

Business of the House

Mr. Peters: Mr. Speaker, may I just say a word or two in regard—

Mr. Speaker: Order. There is no scope here for debate. If unanimous consent is forthcoming I shall be pleased to put the question to the house. Perhaps the hon. member will indicate whether he intends to give consent. I take it that no matter what he says now unanimous consent will not be forthcoming.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Speaker, I should like—

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. There was some discussion this afternoon in regard to a request that came for the hon. member for Halifax, and I do not think it has been properly put to the house. The hon. member suggested that there was some agreement among the parties regarding certain divorce bills appearing on the order paper. In these cases it was proposed that there would be an annulment rather than a divorce granted. I understand there are four or five cases of this nature. This group is in agreement with the hon. member in respect to those four or five cases where the scientific evidence has been presented. In view of that, Mr. Speaker, I understand that unanimous consent would be forthcoming. I think his suggestion in this regard would be of interest to this group if it were reworded.

Mr. Speaker: It is suggested there would be no objection to proceeding with the four or five cases of annulment among the divorce bills. Does the hon. member for Halifax wish to take that course?

Mr. McCleave: Mr. Speaker, I shall take that course if I am forced into it. Since there is not unanimous consent in respect to the 350 divorce cases, against my instincts I have to salvage whatever I can out of the wreckage caused by the hon. member for Skeena and the hon. member for Timiskaming.

Mr. Howard: What a foul, slimy approach.

Mr. McCleave: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member wishes me to go into a debate and pursue it into his public and private life in respect to remarks such as he has just made, I shall be glad to oblige; but the winds of change will sweep him from this chamber.

Mr. Howard: The member for Halifax has promoted all of this—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I do not propose to allow remarks of that kind to blight the last hour of the session. If there is not an honourable agreement to be reached the matter is closed.

Mr. McCleave: Mr. Speaker, there are four annulments in respect of which all parties had agreed, but one was a contested case before the committee of the other place and it is the usual practice that contested cases must go to the committee on miscellaneous and private bills, so that in all conscience I can move only three of these annulment cases at this time.

The house in committee on Bills Nos. SD-101, SD-107 and SD-265, Mr. Flynn in the chair.

Bill No. SD-101, for the relief of Edel Haimes—Mr. McCleave.

Bill No. SD-107, for the relief of William Paschal Hayes—Mr. McCleave.

Bill No. SD-265, for the relief of Mathilde Marcelle Mathieu—Mr. McCleave.

The Chairman: Shall the bills carry?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: Shall I report the bills?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. McCleave moved the third reading of Bills Nos. SD-101, SD-107 and SD-265.

Motion agreed to and bills read the third time and passed.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. R. J. McCleave (Halifax): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the agreement that was reached some time ago when the other bills were to be debated, if we could not reach agreement—and I refuse to negotiate the divorce bills further—I hereby give notice of a motion that when the house resumes the bills be placed in their proper order and listed separately on the order paper.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, on this, the 157th day of the longest session, up to this moment, I move, seconded by Mr. Churchill:

That when this house adjourns today it stand adjourned until September 7, 1961, at 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon, provided always that if it appears to be satisfactory to Mr. Speaker, after consultation with Her Majesty's government, that the public interest requires that the house should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment, Mr. Speaker may give notice that he is so satisfied, and thereupon the house shall meet at the time stated in such notice, and shall transact its business as if it had been duly adjourned to that time.

Motion agreed to.