

As I was saying, it was intimated the other evening that it might be in violation of the Criminal Code, and in any case it was in violation of the rules of the Senate, to undertake to put on record any evidence in the Taffert divorce case. I regard the situation as a rather peculiar one when in the report of the debates in another place, at page 4222, I find three paragraphs of evidence quoted from a divorce case which was handled by the Divorce Committee of this House.

Hon. Mr. ASELTINE: I do not think the honourable gentleman is speaking to the motion at all. I rise to a point of order.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I was quite sure the honourable gentleman would want to interrupt to see if he could change my line of thought. But that will not do. I shall come to the point of order very nicely.

We had the other evening—

Hon. Mr. ASELTINE: I have raised a point of order.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: I should like the point of order to be discussed, so that the honourable gentleman may realize what it is, and may not go too far.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I do. I will not go too far, but I am going to deal with what this motion deals with, namely the suspension, or entire cancellation, of the rules of the Senate.

I was dumbfounded this morning to learn that one particular and important rule has been out of use for thirty years.

Hon. Mr. KING: Honourable senators, I rise to a point of order. My reason for asking that this motion be passed is not to curb my honourable friend. I would have asked it anyway, because one of the most important bills of the session will come before us to-morrow, and, as we are to adjourn to-morrow, it will be desirable to have the Bill pass all three stages in one day, although Rule 24 provides that

One day's notice must be given of any of the following motions:

(a) To suspend any rule or standing order, or any part thereof.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I am not questioning that at all. I am entirely in favour of suspending these rules; in fact, I expected my honourable leader would do exactly what he has done.

Hon. Mr. KING: Exactly. It would have been done in any event.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: But the other day, when we were speaking about the rules, I was told that what I was doing was in violation of the rules, and my good friend the senator—

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK.

Hon. Mr. ROBINSON: Are you in favour of the suspension or against it?

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Oh, yes, in favour by all means. Yes; sure. In fact, what I said to my honourable leader was said in the hope that he would do just what he has done. But the other day when I was speaking on the Taffert Divorce Bill I was told that the rules did not permit me to do this and did not permit me to do that, and that I was violating the Criminal Code. My honourable friend the senator from Edmonton (Hon. Mr. Harmer) suggested that

All the evidence that has been read should be expunged from the Debates.

And that was done, as you will notice, for none of the evidence that I read is contained in the Debates. Whether the honourable senator's suggestion was a motion or not, it was adopted. But let us see about these Senate rules. There is a rule or a law—I do not know whether it is in the Criminal Code—about a senator maintaining residence in the province he is delegated from.

The Hon. the SPEAKER: Will the honourable senator kindly sit down? I think the points of order taken by the honourable senator from West Central Saskatchewan (Hon. Mr. Aseltine) and the honourable leader of the House (Hon. Mr. King) are well taken, and the honourable senator from Parkdale (Hon. Mr. Murdock) should not persist in carrying on the discussion as he is doing at present.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: Your Honour, I am familiar with the rules. The rules are regarded as in effect—

The Hon. the SPEAKER: The honourable senator is not talking about the rules at all; he is talking about entirely different matters.

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: I beg the pardon of His Honour and of honourable members of this Senate. There is a rule, I say—

Hon. A. L. BEAUBIEN: Honourable senators, I rise to a point of order. Is there anything before the House?

Hon. Mr. KING: Yes.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: What is it?

Hon. Mr. MURDOCK: There is a motion before the House:

That Rules 23, 24 and 63 be suspended for the remainder of the present session in so far as they relate to public and private bills.

I am undertaking to deal with suspension or cancellation of rules.