the coast on the right bank of Herbert Creek thence by the coast line round to the mouth of the Fitzroy River and by that river upwards to the point of commencement—inclusive of all islands adjacent thereto but exclusive of the electoral district of Rockhampton.

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF PORT CURTIS.

Commencing on the south side of the Fitzroy River at a point bearing south from the summit of Broad Mount and bounded thence by a line bearing south to the watershed separating the Fitzroy River from Baglan Creek thence by that watershed and the watershed separating the Fitzroy River from the Dee River and Gogango Creek westerly to the Northern Railway thence by the eastern watershed of Gogango Creek north-westerly to a point east of a point on the Fitzroy River ten chains below Windah head station thence west to the Fitzroy River and by that river upwards to the junction of Gogango Creek thence by the western watershed of Gogango Creek south-easterly to Mount Spencer and by a line bearing south-east to the watershed separating the Kroombit Creek from the Dawson River and by that watershed southerly to the watershed separating the Kroombit Creek Boyne River and Baffle Creek from the Burnett and Kolan Rivers easterly to the head of Littabella Creek and by that creek to the sea thence by the sea-coast north-westerly to the mouth of the Fitzroy River and by that river upwards to the point of commencement—inclusive of all islands adjacent thereto.

The PREMIER moved that clause 31 stand part of the schedule, as follows:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF NORMANBY.

Commencing at Cape Palmerston and bounded thence by a line bearing south-west to the eastern watershed of the Isaacs River thence by said watershed north-westerly and by the watershed separating the Isaacs River from the Pioneer River the Bowen River and other tributaries of the Burdekin River westerly and southerly to Peak Range thence by that range westerly to the head of Gowrie Creek thence by the watershed separating Gowrie Creek and Tea-tree Creek southerly to the junction of said creeks thence by Gowrie Creek and Wolfgang Creek downwards to Apsley Creek thence by a line east to a point north of the junction of Douglas Creek with Sandy Creek thence by a line south to said junction and by Sandy Creek downwards to its junction with Theresa Creek thence by Theresa Creek downwards to its junction with the Nogoia River and by the Nogoia Mackenzie and Fitzroy Rivers downwards to the mouth of Gogango Creek thence north-westerly by the watershed separating the upper from the lower waters of the Fitzroy River and by the western and northern watershed of Marlborough Creek northerly and easterly to a spur range thence north-easterly by that spur to Mount Welling-

ton thence by a line north-east to the coast on the left bank of Herbert Creek and thence by the coast line north-westerly to the point of commencement inclusive of all islands adjacent thereto.

Mr. BEOR said he had an amendment to propose which had in view the detaching of a portion of the electorate of Normanby, and adding it to the electorate of Mackay. That was, in fact, a liberal offer on the part of the people of Mackay to share their representation with the people of Nebo, that being the portion of the district it was intended to detach. A few days ago, he presented a petition from the people of Mackay, and signed by the people of Nebo, which stated that the whole of the trade of Nebo was with the people of Mackay; also that the sites of the copper mines were in the Mackay district, and that one mine (Mount Orange) had been entirely formed by the enterprise of the Mackay people. There was an entire community of interest between Mackay and the copper mines which formed the district it was proposed to detach from Normanby and add to Mackay, whilst there was none between the district it was proposed to detach and the rest of the proposed electorate of Normanby. The petition also stated that the people of Nebo and the surrounding district and the people of Mackay were unanimous in their decision that the two electorates should be formed in the way he proposed. The other day he had some slight conversation with the honourable Premier, as also had the honourable member for Normanby, and he understood that the Premier had given the honourable member for Normanby an assurance that there would be no opposition on the part of the Government to the proposed change. However, that evening, just before the clause came on for consideration, the Premier crossed the Chamber and informed the honourable member that it was the intention of the Government to oppose the re-formation of the electorate, and that he (Mr. Beor) had better take a division on the question. Up to very recently, the honourable member for Normanby had been in favour of the alteration; but a kind of terror had been held over him, to the effect, that, if the proposed small portion was detached from the electorate of Normanby, it would in time be swamped altogether. Now, the total number of electors which it was proposed to take away from Normanby by the alteration was at the outside fifty-two, but influence had been brought to bear upon the honourable member, and he (Mr. Beor) was not certain whether he would now support the amendment or not. He would mention that the change would be a boon to the people of Mackay, as it would give them additional strength of representation, and would diminish each man's individual power by sharing it with fifty more electors who were willing to leave Normanby, as there

was no common interest between them and it. In addition to the reasons he had mentioned in favour of the change was this, that the geographical boundaries in the amendment were much more convenient. He begged to move the following amendment:—

