

MR. CLARKSON said the country members had been taken somewhat by surprise by the motion that had been carried to sit on Friday; and as they had this week made other engagements, he would asked the Premier to move the adjournment of the House till Monday.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) said the notice of Friday's sitting had been rather short, and he would consent to adjourn till Monday.

On the motion of the PREMIER, the House adjourned at 12 minutes past 11 o'clock, p.m., till the next Monday.

Legislative Assembly,

Monday, 12th October, 1896.

Want of a Quorum—Adjournment.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at 4:30 o'clock, p.m.

PRAYERS.

WANT OF A QUORUM: ADJOURNMENT.

At the expiration of fifteen minutes from the time appointed for the meeting of the House, there not being a quorum present, the SPEAKER declared the House adjourned until the next sitting day.

Legislative Council,

Tuesday, 13th October, 1896.

Criminal Evidence Bill: third reading—Mines Regulation Act, 1895, Amendment Bill: third reading—Bastardy Laws Act Amendment Bill: third reading—Australasian Federation Enabling Bill: second reading; committee—"Hansard" Reporting Arrangements: Legislative Assembly's Message—Loans Consolidation Bill: first reading—Waterworks Bill: second reading; committee—Loan Bill (£3,500,000), 1896: second reading; committee—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton) took the chair at 4:30 o'clock, p.m.

CRIMINAL EVIDENCE BILL.

THIRD READING.

This Bill was read a third time, and *passed*.

MINES REGULATION ACT, 1895, AMENDMENT BILL.

THIRD READING.

This Bill was read a third time, and *passed*.

BASTARDY LAWS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

THIRD READING.

This Bill was read a third time, and *passed*.

AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION ENABLING BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE MINISTER FOR MINES (Hon. E. H. Wittenoom): Hon. members will be aware that it is intended by the various colonies of Australasia to endeavour to frame a federal constitution. With that object in view Bills have been submitted to the various Parliaments for the purpose of arriving at some method of carrying out the desired end. It has been considered advisable that our colony should select some ten members to represent it at the Convention which is to be held. This Bill provides for the selection of these ten members, who shall, it is provided, proceed to the other colonies at a time to be fixed upon, and there meet the other delegates who have been appointed and discuss the question of federation, and endeavour to agree to a system which will be mutually satisfactory. With regard to the election of