

Business of the House

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

Mr. Pickersgill: I wonder if the house would be disposed to consider going through the other stages of this important measure so that we could give something to the other place to do? The explanation given by my hon. friend from Rosedale (Mr. Macdonald) will, I am sure, have convinced everyone—

Mr. Knowles: If the Secretary of State does not take up all the time until six o'clock.

Mr. Pickersgill (for Mr. Chevrier) moved the second reading of the bill.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and the house went into committee thereon, Mr. Batten in the chair.

On clause 1—*Salary of surrogate judge and registrar.*

Mr. Aiken: I do not wish to delay the proceedings but there is one matter which occurred to me on the resolution and it occurs to me again, now that I see clause 1 of the bill. The bill appears to authorize only one salary of \$400 to a surrogate judge and \$300 to a registrar. I am asking the minister whether it is clear that this could affect any surrogate judge and any registrar. From the way it appears here, it would seem that only one surrogate judge and one registrar would be entitled to a salary, and this is the way the resolution read. Is the minister satisfied that these provisions will cover any surrogate judge and any registrar? I should like to know how many are involved.

Mr. Macdonald: The real purpose is to cover the registrar and the surrogate judge in the admiralty district of Ontario. These positions have been held by an officer of the supreme court of Ontario as registrar and by the senior master of the supreme court of Ontario as the surrogate judge. Due to the situation in the Ontario courts, this has been the area in which there has been difficulty in getting people to continue this operation. It is for this specific purpose that the bill has been brought forward.

Mr. Aiken: Do I understand that this affects only one surrogate judge and one registrar?

Mr. Macdonald: Yes.

Mr. Aiken: Does the bill change the situation with respect to fees, or will the officials receive the fees in addition to the small salaries?

Mr. Macdonald: The second subsection of the proposed new section 14A indicates that the emoluments provided in subsection 1 shall be in lieu of the fees which have hitherto

gone to the two officials concerned. As provided by subsection 2, if they receive remuneration those fees will go into the consolidated revenue fund.

Mr. Aiken: I hope the judge and registrar are satisfied with this very large emolument they are now receiving.

Mr. Macdonald: May I inform the hon. member that while this may not seem like a princely sum, it will meet their requirements.

Mr. Dinsdale: While this measure seems to apply to only one judge, I notice that in the explanatory note there is a reference in the plural to admiralty districts, surrogate district registrars, admiralty judges and so on.

Mr. Macdonald: I agree with the hon. member that the plural is used in the explanatory note, but my understanding is that the measure is only intended to apply to the province of Ontario.

Clause agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Batten): When shall the bill be read a third time?

Some hon. Members: Now.

Mr. Aiken: Next sitting.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Hamilton: I wonder if the acting leader of the house would give us the business for tomorrow and possibly Friday?

Mr. Pickersgill: I did not realize that the hon. gentleman was suffering from blindness. I think we would just take the third reading, and I would hope there would be no great time taken with it, of this important measure that the house was good enough to carry so far today, the Admiralty Act. Then, we would take the second reading and the other stages, if possible, of the bill that was given first reading just before this one, respecting the Canadian centennial. After that, we would like to take the three resolutions standing in the name of the Minister of Transport in the order in which they were indicated yesterday by the Solicitor General.

In so far as estimates are concerned, it is not proposed—I may say I have discussed this through the usual channels—by the government to take any government legislation beyond five o'clock tomorrow. Tomorrow evening in committee of supply, the understanding is we would continue with the estimates of the hon. lady, the Minister of National Health and Welfare. When they have been completed, we would hope to conclude also the estimates of the Department of Public Works. On Friday—