

The Excelsior Life Insurance Company

staff of the House of Commons in this house, for *Votes and Proceedings*, or the staff of the Queen's Printer, made mistakes or errors. I look upon this very rare error as a tribute to their ability and care in correctly reporting the proceedings of this house.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Colin Cameron (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, I must rise to defend the officials of this house because by no stretch of the imagination can the blame for this error be laid at their door. What my colleagues have been trying to point out to this house is that the error was made in the other place, and that the other place should clearly correct this mess. The attempt we have made to amend the motion of the hon. member for High Park was made with that purpose in mind, namely to place the blame where it should be placed and that is with the other place. Obviously our staff did not produce this entry without a communication from the other place. If that communication was incorrect, which it obviously must have been, then that is where the blame should lie, not with the staff of this house.

The Deputy Speaker: Is the house ready for the question?

Some hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Before I go any further perhaps I should remind the house of standing order 6(7) which states:

No vote shall be taken between 6.00 o'clock p.m. and 8.00 o'clock p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays or between 1.00 o'clock p.m. and 2.30 o'clock p.m. on any day upon which a morning sitting of the house is held. When any vote is postponed under the terms of this section the same shall be forthwith disposed of at 2.30 o'clock p.m. or 8.00 o'clock p.m., as the case may be. The house shall be deemed to have reverted to private members' business for such time as is necessary for the taking of any vote postponed from the time provided for private members' business.

Is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Howard: If it is carried it certainly is carried on division.

Motion agreed to on division.

**PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT
MOTION**

**SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE
DEBATED**

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order. It is my duty, pursuant to standing order 39A, to inform the [Mr. Herridge.]

house that the questions to be raised at the time of adjournment are as follows: The hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Choquette) Commonwealth Relations—inquiry as to meeting of Prime Ministers; the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), Public Service—legislation to increase pensions of retired civil servants; the hon. member for Saskatoon (Mr. Brand), Canadian Broadcasting Corporation—Saskatoon—inquiry as to station construction.

PRIVATE BILLS

THE EXCELSIOR LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Mr. Robert Stanbury (York-Scarborough) moved the second reading of Bill S-8, respecting the Excelsior Life Insurance Company.

• (6:40 p.m.)

He said: Mr. Speaker, this bill is identical to the one introduced in the house last session, passed here, considered in committee, reported out of committee, discussed again in the house but not passed before the end of last session. Since it is the identical bill and was fully discussed in the previous session, I am sure my hon. friends will agree there is little purpose in delaying further the passage of this bill, which has been recommended by all the public officials who have examined it.

I would not presume to say there will be no further discussion on the bill, but if there is none perhaps there will be consent to have the bill referred to committee without further debate.

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I am very much afraid that I cannot accept the invitation of my hon. friend, the sponsor of the bill. I think his words were that there would be little purpose in delaying further the passage of the bill, which has been recommended by all the public officials who have examined it. This statement bears some examination, because if it were to be permitted to go unanswered it would leave the impression that the employees in the public service of Canada who deal with these matters are favourably disposed to the proposals put to us by Excelsior Life Insurance Company. I am not saying they are against them, but I think the record should be balanced out to indicate the position of those employees in the department of insurance who have examined this bill. Their position is that of carrying out the provisions of the law as parliament has already determined them. They are not in a position to express any opinions publicly, certainly not officially, about the broader aspects of the bill and the impact upon the economy