Commencing at the sea-coast at Cape Palmerston and bounded thence by a line bearing south-west to a road Sound Range thence by that range and the watershed separating Funnell Creek from the Connor River south-westerly to a point east of the junction of Bee Creek with Funnell Creek thence west to the junction of said creeks thence westerly and north-westerly by the southern watershed of Bee Creek to the road from Clermont to Mackay thence by said road south-westerly to the Peak Range thence by the watershed separating the Isaacs and Pioneer Rivers from the Suttor and Bowen Rivers north-easterly to the head of the Andromache River thence easterly by that river downwards to the junction of the O'Connell River and by the O'Connell River north easterly down to the coast and thence by the coast line south-easterly to Cape Palmerston the point of commencement—inclusive of all islands adjacent thereto.

Mr. BEATTIE asked if this amendment had been printed? He understood the mover to say the amendment was printed and in the hands of honourable members, but the one he had received was certainly not the same as that which had been read.

Mr. BEOR said that this was an alteration rendered necessary by the proposed alteration in the electorate of Mackay. That alteration was printed, showing that it included a portion of Normanby, and it was in consequence of that proposed alteration in the boundary of Mackay that it became necessary to make the amendment in respect to Normanby.

The PREMIER was sorry the honourable member should be so sensitive in regard to his conduct towards him, and should be more careful in his confidences in the future. However, in considering this matter, he confessed that at first he had thought there would have been no objection to the change, but he had since seen reason for believing that to some extent it would be undesirable. Having listened to honourable members who were acquainted with the actual localities, he found that the change would take off a considerable proportion of the Normanby district, already a small one, at any rate considered by the population test. The honourable member for Normanby was satisfied with the district as proposed in the Bill, and having considered the proposal in its bearing upon the Normanby electorate, he (the Premier) thought it better to adhere to the description as proposed by the Bill.

Mr. KINGSFORD understood that the honourable member had his amendment printed and ready to put into their hands. Without that, how were honourable mem-

bers to be expected to be in a position to discuss them?

Mr. IVORY understood the position to be this: That the honourable member for Bowen, when he prepared his printed amendment relating to Normanby, understood that there was to be no opposition whatever to it, and the written amendment submitted was the outcome of the printed schedule which he had caused to be circulated. And it was owing to the action of the Premier, an afterthought, in refusing to accept that amendment that the member for Mackay had been obliged to submit the one in writing.

Mr. PRING thought the honourable member for Mackay explained very clearly the position he was in in moving this amendment, and, in reality, had afforded the committee a reason why he wished to alter the electoral district of Mackay. He showed that in doing so, it was absolutely necessary for him to make an alteration in the electoral district of Normanby, and if the committee decided on that alteration, they might agree to the alteration of Mackay as proposed in the printed papers that had been circulated. The committee was actually discussing if Mackay should pass as in the proposed amended schedule, and for himself he should have been glad if the honourable members representing Mackay and Normanby could have come to some arrangement on the subject. That not being the case, he should vote with the representative of the district on this occasion, for, if that honourable member saw no necessity for any alteration, he (Mr. Pring) saw no reason why he should help another to crib a portion of his constituency.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said one reason against the amendment was that it would interfere with the boundary of the Northern financial division. If carried it would take in a piece of country south of that boundary and join it to the northern constituency. The total population of Normanby was, at present, about 1,600, while that of Mackay was more than double that, and the amendment was to take away part of the smaller constituency and add it to the larger.

Mr. McILWRAITH did not think the first reason, that the change would affect the financial boundary, was any argument at all against the amendment.

Mr. FOX said he had at first been disposed to accept the amendment, believing it would have been to the interest of his constituency; but the Normanby electorate, as the Attorney-General had shown, had been very much reduced, and as it was now within the financial district, those were good grounds for his declining to accept the proposition of the honourable member for Bowen. He must apologise to that honourable member for having to some extent misled him, which he was led

to by the community of interest which he thought subsisted between the Nebo people and those of Mackay. On reflection, he could see where the electorate would suffer by the change, while, if it remained, the interests of Normanby would be those of Mackay, and the one would be interested in working for the other, while the present proposal would tend to injure them rather than add to their influence in the representation. Under the circumstances, he should oppose the alteration, and stick to the geographical boundaries laid down in the schedule.

