

Divorce

he was pointing to the possibility of curbing influence being used against such an official. I find it a little contradictory that he should make these references, and very practical references too, to the sort of pressures that might exist and at the same time leave the appointment of this official on this sort of political basis which would be subject to political debate, political pressures and which would put the Speakers of both houses under a bit of fire.

Mr. Speaker, I am not familiar with the cost of divorce, but I did find myself a little amazed when the hon. member mentioned a price of from \$1,000 to \$20,000 for a divorce. Certainly I have the highest regard for the legal profession. I believe that most lawyers try to keep the fees charged for their services in line with the value of those services. I find it incredible that anyone should seriously suggest a fee of \$20,000 for putting a divorce through the House of Commons, unless it was after the filibuster to keep them out of the house.

I do not believe that the Queen's proctor in the province of Alberta has anything to do with taxing solicitors' fees. That is done by the bar association. I would think that this function of the Queen's proctor in the House of Commons could be a most valuable one. Yet here again the appointment of this official should not be left open to political consideration. He should not be chosen from among the practising field from time to time, but should be an official appointed on a long term basis the same as any other public servant or civil servant, with security of tenure and reasonable pay and allowances. He should also have that degree of permanence of office that would give him the status and staff not only to be able to carry out investigative duties regarding evidence in divorce matters, but also to be able to keep in touch with trends in legal matters within this country so that his office would always have an up to date view on what was happening in legal fields, what were the fees and costs, and so on.

Mr. Speaker, may I call it six o'clock.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Pickersgill: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the house leader could give us an indication of what the government is planning to do up until the time the budget is brought down on Tuesday evening. It would certainly be very helpful to us to form some idea of the order in which to prepare for things.

Mr. Churchill: Mr. Speaker, now that the budget date has been announced for which the opposition have been asking, perhaps they will move very rapidly with the following items of business. Third reading of Bill No. C-38 will be the first item on Monday. Then the first item for general discussion, of course, would be the resolution in the name of the Prime Minister on the electoral boundaries commission; second, Bill No. C-80, an act to amend the Veterans' Land Act; third, Bill No. S-19, an act to amend the Canada Grain Act; fourth, Bill No. C-79, an act to amend the Customs Act; fifth, the resolution in the name of the Secretary of State dealing with the universal copyright convention; sixth, the resolution in the name of the Minister of Transport to amend the Freight Rates Reduction Act; seventh, the resolution in the name of the Minister of Finance dealing with the Currency, Mint and Exchange Fund Act, and eighth, the resolution in the name of the Minister of Finance with regard to crown corporations. All of those items could be passed by an active house on Monday.

Mr. Pickersgill: Would the minister indicate whether, if they are not all passed on Monday, we will go on with that program on Tuesday up until the time of the budget?

Mr. Churchill: Some of those items will be called on Tuesday, but there may be other important items appearing on the order paper on Monday which the house would like to deal with on Tuesday.

At six o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.

[The following item was passed in committee of supply]:

DEPARTMENT OF NORTHERN AFFAIRS AND
NATIONAL RESOURCES

728. Canadian wildlife service—wildlife resources conservation and development, including administration of the Migratory Birds Convention Act—further amount required, \$27,000.