

been a marked success. Professional jurists hear the evidence respecting each petition and report thereon with recommendations, and the Senate by passing a resolution enacts the dissolution or annulment or rejection of the petition as it sees fit, on Report of the Standing Committee on Divorce.

The number of divorces granted since Confederation have grown with the passing years. Dr. Ollivier told your Committee that in the first twelve years following Confederation Parliament when acting for both Ontario and Quebec enacted eight divorces. In the year 1966, the Senate passed over one thousand divorce resolutions.

A consideration of this procedure may not be within your Committee's terms of reference, but, in any event, the system created by the Act of 1963 is working satisfactorily; your Committee has not examined it critically and makes no recommendations at this time with respect to it. Should a considerable increase in the number of divorce petitions result from the additional grounds which the Committee is recommending, the problem can be readily solved by an increase in staff.

Your Committee is of opinion that the changes in the substantive law of divorce which it is recommending should be of Canada-wide application. The purpose of the changes proposed is to give relief as required to Canadian citizens and to improve the administration of justice to the benefit of the individual. The recommendations are not regional in character and Parliament's relevant jurisdiction and responsibility is to the nation as a whole.

RECOMMENDATION

Your Committee recommends that the Dissolution and Annulment of Marriages Act be amended as required to make the provisions of the prospective Canadian Divorce Act herein recommended applicable to divorce by Senate Resolution as well as to divorce by decree of the Courts.

APPEALS IN PARLIAMENTARY DIVORCE

In one particular the Dissolution and Annulment of Marriages Act has Standing Committee on Divorce and almost always in accordance with a recomproven in practice to be unsatisfactory. This is as respects so-called appeals against a resolution of the Senate passed on the authority of a report by the mendation by the Senate Commissioner. The resolution does not take effect so as to dissolve the marriage and thus permit the parties to remarry until thirty days after its passage, and during these thirty days, an aggrieved party may file a petition for a private bill, the effect of which is to stay the operation of the Senate resolution until the bill has been disposed of.

Only one such petition has been filed since the Act was passed in 1963, so that the procedure of appeal has not been accepted as satisfactory by those affected, and it has proved to be unsatisfactory in practice.

The period of delay after the passing of the resolution until the thirty days have elapsed or the bill is disposed of is undesirable, and the consideration of the Bill by a Senate Committee presents problems. If the bill is considered by the Standing Committee on Divorce, objection is taken that the so-called appeal is to