

The Hon. J. MACINTOSH: I think the matter ought to be adjourned for a week in the hope that the session will be over before it can be dealt with. We have no information in regard to this project before us. Every word uttered by the professional men on the subject is doubtful. There is no reason for hurry in dealing with this measure. I will undertake to say that the harbour at Port Kembla is safer in its present condition than the harbour at Newcastle.

The PRESIDENT: The hon. member must confine himself to the question whether the debate shall be adjourned.

The Hon. J. MACINTOSH: I was showing that there was no reason for any hurry in regard to the bill. I hope that the consideration of the measure will be postponed until we get more information, and have before us some plans of the proposed works.

The Hon. D. O'CONNOR: As a member of the Public Works Committee who recommended this work, I am here to support any adjournment which may be required. The bill is to provide for a great national work. It is all very well for hon. and learned members, in their high consequentiality, to speak about what they do not know very much of. I can understand the kindly anxiety to understand this question expressed by the hon. and learned member, Sir Julian Salomons. This is a good thing.

The Hon. J. MACINTOSH: It is a good job!

The Hon. D. O'CONNOR: I will undertake to say that the hon. member has never been identified with a job in his life.

The Hon. J. H. WANT: The hon. member will, perhaps, pardon me. I understand it is the wish of the hon. member, Mr. Macintosh, that this bill should stand over until to-morrow. If that is so, I am quite willing.

The Hon. D. O'CONNOR: I would like to say that in my judgment there is no man who stands higher than the Hon. John Macintosh. I am willing that the consideration of this bill should be postponed till to-morrow evening, and I think it will stand every analysis that this Chamber can give it.

The Hon. G. DAY: I only want to say one word on this matter. There is not

the slightest doubt that it is necessary to adjourn the consideration of this great question until we have heard more about it. We are not in possession of all the facts concerning it. We ought to have full particulars before us when we have to debate and give our opinion upon this question. I am thankful that the Attorney-General is willing to have the matter adjourned till to-morrow, so that we shall have a fair opportunity of discussing the bill from beginning to end.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

#### SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.

The Hon. J. H. WANT: I propose to ask hon. members to consent to my moving this motion:

That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would preclude the passing through all its stages in one day of a bill intituled "A bill to extend the time of polling at parliamentary elections."

This bill is only for the purpose of allowing the time to be extended in winter to the hours of polling in summer. It is found that the present practice deprives many of the electors of their votes. It can do no harm to pass such a bill, and I do not see any difference between summer and winter. If this motion is passed hon. members still reserve to themselves the right to vote against the bill if they choose. As our time is very short now, I am asking for the suspension of the standing orders to enable me to carry the bill through all its stages if hon. members see fit to accept it.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

House adjourned at 8.58 p.m.

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### Legislative Assembly.

*Tuesday, 5 July, 1898.*

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Absence of Mr. Speaker and the Chairman of Committees.

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The Clerk informed the House of the unavoidable absence, through illness, of Mr. Speaker, and, in the absence of the Chairman of Committees, adjourned the House until the following day.