

Legislative Assembly,

Tuesday, 1st March, 1892.

Electric Lighting Bill: third reading—Estimates, 1892: consideration of report of Committee, and motion to recommit—Augmentation of Ministerial salaries: consideration of Message, and first reading of Bill—South-Western Railway Act, 1891, Amendment Bill—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the chair at 2:30 p.m.

PRAYERS.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL.

Read a third time, and transmitted to the Legislative Council.

ESTIMATES, 1892: RECOMMITTED.

THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES reported that the Committee of Supply had considered the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 1892, as transmitted by His Excellency's Message recommending an appropriation for the same, and had passed resolutions granting further supplies amounting to £391,299 4s. 5d.

The report was adopted.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) moved that the Estimates be recommit- ted, for the purpose of adding certain items, amounting in the aggregate to the sum of £2,649 19s.

MR. R. F. SHOLL suggested that the recommitment be postponed in order to enable members to have an opportunity of examining the proposed additions, which, he said, had only just been laid before them. He thought it was—he would not say improper—but not fair to members that immediately these additional Estimates were laid before them they should be asked to proceed with them. There were several items which he really thought required some consideration. There was the first item, for instance, "Resident Medical Officer, Bridgetown, £100"; he did not see why members should be asked to agree to this item without some information to show that the appointment was necessary. There were several other items which he should like some information about. He noticed an item, "Bonus for jam-making, £200." Surely members ought to have an opportunity of considering whether it was necessary or

desirable to offer a bonus for jam-making. He believed the bonus given for fruit preserving had been absolutely thrown away.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest): Oh, no, no!

MR. R. F. SHOLL said he believed it was absolutely thrown away; simply waste of money. He did not believe that the benefit obtained was what it was anticipated it would be. He moved that the recommitment of the Estimates be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) said he would be very glad to meet the hon. member's wish. There was no desire on the part of the Government to press the matter in any way.

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. W. E. Marmion) hoped that the hon. member for the Gascoyne, between this and to-morrow, would be able to study the whole question of jam-making, and make up his mind as to whether it was desirable to offer this bonus.

Question—put and passed; and the recommitment of the Estimates postponed until the following day.

AUGMENTATION OF MINISTERIAL SALARIES BILL.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) moved (pursuant to His Excellency's message), That it is expedient that an appropriation be made out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the purposes of a bill to make provision for the augmentation of Ministerial salaries.

Question—put and passed.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) introduced and moved the first reading of a bill to apply, out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, the annual sum of £1,000 in augmentation of Ministerial salaries.

Motion—put and passed.

Bill read a first time.

SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY ACT, 1891, AMENDMENT BILL.

Read a first time.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 2:50 o'clock p.m.