

No. 74.

JOURNALS
OF THE
HOUSE OF COMMONS
OF CANADA

OTTAWA, MONDAY, 30th MAY, 1921

2 o'clock, p.m.

PRAYERS.

Mr. Speaker informed the House,—That the Clerk had laid on the Table the Twenty-ninth Report of the Examiner of Petitions for Private Bills, which was read as follows:—

Pursuant to Rule 96, Section 2, the Examiner of Petitions for Private Bills has the honour to present the following as his Twenty-ninth Report:—

Your Examiner has duly examined the following Petition for a Private Bill, and finds that all the requirements of the 91st Rule have been complied with:

Of Susan Lee Johnson Bell, for an Act to dissolve her marriage with Henry Harrison Bell, her husband, and that she be divorced from him.

Mr. Sexsmith, from the Special Committee appointed to consider the subject of proportional representation and the subject of the single transferable or preferential vote and the desirability of the application of one or the other or both to elections to the House of Commons of Canada, presented the following as its First Report:—

Your Committee has during the course of its inquiry held several meetings and has listened to witnesses who have testified both for and against the methods suggested.

Your Committee has come to the conclusion that at this time it is not prepared to recommend the application of proportional representation in the next general election as a method of electing members to the House of Commons.

The Committee, however, was impressed with many of the arguments advanced by the advocates of this system and believes that the system merits further study and investigation by the Canadian people. To this end, Your Committee recommends that before action be taken a plebiscite should be held for the purpose of ascertaining the desires of the electors as to the application of the principle of proportional representation with group constituencies.