

## BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

**Hon. John J. Connolly:** Honourable senators, I move that the Senate do now take recess and reassemble at the call of the bell at 3 o'clock this afternoon. It is hoped that at that time it will be possible to deal with two bills which I understand are coming here from the other place, one in respect of the Judges Act and one in respect of the Combines Investigation Act.

Motion agreed to.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

At 3 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

**Hon. John J. Connolly:** Honourable senators, I understand that the other place is now on questions and, of course, no one can predict when they will finish. The unofficial estimate of time given to me is that not much more than an hour will be taken on questions.

I am also informed that it is the intention in the other place, at the beginning of their proceedings, to introduce two bills to which I referred earlier today, with the hope that those bills can be passed quickly.

In the circumstances, I think it appropriate to adjourn to the call of the bell, at approximately 4.15 p.m. In the meantime, we will survey the situation. When one or both of the bills pass in the other place, the bell will ring at the appropriate time, which might be a little later than 4.15 p.m.

**Hon. Mr. Choquette:** That is quite satisfactory.

The Senate adjourned during pleasure.

At 4.50 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

## LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT

## REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE ADOPTED

Leave having been given to revert to the order for Notices of Motions:

**Hon. John J. Connolly** moved, with leave, that the report of the Joint Committee on the Library of Parliament be now adopted.

Motion agreed to.

## JUDGES ACT

## BILL TO AMEND—FIRST READING

**The Hon. the Speaker** informed the Senate that a message had been received from the House of Commons with Bill C-112, to amend the Judges Act.

Bill read first time.

## SECOND READING

**The Hon. the Speaker:** Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the second time?

**Hon. John J. Connolly,** with leave of the Senate, moved the second reading of the bill.

He said: Honourable senators, Bill C-112 is an act to amend the Judges Act. A copy of the bill as it was introduced in the House of Commons is on the file of all honourable senators.

I must draw to the attention of the Senate, however, that since the bill was printed and introduced there was a further amendment proposed, which has now been incorporated in it. The Order Paper of December 7 last carried a notice of the proposed additional changes.

The effect of the bill is to provide for five additional judges of the Superior Court of the Province of Quebec, one extra justice of appeal of the Supreme Court of Alberta, two additional Ontario county court judges, one additional county court judge in British Columbia, and two additional judges of the Court of Queen's Bench in Manitoba.

For the information of honourable senators as to how these additions are made, I would say that section 1(1) of the bill increases the number of judges of the Superior Court of Quebec to 70. Subsection 2 of that section, as amended, provides for the two additional judges of the Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba.

Section 2 of the bill deals with an increase to six in the number of Justices of Appeal of Alberta. Section 3 deals with increases in the number of county court judges both in Ontario and British Columbia.

This bill is in the form of similar bills considered by this house on many previous occasions. In this case, as in all other similar cases, the legislatures of the provinces affected amend their judicature acts to provide for these increases, and then request Parliament to enact legislation to make it possible for these additional judges to be appointed. So, this is done by us in the knowledge that these additional judicial offices are required for the due administration of justice in the courts of the various provinces I have mentioned.

If there are questions that any honourable senator has to ask about this measure, I shall be glad to obtain the answers as soon as possible.

**Hon. Lionel Choquette:** Honourable senators, while I do not propose to vote against this bill, there are several observations I wish to make on the motion for second reading. A glance at the amending statutes listed in the margin shows that bills such as this are to be expected almost every year. Indeed,