

about teaching the farmer how to farm practically and thereby decrease his cost of production, it would do him more good. At the present time, the guaranteeing of even 4s. to the farmer would merely mean that the Chamber of Commerce, which Mr. Duffell represents, would get the 4s. out of the farmer before it had a chance of going far. No wonder the Chamber of Commerce approve of the proposal. I can see how it comes about that the motion meets with such general support. I hope no one will suffer as the result of the passing of this motion; but, if anyone suffers, it will be the general taxpayer; and, so far as I see, the consumer will derive no advantage at all from this proposal. I hope the farmer will remember that on this occasion, as well as on many others, he has been given a pretty fair deal, and that the general community cannot always be expected to stand by silently giving benefits—we call them benefits, and the farmer calls them acts of simple justice—and listening to the continual railing of the farmer against the general public. I hope that in future there will not be this continual wailing about the treatment of the farmer. While I have been in this House, there has been very little legislation except such as was in the interests of the farmer; and I am beginning to think some of my constituents will want to know whether I have joined the Country party. I want the farmers' representatives to bear in mind who are the people standing behind the guarantee; and I want the farmers' representatives to give those people some credit for their action.

Question put and passed.

*House adjourned at 6.16 p.m.*

## Legislative Assembly,

*Tuesday, 6th February, 1917.*

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The SPEAKER took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

### ADJOURNMENT—DISSOLUTION ASKED FOR.

The PREMIER (Hon. Frank Wilson—Sussex) [4.31]: Mr. Speaker, in view of the adverse vote given against the Government on Thursday evening last, I have considered the position, and waited upon His Excellency the Governor this morning, upon his return from Albany, and made the request that he would be good enough to grant a dissolution of the Assembly. His Excellency is considering my request, and I hope to have a reply in due course. In the meantime, I am of the opinion that we should not proceed with the business of the House, and therefore, move—

*That the House do now adjourn.*

Question passed.

*House adjourned at 4.33 p.m.*

## Legislative Council,

*Wednesday, 7th February, 1917.*

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The PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

### PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the Colonial Secretary: 1, Health Act; Boulder Municipal Council, amended