Mr. BEOR said it was quite clear, from the strong opposition that had been shown towards his amendment, that it would be useless for him to attempt to go to a division upon it. He certainly appreciated the difficulty the committee would be in when his honourable friend the member for Normanby opposed the amendment. He had expected, until very recently, that that honourable gentleman would have supported the amendment; but he did not blame him for seeing reasons which had led him to think he could not rightly support it. He was sure if his honourable friend preferred to accept the additional responsibility of Nebo, it was not for him (Mr. Beor) to object very strongly to his doing so.

Question—That schedule 31 stand schedule 31 of the Bill—put and passed.

Schedule No. 32, as printed, was agreed to as follows:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF CLERMONT.

Commencing at the junction of Douglas Creek with Sandy Creek and bounded thence by a line bearing south to the watershed separating Douglas and Sandy Creeks from Theresa Creek thence by said watershed westerly thence by the watershed separating Sandy Creek from the Belyando and Suttor Rivers northerly to the head of Gowrie Creek thence by the watershed separating Gowrie Creek from Tea-tree Creek southerly to the junction of said creeks thence by Gowrie Creek and Wolfgang Creek downwards to the junction of Apsley Creek thence by a line bearing east to a point bearing north from the junction of Douglas Creek with Sandy Creek thence by a line bearing south to the junction of Douglas Creek the point of commencement.

The PREMIER, in moving schedule No. 33, as printed, "Electoral District of Leichhardt," said he had an amendment to submit consequent upon that which had been carried in the case of Burnett and Taroom. He, therefore, proposed to negative the schedule, as printed, for the purpose of inserting a new one.

The schedule was negated accordingly, and the following new schedule inserted:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF LEICHHARDT.

Commencing at the junction of the Comet and Nogoia Rivers thence up the Nogoia River north-westerly to its junction with Theresa Creek thence by that creek upwards north-westerly to its junction with Sandy Creek thence by that creek upwards north-westerly to

its junction with Douglas Creek thence by a line south to the southern watershed of the last-mentioned creek thence westerly by said watershed to the watershed separating the Belyando River from Sandy Creek thence by the eastern watershed of the Belyando River southerly to the Great Dividing Range thence by the Great Dividing Range south-easterly to the watershed separating the Dawson River from the Burnett River thence northerly by said watershed to the watershed separating Kroombit Creek from the Burnett River thence by the watershed separating Kroombit Creek from the Dawson River and by a line north-west to Mount Spencer thence by the western watershed of Gogango Creek northerly to the Mackenzie River and thence by the Mackenzie River upwards to the point of commencement.

On the motion of the PREMIER, schedule No. 34, as printed, was negated, and the following substituted:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF MITCHELL.

Commencing at the junction of the Thomson and Barcoo Rivers and bounded thence by the western boundaries of Alliance and Alliance South Runs bearing south thence east by the southern boundaries of Alliance South Forresters' Retreat South and Raglan Runs to the Cheviot Range thence by that range and the southern watershed of the Barcoo River south-easterly and north-easterly to the Great Dividing Range thence by the Great Dividing Range northerly to the eastern watershed of the Belyando River thence by that watershed northerly to the twenty-second parallel of south latitude thence by that parallel west to the Great Dividing Range thence by the Great Dividing Range northerly to the northern watershed of the Thomson River thence by the northern and western watershed of that river westerly and southerly to the junction of the Thomson and Barcoo rivers the point of commencement.

The following new schedule was then inserted on motion of the PREMIER:—

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF GREGORY.

Commencing at the junction of the Thomson and Barcoo Rivers and bounded thence by the west boundaries of Alliance and Alliance South Runs bearing south thence west by the southern boundaries of Alliance South Forrester's Retreat South and Raglan Runs to the Cheviot Range thence by that range south-easterly to the twenty-sixth parallel of south latitude thence west by said parallel to the one hundred and thirty-eighth meridian of east longitude thence by said meridian true north to the twenty-first parallel of south latitude thence east by said parallel to the southern watershed of the Flinders River thence by said watershed easterly to the western watershed of the Thomson River thence by said watershed southerly to the junction of the Thompson with the Barcoo River the point of commencement.

The remaining schedules of the Bill as printed were agreed to without discussion, as follows:—

No. 35.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF MACKAY.

Commencing on the sea-coast at Cape Palmerston and bounded thence by a line bearing south-west to the eastern watershed

of the Isaacs River then by the eastern and northern watersheds of that river north-westerly to the eastern watershed of the Bowen River then by that watershed north-westerly to the head of Andromache River then easterly by that river downwards to its junction with the O'Connell River and by the O'Connell River north-easterly downwards to the coast and thence by the coast line south-easterly to Cape Palmerston the point of commencement—inclusive of all islands adjacent thereto.

