

complied with in the Davis and Smith divorce cases.—Adopted.

HON. MR. PLUMB, from the Committee on Banking and Commerce, presented their first report, recommending that the quorum be reduced.—Adopted.

HON. MR. HOWLAN, from the Committee on Contingencies, presented their first report, recommending that the quorum be reduced.—Adopted.

THE SMITH DIVORCE BILL.

FIRST READING.

HON. MR. READ introduced Bill (B) "An Act for the relief of Charles Smith." The Bill was read the first time.

HON. MR. READ moved that the second reading be fixed for Friday, the 20th instant.

HON. MR. TRUDEL—It is well known that many hon. members of the Senate consider it their duty to oppose these divorce bills at every stage. It is not customary, however, for those who are opposed to the principle of a measure to ask the House to divide upon it until it comes up for the second reading. I think it would be advisable, therefore, that the minority, who object to these divorce bills, should enter their protest against them by having each stage entered upon the minutes as being carried on a division. The vote need only be taken, then, at the second reading.

The motion was agreed to on a division.

THE DAVIS DIVORCE BILL.

FIRST READING.

HON. MR. OGILVIE introduced Bill (C) "An Act for the relief of Amanda Esther Davis."

The Bill was read the first time, on a division.

HON. MR. OGILVIE moved that the Bill be read the second time on Friday, the 20th instant.

The motion was agreed to, on a division.

The Senate adjourned at 3.50 p.m.

THE SENATE.

Ottawa, Friday, February 6th, 1885.

The SPEAKER took the Chair at Three o'clock.

Prayers and routine proceedings.

THE EVANS DIVORCE BILL.

READING OF THE PETITION.

The Order of the day having been called :—

Reading Petition of Alice Elvia Evans, praying for the passing of an Act to dissolve her marriage with Owen Morton Evans—

HON. MR. McMASTER said—I presented the Petition in this case, but I suggested that it should be conducted by a legal gentleman. The hon. member from Barrie will take charge of it.

HON. MR. GOWAN—I move that the Petition of Alice Elvia Evans, praying for the passage of an Act to dissolve her marriage with Owen Norton Evans, be now read and received. It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of a strict adherence to forms and procedure in matters of this grave character. I do not mean a pedantic exactness which would substitute the means for the end, but an adherence to all that is substantial as prescribed by the rules of this hon. body. I have endeavored to see what has been done in the past. I have looked over the cases of 1882 and 1883, and also examined the rules, and I think my hon. friend, the Minister of Justice, and other hon. gentlemen will find the papers I present in exact and very intelligent compliance with all that is necessary in cases of this kind. Not only does the person who made the necessary declaration know the respondent, but he also states where he served it, when he served it, and his knowledge that he is the man described as the respondent in the procedure. I can vouch for the person who took the declaration being, as he is described to be, a notary public, and I happen personally to know his signature, so that from my seat in the House here I can vouch for that fact. I am bound to say, however, that there is