

the period when he was a student at Dalhousie Law School. There was not a day that I was with him that I did not benefit from that association. I would like to add my personal tribute to those of the Minister and the others who have spoken.

Mr. Raymond Langlois (Mégantic): Mr. Speaker, on this occasion we of this party would like to underline with the Minister of National Defence this twenty fifth anniversary of the death of the late Minister of National Defence. We think of all the good this man did, not only for his country but for mankind. It also makes us think that we should try to build more men of that calibre, not that they might have such fatal accidents as a result of which the late Minister died, but so they can be a guiding light to men of this country in the future. I believe the Minister has done a very good thing today in reminding us of this twenty fifth anniversary.

DIVORCE

MEASURE TO PROVIDE FOR EXTENSION OF GROUNDS

Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming) moved for leave to introduce Bill No. C-114, to provide in Canada for the dissolution and the annulment of marriage.

Some hon. Members: Explain.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Speaker, in introducing this Bill today I am reminded of statements that have been made in a number of provincial parliaments, including the recent one by Andy Thompson, the leader of the Liberal Party in Ontario, who has indicated that a vehicle must be provided for improving the divorce legislation of our country.

The Federal Government, of course, must pass the substantive legislation. I have suggested in this Bill provisions that some of our sister Commonwealth countries such as New Zealand and Australia have recently brought into their legislation, in adding to adultery, which is now the only ground for divorce in the majority of the Provinces of Canada, the grounds of desertion over a period of three years, cruelty and incurable insanity.

I put forward this measure only as a vehicle for the Government so they may provide a vehicle to the Provinces which are now crying out for this type of legislation.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

Inquiries of the Ministry

BANK ACT AND QUEBEC SAVINGS BANKS ACT

EXTENSION OF CHARTERS TO DECEMBER 31, 1965

Hon. Walter L. Gordon (Minister of Finance) moved that the House go into Committee at the next sitting to consider the following resolution, which has been recommended to the House by His Excellency:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend the Bank Act and the Quebec Savings Banks Act to extend to December 31, 1965, the authority to carry on business for the banks to which these Acts apply.

Motion agreed to.

FINANCE

INQUIRY AS TO POSSIBLE TAX REDUCTIONS

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, following the extraordinary announcement made by the Minister of Finance today I am wondering whether he is giving consideration to other action to be taken before we adjourn, namely action for the reduction of taxation as demanded by such business leaders as the president and retiring president of the Canadian Manufacturers Association, all of this in view of the further decline today in the stock markets in Canada and the United States. What has the Government in mind to meet a situation so paradoxical as is occurring at the moment?

Hon. Walter L. Gordon (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, if my right hon. friend will have patience until the beginning of next week, I hope to move the resolution that was forecast in the budget proposing a reduction in personal income taxes of 10 per cent—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Gordon: —the greatest reduction in 12 years.

Mr. Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria): You mean you got the biggest raise.

Mr. Diefenbaker: The hon. gentleman spoke with enthusiasm on that because he benefits to the extent of \$600. I had nothing to do with bringing it in, but the hon. gentleman did. I would ask the hon. gentleman this question. In view of the fact that he and many of those associated with him today on the Government benches voted in favour of interest free loans from the Bank of Canada