

Private Bills—Divorce

there is a pay-off between them. It would seem odd to me that a legal firm handling this type of divorce would do it on the instalment basis and would be interested in coming to parliament to ask for divorce until they had a sizeable amount paid in advance.

Senator Bradley asked a question that I am interested in in relation to the problem. He asked:

Q. The liability is yours? You have to do the paying?

A. Yes.

By the Chairman (Senator Cameron):

Q. You said there were several separations before?

A. Yes.

Q. How soon after you were married did the first one take place?

A. About a year and a half.

Q. And the reason?

A. He used to go out with other women and he used to tell me about it.

This is the whole situation, in my opinion, as far as this divorce action is concerned. We have already the information that warrants a separation, and it is my opinion that what follows is only of necessity in obtaining the evidence that the other place has requested and has really nothing to do with the circumstances. Questions are asked—this is the method they used—of Mr. Peter Rosen, who lives in Montreal and who represents himself as an investigator. He is asked:

Q. Will you tell the committee what you know of Mr. Joe Cohen's habits and activities during the month of March, 1959?

A. Well, I investigated his conduct during that month until March 30, 1959, inclusive. During that time I saw Mr. Cohen on several occasions and I also saw him in company of one certain young lady that he saw on four different occasions during that time of investigation. On March 30th he left his home at approximately 8 p.m. and he drove down to St. Urbain street in the neighbourhood of where his girl friend was living. This young lady was standing in front of her door, in front of 5230 St. Urbain street. She got into the car with Mr. Cohen and they drove down town. They went into a restaurant and they were there until about 9.30. They then came out and drove up on McGill College avenue just above Burnside, and Mr. Cohen parked the car and I saw them both getting out of the car and they went into the Campus hotel on McGill College avenue. I waited a minute or so until they were just about inside the hotel and I followed them in. I saw Mr. Cohen speaking to the man at the desk and then they both went upstairs and they went into room 427 in the hotel. I waited on the same floor for about five or ten minutes and I couldn't hear anything and I didn't see either one of them coming out of the room, so I went downstairs to the lobby and I called my man. He met me shortly after 11 o'clock. It was about 11.30 when he arrived and we both went up to room 427 and I knocked at the door and it took a few minutes and a man's voice asked, "Who is it?" and I told him I was the desk clerk and I wanted to speak to him for a minute.

Again we have this same problem. This young man is out with a girl. He is supposed to have met the young lady on four previous occasions. They go to a hotel and get a room.

[Mr. Peters.]

I presume he had no baggage. It does not say he had. Therefore, he had to pay for his hotel room before he got it. That is in keeping with the policy of most hotels I know; people coming in without luggage have to pay in advance. So he pays his bill and goes up to his room. A rap comes on the door, and the desk clerk appears. What happens? I think everyone knows what would normally happen—nothing. Absolutely nothing would happen at that door until the parties inside were dressed and ready to leave the room. I am positive of that.

An hon. Member: How can you be positive?

Mr. Peters: I am positive. The hon. member implies that if someone were to rap on his hotel door in the wee hours of the morning he would come out in his shorts or whatever he happened to be wearing. I would not. I have had experience in hotels. I was a salesman, and a traveller on the road and I visited many hotels, and I would not be wandering around in my b.v.d.'s if someone rapped on the door, and this was when I was alone. If there were two people I can give a complete assurance that the door would not be opened. The evidence continues:

As that happened my man and I pushed the door and we were into the room. It was a very small room and the man started to yell and wanted to know what it was all about.

He should have found out by yelling what it was all about before the door was opened and the man came into the room.

An hon. Member: He could have jumped out of the window.

Mr. Peters: Yes, I know people who have done just that in the same type of situation. When a rap came on the door they jump out the window. But I know of no one who opened the door. The report goes on:

I showed him the picture I had with me and I asked him if that was his picture and if he was Mr.—. He admitted it was and that he was Mr.— and I told him then we were acting on behalf of his wife.

The woman I saw earlier with Mr.—was lying in the bed and she was covered with a blanket. I then asked the woman for her name and Mr.— at first told her not to say anything. He said, "Do you have to have her name?" and I said yes. He said, "Will she be in any trouble of any kind?" and I said, "There is no trouble, just that we have to have her name and address." And she told me her name was—and that she lived at 5230 St. Urbain Street.

I do not think that was honest, because I do not think he could have given that kind of assurance that there was not going to be any trouble. If he could have done so then he was not going to prove that adultery was taking place. In any case, I suggest that the circumstances—the presence of a young lady who is not too much against giving her name