

in the House. The decision is not yet final. I have no objection for the second reading to take place on January 24, even if no final decision has been made concerning the date of our return.

[*English*]

Hon. Duff Roblin (Acting Leader of the Opposition): Honourable senators, would it not be advisable to have the resolution framed in those terms so that it could be called whenever it was appropriate in terms of our own plans? If the date is fixed as January 16 and the Senate does not sit on that day, then what becomes of the order of the Senate?

Senator Frith: Honourable senators, I have received an opinion I asked for, for the reasons stated by Senators Asselin and Roblin. If the Senate does not sit on the sixteenth, I am advised that the result will be that this resolution will appear on the Orders of the Day on whatever date we do return. I have no difficulty with January 23 or 24, if Senator Leblanc wishes to change the date.

I wish to make it clear that this does not mean we are now settling that we will return on January 23 or 24. It is up to Senator Leblanc, if he wishes, to change the date.

[*Translation*]

Senator Leblanc: Honourable senators, if you want me to change the proposed date for second reading, I have no objection. Furthermore, as Senator Frith said, both parties have not yet agreed on a date. Now, January 16 will not necessarily become the official date. We simply chose that date because the House of Commons will return on January 16.

Senator Frith: Honourable senators, whatever date is chosen, chances are that we will sit on the 24th.

Senator Asselin: The opposition closes the session, as the saying goes, the government reopens it. The honourable senator should know the date of our return.

Senator Frith: We only want to set the date for the second reading of the bill.

Senator Leblanc: Under the circumstances, I move that the bill be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading on January 24, 1984.

The Hon. the Speaker: Is it agreed, honourable senators?

Some Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

MARRIAGE LAW EXEMPTION (LOUIS-PHILIPPE NADEAU AND THÉRÈSE RITA BRULÉ)—FIRST READING

Hon. Fernand-E. Leblanc presented Bill S-3, to provide an exception from the public general law relating to marriage in the case of Louis-Philippe Nadeau and Thérèse Rita Brulé.

Bill read first time.

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

Senator Leblanc: Honourable senators, I move that the bill be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading on Monday, January 16, 1984.

Hon. Martial Asselin: Mr. Speaker, I make the same remarks as for the previous bill.

Hon. Royce Frith (Acting Leader of the Government): Now, it is January 24.

Senator Asselin: It seems to me that Senator Leblanc said January 16.

Senator Leblanc: I did say January 16, but if you insist on January 24, I have no objection whatsoever. As to the other two bills I will introduce in a few minutes, I can move that they too be placed on the Orders of the Day for January 24.

Senator Asselin: Agreed.

Senator Frith: Agreed.

Senator Leblanc: Under the circumstances, I move that this bill be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading on Tuesday, January 24, 1984.

The Hon. the Speaker: Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to adopt the motion?

● (1410)

[*English*]

Senator Frith: Honourable senators, we have agreed that we shall postpone second reading on all four of these bills until January 24 next.

Motion agreed to.

[*Translation*]

MARRIAGE LAW EXEMPTION (ERNEST HODEL AND NORMA DORA LAURIE)—FIRST READING

Hon. Fernand-E. Leblanc presented Bill S-4, to provide an exception from the public general law relating to marriage in the case of Ernest Hodel and Norma Dora Laurie.

Bill read the first time.

Senator Leblanc moved that the bill be placed on the Orders of the Day for second reading on Tuesday, January 24, 1984.

Motion agreed to.

MARRIAGE LAW EXEMPTION (BENJAMIN JOSHEPH ANDRADE AND HEATHER WINNIFRED ANDRADE)—FIRST READING

Hon. Fernand-E. Leblanc presented Bill S-5, to provide an exception from the public general law relating to marriage in the case of Benjamin Josheph Andrade and Heather Winnifred Andrade.

Bill read the first time.

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

Hon. Martial Asselin: Honourable senators, I think the sponsor of the bill ought to give us an explanation on the nature of those bills. For instance, is this a case of an uncle wanting to marry his niece?