No. 36.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF BOWEN.

Commencing on the sea-coast at the mouth of the O'Connell River and bounded thence south-westerly by that river upwards to its junction with the Andromache River thence easterly by the Andromache River upwards to its head in the range forming the eastern watershed of the Bowen River then by that watershed south-easterly to the watershed separating the Isaacs River from the Bowen River and other tributaries of the Burdekin River thence by that watershed westerly and southerly to Peak Range then by that range westerly to the northern watershed of Gowrie Creek thence by the northern watershed of Gowrie Creek westerly to the eastern watershed of the Belyando River then by the eastern watershed of that river northerly to the 22nd parallel of south latitude then by that parallel west to the Great Dividing Range thence by that range and the range separating the Cape River from the Flinders River north-westerly to the watershed between the Burdekin and Cape Rivers thence by that watershed to the junction of the Suttor River with the Burdekin River thence by the Burdekin River downwards to the sea coast and thence by the sea-coast south-easterly to the mouth of the O'Connell River the point of commencement—inclusive of all islands adjacent thereto.

No. 37.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF TOWNSVILLE.

Commencing at the mouth of the Burdekin River and bounded thence by that river upwards to its junction with the Bogie River thence by a line bearing west to the watershed between the upper and lower waters of the Burdekin River thence by the watershed separating the Upper Burdekin waters from those flowing direct to the coast north-westerly to the watershed separating the Herbert River from the Lynd and Mitchell Rivers thence by that watershed and a line bearing north-east to Cape Grafton thence by the coast line south-easterly to the mouth of the Burdekin River the point of commencement—inclusive of all islands adjacent thereto.

No. 38.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF KENNEDY.

Commencing at the junction of the Bogie River with the Burdekin River and bounded thence by a line bearing west to the watershed separating the Upper and Lower waters of the Burdekin River thence north-westerly by the watershed separating the Upper Burdekin River from the waters falling direct to the sea to the Great Dividing Range thence southerly by that range to the watershed between the Cape and Burdekin Rivers thence easterly by that water-

shed to the junction of the Suttor River with the Burdekin River and thence by the Burdekin River downwards to the point of commencement.

No. 39.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF BURKE.

Commencing on the sea-coast of the Gulf of Carpentaria and bounded thence by the 138th meridian of east longitude bearing true south to the 21st parallel of south latitude thence by said parallel of latitude east to the southern watershed of the Flinders River and by said watershed easterly to the Great Dividing Range thence by that range northerly to the watershed separating the Lynd River from the Einasleigh River thence by said watershed north-westerly to the 17th parallel of south latitude thence by that parallel of latitude west to the sea-coast at the Gulf of Carpentaria thence by the sea-coast westerly to the point of commencement—inclusive of all islands adjacent thereto.

No. 40.—ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF COOK.

Commencing on the sea-coast at Cape Grafton and bounded thence by a line bearing south-west to the watershed separating the Herbert River from the head waters of the Mitchell and Lynd Rivers thence south-westerly by that watershed to the watershed separating the waters falling into the Lynd River from those falling into the Einasleigh River thence by that watershed north-westerly to the 17th parallel of south latitude thence by that parallel west to the sea-coast at the Gulf of Carpentaria thence northerly by the shore of the Gulf to the 14th parallel of south latitude thence by that parallel east to the coast on the eastern seaboard and thence by the sea-coast south-easterly to Cape Grafton the point of commencement—inclusive of all islands adjacent thereto.

On the motion of the PREMIER, the CHAIRMAN then left the chair, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again to-morrow.

Mr. WALSH suggested to the Premier the desirability of having small maps, showing the boundaries of the electorates according to the schedules agreed to, circulated amongst honourable members before the Bill was recommitted. Such maps would not only be of great convenience to honourable members, but would also furnish information to the public, which they could not otherwise obtain, not having access to the maps in the chamber.

The PREMIER replied that, as it might now be presumed that the electorates had been decided upon, he should endeavour to have a map prepared in accordance with the wishes of the honourable gentleman; but he could not promise that it should be publicly exhibited. Probably, after the Bill was passed, as he hoped it would be, it might be desirable to circulate a lithographed map showing the electorates; but that would be a matter for after consideration.

The House adjourned at sixteen minutes after 10 o'clock.