

vants jeopardises the safety of public affairs, more especially in monetary matters. In my part of the country it has happened not once or twice, but several times, that money passing through the post-office has gone astray; and this occurs I know not only in my district, but in other parts of the colony. To use the argument of the right hon. gentleman (the Premier), although the country is not expected to pay for honesty among civil servants, still we know that the greater the necessity, the greater the temptation. For the safety of public affairs, and also for the sake of ordinary fairness, I do hope this Bill will at least so regulate salaries of civil servants as to give them something more than an ordinary living wage. I can assure the House that I am not exaggerating when I say that on the northern goldfields, and those that are the more remote, where the cost of living is very considerable, public servants are getting a smaller salary than is paid to an ordinary working miner on those fields, and these public servants work longer hours. I hope that, among other great reforms following the introduction of this Bill, we shall see our civil servants paid a proper and adequate salary.

MR. LEAKE: I move that the debate be adjourned.

Motion put and passed, and the debate adjourned to the next sitting.

ADJOURNMENT.

THE PREMIER said there was not much business on the Notice Paper, and he moved that the House do now adjourn.

The House adjourned at seven minutes to six o'clock, p.m., until the next Tuesday afternoon.

Legislative Council.

Tuesday, 22nd August, 1899.

Paper presented—Weights and Measures Bill, third reading—Business postponed—Dividend Duty Bill, first reading—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT took the chair at 4.30 o'clock, p.m.

PRAYERS.

PAPER PRESENTED.

By the COLONIAL SECRETARY: By-laws, Municipality of North Fremantle.

Ordered to lie on the table.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL.

Read a third time, on motion by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, and *passed*.

BUSINESS POSTPONED.

On the Order of the Day for second reading of the Customs Consolidation Amendment Bill.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Randell) said: So few members being present this afternoon, it would be inadvisable on my part to go on with any further business, and it would be unfair to the members who are away. Two or three Bills are of a non-controversial character, yet in my opinion it is better that we should not take second readings this afternoon, though I would personally prefer doing so. I therefore move that the House, at its rising, do adjourn until Tuesday next.

Question put and passed.

DIVIDEND DUTY BILL.

Received from the Legislative Assembly, and, on motion by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, read a first time.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 5.25 until the next Tuesday.