the debate on third reading of the bill, I immediately agreed to withdraw my motion that the bill be referred back to the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications for further consideration. At that time I had not had an opportunity to discuss the bill with the honourable senator from Grandville, but we met today and went over the bill together. We fell into immediate agreement that there was no desire on the part of the Bell Telephone Company to avoid the authority of the provincial securities commissions, but I express my surprise as to the wording which appeared in section 2 of the bill, although I am sure that the company had no intention to disregard any authority. The bill makes only one condition as to the validity therein decreed of the issue as well as of the sale of capital stock, namely, that such issue and sale be in accordance with the approval of the Board of Transport Commissioners for Canada.

In view of the well-known rule in law that if you make an exception for one particular case you are not supposed to extend the exception to other cases, some honourable senators on both sides of this house felt that it appeared as though the company wished to disregard the authority of the provinces. There is no doubt that the authority of the provinces would have been maintained by the courts; but this would have entailed litigation and certain difficulties, and innocent parties would have been put to expense.

I explained my point of view to the honourable senator who sponsored the bill (Hon. Mr. Bouffard) and we came to an agreement which is embodied in an amendment that I wish to move. Therefore, honourable senators, I move, seconded by the honourable senator from Grandville:

That section 2 of the bill be amended by inserting after the word "stock." on page 2, line 6, the following:

Subject to any applicable legislation relating to the issue, sale or disposition of securities by corporations,

The last sentence of section 2 would then read:

Subject to any applicable legislation relating to the issue, sale or disposition of securities by corporations, the issue, sale or other disposition of capital stock by the company in accordance with such approval shall be legal and valid for all purposes.

Hon. Mr. Croll: Honourable senators, I move the adjournment of the debate.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: Honourable senators, I would suggest that we might approve the amendment and then if the honourable senator from Toronto-Spadina (Hon. Mr. Croll) wishes to speak on the bill he can adjourn the debate on third reading. If he is not prepared to speak tonight, perhaps we could still dispose of the amendment now.

Hon. Mr. Croll: I do not want to be misunderstood. If the house is prepared to sit longer, I am prepared to speak.

Hon. Mr. Macdonald: I suggest that we dispose of the amendment first.

Hon. Mr. Croll: Honourable senators, I have not yet got the full significance of the point of the amendment, and I should like to hear from some of the members who have been discussing the matter, to ascertain what their opinion is.

Hon. Mr. Bouffard: The purpose of the amendment is to make more clear that all legislation, whether provincial or federal, concerning the issue, sale or other disposition of the stock, shall continue to be valid and applicable. That is all that it seeks to clarify.

Hon. Mr. Croll: All right.

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: Honourable senators, the question is on the motion of the Honourable Senator Monette, seconded by the Honourable Senator Bouffard, to amend clause 2 of Bill C by inserting after the word "stock." in line 6 on page 2 of the bill, the following:

Subject to any applicable legislation relating to the issue, sale or disposition of securities by corporations,

Is it your pleasure to adopt the motion?

Hon. Mr. Reid: On division.

The amendment was concurred in, on division.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Croll, the debate on the motion for third reading of the bill was adjourned.

DIVORCE

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE ADOPTED

The Senate proceeded to consideration of reports of the Standing Committee on Divorce, Nos. 12 to 24, which were presented on October 31.

Hon. Mr. Gershaw, for Hon. Mr. Roebuck, Chairman of the Committee, moved that the reports be adopted.

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 3 p.m.