

*The Council meets at 2.30 p.m.*

**ORDER PAPER.**

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**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

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Wednesday, the 19th day of August, 1885.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

1. The Honourable Mr. PEACOCK to move, That it is expedient that a poll of the policyholders in the New Zealand Government Insurance Association should be taken, to determine the question whether the Central Board of Directors should be abolished.
2. The Honourable Mr. WILLIAMS to move, That the Report of the Native Affairs Committee on the Petition of Hori Herehere and others be referred to the Government for their favourable consideration.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

1. Presbyterian Church Property Bill—to be further considered in Committee. (Hon. Mr. Menzies.)
2. Christchurch Market Reserve Bill—to be committed. (Hon. Mr. Reeves.)
3. Financial Arrangements Act 1876 Amendment Bill—to be committed. (Hon. Mr. G. R. Johnson.)
4. Distress Bill—third reading. Adjourned debate. (Hon. Mr. Shephard.)
5. Otago Harbour Board Leasing Bill—to be recommitted. (Hon. Mr. McLean.)
6. Dunedin Drill-shed Act 1876 Amendment Act 1884 Amendment Bill—second reading. Adjourned debate. (Hon. Dr. Pollen.)

*Contingent Notice of Motion.*

The Honourable Mr. WILSON to move, That the Order be discharged, and that the Bill be referred to the Joint Committee on Bills.

7. Fire and Marine Insurance Companies Bill—third reading. (Hon. Colonial Secretary.)
8. Resident Magistrates Courts Proceedings Validation Bill—to be committed. (Hon. Colonial Secretary.)
9. Administration Act 1879 Amendment Bill—consideration of reasons assigned by the House of Representatives for disagreeing to one of the amendments of the Legislative Council:—

REASONS for disagreeing with the Amendments made in this Bill by the Council, so far as regards the giving of the entire property of a husband dying without issue to his widow, and the entire property of a wife dying without children to her husband.

1. THAT there is no good reason for altering the law as it now stands, and has stood for centuries, so far as regards the portion that a widow obtains of her husband's property, in the event of his dying without leaving issue.

2. That the tendency of modern legislation in England, as well as in New Zealand (see "The Destitute Persons Act, 1877"), is to cast the burden of maintaining parents upon children and other relatives.

3. That the amendment proposed may cast upon the State a burden that should be borne by the property of the deceased, such as in the case of a child dying leaving his father unprovided for and infirm.

4. That no doubt in small estates there may arise cases in which the widow would not obtain sufficient means for her maintenance if only one-half of her husband's property were granted to her; but the amendment is too sweeping, and applies to all cases, whether the property left be large or small.

5. That allowing the husband to succeed to all property of his deceased wife may work an injustice to her relatives and to the State, as she is subject to the same obligation to support her parents, if alive and destitute, as her husband is.

ROBERT STOUT.

JOHN HOLMES.

W. DOWNIE STEWART.