

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** This bill satisfies the representatives who would speak on behalf of the Indians, does it?

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** Every one who is entitled to be on the register is now on.

**Hon. Mr. Golding:** May I ask the honourable senator a question? Was the legislation that he is now seeking to amend brought into effect as the result of an inquiry made by a committee which spent a lot of time inquiring into the Indian situation some years ago?

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** I do not think so. These amendments were brought in as the result of the court proceedings which took place on appeal by the 100 persons who said they were entitled to be on the list but were left off.

**Hon. Mr. Golding:** It will be recalled that that committee sat and carried on its investigation over a lengthy period. It made certain recommendations that are now being changed.

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** I do not think that is the only reason why this bill is presented. It was not put forward until after certain appeals were taken. Whether the decision to introduce the bill was made as a result of the judgment which was delivered by the court that heard the cases, I am not sure.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was read the second time.

#### THIRD READING POSTPONED

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

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** I move this bill be read the third time now.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** Is there any urgency requiring the third reading of this bill now? Why can it not be allowed to stand until the next sitting?

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** I thought it was such a simple measure that there would be no objection to giving it third reading now. There will be a Royal Assent at 5.45, and I can see no reason why this bill should be put over for another sitting.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** There will more than likely be another Royal Assent to bills shortly. A number of questions were asked here this afternoon about the bill, and I think it should go to a committee. I do not insist on that, but I feel the bill is of sufficient importance that we should have an opportunity to read the remarks of the honourable senator who explained it. It is quite an involved measure, and unless there is some very good reason why it should be given third reading at this time I suggest that it be allowed to stand until the next sitting.

**Hon. Mr. Aseltine:** I did not say the bill was involved; I said it was quite simple. It is really intended to bring into effect the judgment of the court which decided that these Indians were entitled to be on the register. That is all it amounts to, and I can see no reason why we should go into the whole Indian Act to see what other amendments should be made. This bill provides one simple amendment.

**Hon. Mr. Macdonald:** I do not think the bill should get third reading today. No reason for urgency has been shown. I feel very strongly that third reading should stand until we have had an opportunity to read today's *Hansard*, and then, on Monday night or whenever the Senate sits again, the bill could be given third reading.

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, it has been moved by the Honourable Senator Aseltine, seconded by the Honourable Senator Horner, that this bill be now read the third time. Is it your pleasure to adopt the motion?

**Hon. Mr. Farris:** With deference, I submit that the bill cannot be read a third time now that an honourable senator has objected.

**Hon. Mr. Roebuck:** That rule has been suspended.

**Hon. Mr. Farris:** I did not know that.

**Hon. Mr. Vien:** Honourable senators, on a point of order: Under the rules of the house the bill cannot receive second and third readings on the same day, except with unanimous consent. I am quite sure there would be unanimous consent if it were shown that there is urgent need for passage of the bill today. If the Senate is going to sit on Monday and Tuesday of next week there is no reason why the third reading could not stand until that time; but if there is an important reason why we shall not sit on Monday and Tuesday we might agree to the third reading today.

**Hon. Mr. Horner:** Honourable senators, may I add a few words?

**Hon. Mr. Vien:** If the honourable senator from Blaine Lake (Hon. Mr. Horner) will yield for one moment, I may say that the Clerk of the Senate has just advised me that the rule governing notice for the third reading of public bills has been suspended. That being so, my remarks are unfounded.

But even though the rule has been suspended, there remains the question whether there is any urgent reason why this bill should be given the third reading now. I agree with the honourable Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald) that if there is no substantial reason for urgency we should have an opportunity to read what has