

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: And what is the different way?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: By order in council.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the second time?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: Thursday next.

CANADA SHIPPING BILL

FIRST READING

Hon. W. M. Aseltine presented Bill S-3, to amend the Canada Shipping Act.

Bill read first time.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: Honourable senators, this bill is much more complicated than the one I have just presented and explained, in that it consists of a large number of varied technical amendments of the type which are made periodically to bring this large act up to date and to improve its operation. This act, by the way, was introduced in the Senate quite a number of years ago, and passed through this house first.

Perhaps one of the main matters which is included in this bill is the amendment in respect of marine pilotage on the Great Lakes and in general.

A more detailed explanation of the varied and technical amendments will be given on second reading, and it will be possible for honourable senators to obtain any technical information they desire in committee, from expert witnesses.

That is all the explanation I am prepared to give at the present moment.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the second time?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: Thursday next.

DIVORCE

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF SELECTION ADOPTED

Hon. George S. White presented the first report of the Committee of Selection.

The report was read by the Clerk Assistant as follows:

The Committee of Selection appointed to nominate senators to serve on the several standing committees for the present session make their first report, as follows:

Your committee have the honour to submit herewith the list of senators selected by them to serve on the Standing Committee on Divorce, namely:

The Honourable Senators *Aseltine, Baird, Barbour, Burchill, Cameron, Croll, Emerson, Euler, Farquhar, Farris, Fergusson, Gershaw, Golding, Haig, Hodges, Horner, Howard, Howden, Isnor, Kinley, *Macdonald, Roebuck, Smith (Queens-Shelburne), Taylor (Westmorland) and Thorvaldson. (23) *Ex officio members.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable Senators, when shall this report be taken into consideration?

Hon. Mr. White: With leave I move that the report be adopted now.

Hon. Jean-François Pouliot: Honourable senators, before this report goes through, I have just a remark to make about the selection of senators for the membership of their committees. I do not disagree with the selection for the Divorce Committee, but I think that it is unfair to members of the Senate who attend as regularly as they can at the sittings of the Senate to have placed on the membership of committees the names of senators who come here just for the opening and prorogation. There are two kinds of senators, those who attend the sittings of the Senate regularly and those who come very seldom. The fact that we have on the membership of committees—for there are large committees of 50 members, and others of 25—the names of senators who do not attend regularly, or as regularly as most of us do, at the sittings of the Senate, precludes other senators who would like to be members of such committee from helping when they can. I make that suggestion so as not to embarrass those senators who do not come often, perhaps for very good reasons, and are at home instead of being here when the Senate is sitting. If their names are on a committee and they receive a notice when they are at home, they will think "The committee is sitting today, and I am very sorry that I am not attending the meeting, where I should be, as I have allowed my name to be put on the membership list." It seems to me, honourable senators, that you would render a signal service to those very members and you would relieve their conscience by not putting their names on the membership of any such committee, and this would give a chance to other members to belong to those committees.

I see the names of senators who come here for the opening and prorogation on five, six or seven committees, while other members who come here regularly are named to serve on two or three. I am not going to insist about it—I leave it to your spirit of fairness.

Some of you may say that the personal opinion that I have expressed lacks delicacy and sweet manner but we are here to speak to each other as men, and the time seems to have arrived for that when members who make sacrifices to be here are left aside while others who stay at home, and perhaps for very good reason, take the place of those who come here. That is all I have to say.

Motion agreed to.