

Hon. Mr. Turgeon: I think so. Certainly the society believes that it is necessary. There is the change of name and Newfoundland to be considered.

Hon. Mr. Lambert: I agree with the remarks of the senator from Thunder Bay, that a committee of this chamber could very well inquire into and throw some light on the expenditures of the society. Generally speaking, I think the work of the Red Cross Society is very laudable; but I am not so certain that it is not more efficient at collecting money than it is at spending it.

Hon. Mr. Gouin: I am quite willing to vote for the bill as it is, but I think that the point made by the honourable senator from Bedford (Hon. Mr. Nicol) was well taken. The interests of the society would have been better served had they inserted a limit to the net annual value of the real estate.

Hon. Mr. Turgeon: I suggest that an inquiry next session could settle that matter definitely.

Hon. Mr. Nicol: It seems to me that if we leave the matter as it is, without a limit, it will be a long time before the society will come before us again. They could carry on for years; they do not need any money; and how can the subject come before parliament again unless there is a bill?

Hon. Mr. Turgeon: If the Senate so wishes, the bill could now go to committee.

Hon. Mr. Lambert: I suggest that the debate be suspended until this afternoon, and in the meantime the honourable senator from Cariboo can make some inquiries.

Hon. Mr. Turgeon: If that is satisfactory to the Senate, I shall be glad to do as the honourable member suggests.

Hon. Mr. Nicol: I move the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Turgeon: That means, adjournment until later today, not necessarily to another sitting?

Hon. Mr. Robertson: That is so. Under the circumstances I suggest that the Senate adjourn during pleasure, to re-assemble at the call of the bell. The rate of progress in the other place indicates that it will not be necessary to return before 3 o'clock this afternoon. Perhaps by that time the honourable senator from Cariboo will have secured the additional information which has been asked for, and we could then proceed with the consideration of this bill and take whatever further action may be deemed desirable in the light of circumstances at that time.

The motion was agreed to, and the debate was adjourned.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

The sitting was resumed.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when the Senate adjourned during pleasure this morning there was a motion before the house for the second reading of Bill 222, intituled an Act to amend The Canadian Red Cross Society Act. The debate on the said motion was adjourned until a later stage of this sitting.

When the bill was introduced, the impression was that it was a public bill introduced by a private member. It has now been established that it is not a public bill but a private bill, and should be dealt with as such. Various rules have been suspended for the purpose of advancing legislation in the Senate, but these apply only to public bills. This being a private bill, I would call the attention of the Senate to rule 118, which states:

Any private bill from the House of Commons for which no petition has been received by the Senate, shall be taken into consideration and reported on by the Committee on Standing Orders in like manner as a petition, after the first reading of such bill, and before its consideration by any other Standing Committee.

In order now to proceed with this bill, it will be necessary for the honourable senator who moved the second reading (Hon. Mr. Turgeon) to withdraw his motion. He may then move, with the unanimous consent of the Senate, that all rules respecting private bills be suspended in so far as they relate to Bill 222, intituled an Act to amend The Canadian Red Cross Society Act. It will then be in order for him to move the second reading of the bill, and if it is desired, it may, after being given second reading, be referred to a Standing Committee of the Senate or to a committee of the whole.

Hon. Mr. Turgeon: Honourable senators, I beg leave to withdraw my motion for the second reading of Bill 222.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, has the honourable senator the leave of the Senate to withdraw his motion.

Some Hon. Senators: Agreed.

The motion for second reading was withdrawn.

SUSPENSION OF RULES

Hon. Mr. Turgeon moved with leave of the Senate: That all rules respecting private bills be suspended in so far as they relate to Bill 222, intituled an Act to amend the Canadian Red Cross Society Act.