

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: At any rate, they have been considered from time to time. The Committee on Finance is qualified to examine the main estimates. I repeat that I think it would be more practical to have this bill placed on the Order Paper for third reading tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. Vien: Honourable senators, I am quite willing to have the bill come up for third reading tomorrow, as suggested by the Leader of the Opposition (Hon. Mr. Macdonald). We can peruse the estimates in the meantime.

Hon. Mr. Lambert: May I ask the honourable leader (Hon. Mr. Haig) if he would identify this bill as being the one referred to by the Minister of Finance in the other house, as reported on page 11 of the House of Commons *Hansard* for October 15? Am I right in supposing that the bill now under discussion deals with supplementary estimates No. 2, and covers the item included in that definition? If the honourable leader could identify this bill clearly as the one covering supplementary estimates No. 2, we would be in a better position tomorrow to discuss the bill. At present I am completely at a loss to know which one of these estimates it is.

Hon. Mr. Reid: May I ask the Leader of the Government (Hon. Mr. Haig) if when the bill comes up for third reading tomorrow he will furnish information regarding item 759? This is something new, and we are asked to pass a measure which apparently no one knows anything about. I am particularly interested in item 759.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: May I add one more word? The honourable senator from Ottawa (Hon. Mr. Lambert) has raised the question as to what this bill includes. I understand that this is the interim supply bill with respect to all the estimates that have been brought down up to the present time, that it includes the main estimates, the supplementary estimates, the supplementary estimates No. 1, and the supplementary estimates No. 2. If honourable senators will look at the bill, I think they will see that in clause 2—

Hon. Mr. Horner: Honourable senators, I rise on a point of order. Just what is being discussed now? I understand that the bill has received second reading, and therefore this discussion is out of order.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: It would be if it were not for the fact that I asked the house for permission to speak for another minute, and I understood that I had the unanimous consent of the house.

The Hon. the Speaker: I understood that, too.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: It will be seen that in clause 2 there is a reference to the main estimates. In clause 5 there is a reference to the supplementary estimates. In clause 6 there is a reference to supplementary estimates No. 1. In clause 8 there is a reference to supplementary estimates No. 2. I think it is clear, therefore, that this is an interim supply bill with respect to all the estimates that have been brought down in the house.

The motion of Hon. Mr. Haig was agreed to, and it was ordered that the bill be placed on the Order Paper for third reading tomorrow.

DIVORCE

PETITIONS

Hon. F. W. Gershaw: Honourable senators, on behalf of the Chairman of the Committee on Divorce (Hon. Mr. Roebuck) I wish to present some 270 petitions for divorce. Some of these petitions may be withdrawn. However, divorce petitions can be filed during the first six weeks of the session.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Hon. Mr. Gershaw, for Hon. Mr. Roebuck, presented the first report of the Standing Committee on Divorce, as follows:

1. Your committee recommend that their quorum be reduced to three members for all purposes, including the taking of evidence upon oath by the committee or any subcommittee as to the matters set forth in petitions for bills of divorce.

2. Your committee also recommend that leave be given them to sit during all adjournments of the Senate, and also during sittings of the Senate.

3. Your committee further recommend that authority be granted for the appointment of as many subcommittees as deemed necessary by the committee for the purpose of hearing and inquiring into such petitions for divorce as may be referred to them by the Committee on Divorce, the subcommittee in each case to report their findings to the Main Committee.

Honourable senators, I should perhaps explain that it is necessary for the committee to sit during the sittings of the Senate so that witnesses who come from other provinces will not be detained unnecessarily in Ottawa. It is also necessary for the committee to sit on days when the Senate is not in session because of the shortage of shorthand reporters.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this report be concurred in?

Hon. Mr. Gershaw: Honourable senators, I move, seconded by the Honourable Senator Howden, with leave of the Senate, that the report be concurred in now.

The motion was agreed to.