

summoned, and being come with their Speaker, the Right Honourable the Deputy of the Governor General was pleased to give the Royal Assent to the following Bill:

An Act for granting to His Majesty a certain sum of money for the public service of the financial year ending the 31st March, 1927.

The House of Commons withdrew.

The Right Honourable the Deputy of the Governor General was pleased to retire.

The sitting was resumed.

DIVORCE COMMITTEE BUSINESS

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY moved concurrence in the 41st Report of the Standing Committee on Divorce.

He said: Honourable gentlemen, this is a new departure in the method of procedure of the Divorce Committee. At present we have no provision for any presiding officer other than a Chairman. From intimations given by the Clerk who has to do with divorce proceedings it is apparent that the number of applications this year will be at least equal to that of last year, when we had 185, and it is possible that this year the number may reach 200.

It is felt desirable to appoint a Deputy Chairman, and, in dealing with uncontested cases, to have two Committees sit concurrently. The election of a Deputy Chairman would perhaps relieve the members of the Committee, who give so freely and generously of their time, and perhaps also relieve the Chairman.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: Do I understand that the honourable gentleman wants to have this report adopted now, or to let it take the ordinary course?

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY: Unless there be objection, I ask that it be adopted to-day, by unanimous consent, so that we may be ready to function when the House meets again.

The motion was agreed to.

DIVORCE PETITIONS

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Hon. Mr. WILLOUGHBY moved concurrence in the reports of the Standing Committee on Divorce, numbered 2 to 38.

He said: These reports deal simply with cases heard by the Committee last Session. A number of them were passed by Parliament and ready for the assent of the Governor General. The others only reached the Committee stage in the other House. In all these instances it has been necessary to petition

again, under the practice adopted by the officials of the House in that connection. In each of these cases a new petition has been presented, and under the authority given by the resolution of this House the other day we again report the evidence as it was before.

I intend to introduce a Bill in the case of each of these petitions dealt with in the reports, and later I will ask that the Senate waive the rule and pass the Bills to-day.

I might add, as Chairman of the Committee, that in my opinion the Committee ought to meet as early as the date of re-assembling of the Commons, that is, the 8th of February, so that by the time the Senate meets again we may have a number of reports in; otherwise the Order Paper would be cluttered up with the very large number of petitions we have already, as well as the additional ones that will have been presented by that time.

The motion was agreed to.

DIVORCE BILLS

FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS

Bill B, an Act for the relief of Alice Victoria McGibbon.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill C, an Act for the relief of John Jones.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill D, an Act for the relief of Samuel Paveling.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill E, an Act for the relief of Benjamin Rapp.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill F, an Act for the relief of Bernard Thomas Graham.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill G, an Act for the relief of Robert Edward Greig.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill H, an Act for the relief of Daisie Hawkey.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill I, an Act for the relief of Olive Mary Mead.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill J, an Act for the relief of Alice Elizabeth Blakely.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill K, an Act for the relief of Ethel Maud Hargraft.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill L, an Act for the relief of Frederic Vinet.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill M, an Act for the relief of Gwendolen McLachlin.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill N, an Act for the relief of Jessie Evis.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill O, an Act for the relief of Max Gertler.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill P, an Act for the relief of Florence May Hicks.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.

Bill Q, an Act for the relief of Ruth May Harrington.—Hon. Mr. Willoughby.