

THE SENATE

Thursday, February 2, 1967

The Senate met at 3 p.m., the Speaker in the Chair.

Prayers.

DIVORCE

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

Hon. Arthur W. Roebuck: Honourable senators, I desire to present a number of petitions in divorce.

May I take advantage of the fact that I am on my feet to ask permission to place on record a number of statistics in connection with the work of the Standing Committee on Divorce.

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: I have now been Chairman of the Standing Committee on Divorce for approximately thirteen years, having succeeded my friend Senator Aseltine, who was chairman for the previous ten years. I would like to place on *Hansard* some figures showing how the cases have grown in number during my tenure of office. In 1952-53 there were 282 cases, and in 1962-63 there were 513.

Evidence was given before the special joint committee studying divorce that in the first 12 years following Confederation only eight cases were tried—eight cases in 12 years! Honourable senators perhaps will be interested to know that in 1966 we tried more than 1,000 cases.

We have had very few cases in which there was a remission of fees. Each petitioner has paid \$210, and some of the mathematicians in the chamber will no doubt figure out what that amounts to. A thousand cases at \$210 a piece means quite a substantial revenue.

I have the cases that we have tried listed according to the various times of approval. A total of 1,106 cases were dealt with. As of January 17, 52 had not yet been moved in the Senate. There were 13 annulments, 19 withdrawals, and 14 cases held for further evidence.

There were 235 cases ready for hearing and unopposed—this shows that we were pretty well up with the work as of the date I mentioned. Forty-eight opposed cases are ready

for hearing. It will be seen that the number of cases being opposed is increasing.

Cases heard but waiting approval at the next committee meeting, number between 80 and 100. As a matter of fact, we have just a few minutes ago approved as many as 111 cases. If we were in business I would say that we were doing a pretty brisk business.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE PRESENTED

Hon. Arthur W. Roebuck, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Divorce, presented the committee's reports Nos. 1042 to 1098 inclusive, and moved that the said reports be taken into consideration at the next sitting.

Motion agreed to.

INCOME TAX AGREEMENTS ACT

BILL TO IMPLEMENT AGREEMENTS BETWEEN CANADA AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AND CERTAIN OTHER COUNTRIES AND TO IMPLEMENT A CONVENTION BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—SECOND READING—DEBATE ADJOURNED

Hon. John J. Connolly: Honourable senators, with the agreement of Senator Brooks, I ask that we proceed now with Item No. 5 on the Orders of the Day, namely, the second reading of Bill S-56 to implement certain tax agreements.

The Hon. the Speaker: Is it agreed?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Hon. Salter A. Hayden moved second reading of Bill S-56, to implement agreements for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to income tax between Canada and Trinidad and Tobago, Canada and Ireland, Canada and Norway and Canada and the United Kingdom, and to implement a supplementary income tax convention between Canada and the United States of America.

He said: Honourable senators, Bill S-56 is divided into five parts, and each part approves and declares to have the force of law in Canada and agreement made between Canada and, in the first case, Trinidad and Tobago; in the second, Ireland; in the third, Norway; in the fourth, the United Kingdom; and in the fifth case, as to a supplementary convention with the United States.

In relation to these different countries we have had a tax convention with the United Kingdom. We have one presently existing with the United States and we have one presently existing with Ireland.