

## Divorce Bills

to private bills, I have no objection to taking them in any order, but we should take them all.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I take it we have to revert to private bills.

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

## PRIVATE BILLS

JOYCE EVELYN RANGER

**Mr. L. T. Pennell (for Mr. Wahn)** moved the second reading of Bill SD-357, for the relief of Joyce Evelyn Ranger.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time, and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Lamoureux in the chair.

On clause 1—*Marriage dissolved*.

**Mr. Peters:** Mr. Chairman, we are very happy that the agreement of the house has been such that this problem, that we set out a number of years ago to resolve, has finally reached a very satisfactory state, and the government is to be congratulated on the effort it has made to assist in the solving of it.

Over the years the hon. member for Skeena and I have been accused of using the means to justify the end, and to some extent all the people mentioned in these bills which we are now passing are part of that means. On behalf of the hon. member for Skeena and myself, and the other hon. members of the house, I think we should express our sympathy with them in being involved. They have made a contribution to the social change of Canada, and we appreciate the fact that the Secretary of State and several other ministers have been able to arrive at this conclusion, which will be a very happy Christmas for many.

The Secretary of State will be pleased to know I have received a telephone call from Newfoundland, where the weather has been very bad today, but I can tell him that one of his constituents will be a very happy man this evening with the Christmas present given in this legislation.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** I just want to say a word that is as equally out of order, but I wish to mention I have appreciated very much to help that the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre has given in reaching, I think, this very desirable goal which I hope is the end of a problem that all of us have been worried about for quite a long time.

**Mr. Douglas:** I only rise to say I think this is an important and red letter day in the history of the Canadian parliament. For years many of us have protested at having to deal with divorce bills in parliament, and all sorts

of suggestions were made as to what should be done, but we were never able to produce a satisfactory solution that would be acceptable to all concerned. Those who have been mentioned are to be congratulated, and I would particularly like to express my appreciation, and I believe the appreciation of the house, to the hon. member for Timiskaming and the hon. member for Skeena who, through long years, have kept this problem before parliament and before the country, and sometimes brought down on themselves a good deal of abuse. But they clung tenaciously to the principle they had in mind, with the result that parliament has now rid itself of this practice and has evolved a much more satisfactory manner of handling divorce for the provinces of Quebec and Newfoundland.

Clause 1 agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Bill reported and read the third time and passed.

SECOND READINGS—CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE—  
THIRD READINGS

Bill SD-358, for the relief of Mabel Lucille Mills.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-359, for the relief of Gordon Gibb.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-360, for the relief of Betty Jane Sockett.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-361, for the relief of Albert Wilfrid Tremblay.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-362, for the relief of Lily Worthington.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-363, for the relief of Leomay Marie Blanche Stratton.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-364, for the relief of Lorna Scherzer.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-365, for the relief of Elizabeth Shaw Fisher Reid.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-366, for the relief of Marie Gertrude Helene Flamme.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-367, for the relief of Gerda-Sascha Rozwadowski.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-368, for the relief of Stella Leblanc.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-369, for the relief of Cynthia Elsie Scott.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-370, for the relief of Demetre Almyriotis.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-371, for the relief of Agnes Irene Seaman.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-372, for the relief of John Harman.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-373, for the relief of Marion Ruth Catherine Slattery.—Mr. Wahn.

Bill SD-374, for the relief of Bruce Reid Campbell.—Mr. Wahn.