

Mr. HANSON (York-Sunbury): This is one of the functions of parliament and we may as well do our duty in the premises. The constitution contemplates that divorce may be granted. The only point that could be made with profit at this stage is the question whether or not we should give first reading to the bills in one motion. On the broad question of divorce, if any hon. gentleman wants to attack the principle he can do it on the second reading of bills. In the meantime, this is merely an effort to save a little time.

Mr. LAPOINTE (Quebec East): So far as these bills are concerned, the interested parties come from provinces in which there are no divorce courts, and the only means by which they can get divorce is through an act of parliament. I am more opposed to divorce than hon. gentlemen who have spoken in opposition to this procedure, but it is the only way. This method of giving first reading to all these bills simply means that instead of devoting half an hour to them at this stage they are advanced to the point where they will come up for second reading. It is on second reading that the principle will be open for consideration, and I shall be opposed to the principle. The present motion has the effect only of ridding us of a disagreeable process in two minutes instead of in half an hour.

Mr. HOMUTH: I am not criticizing that.

Mr. JOHNSTON (Bow River): I think there has been—

Mr. SPEAKER: I would point out that the first reading is not debatable.

Mr. JOHNSTON (Bow River): Is not the introduction of the bill debatable?

Motion agreed to.

FIRST READINGS—SENATE BILLS

Bill No. 30, for the relief of John Hubert Fox.—Mr. Abbott.

Bill No. 31, for the relief of Dorothy Jean Fletcher.—Mr. Whitman.

Bill No. 32, for the relief of Lillian Bald Ellison.—Mr. Bercovitch.

Bill No. 33, for the relief of Clavell Filliter Stroud.—Mr. Abbott.

Bill No. 34, for the relief of Mary Marion Grey McKay.—Mr. Abbott.

Bill No. 35, for the relief of Frances Goldberg Joseph.—Mr. Bercovitch.

Bill No. 36, for the relief of Alice Weill Sedlack.—Mr. Boucher.

Bill No. 37, for the relief of Marguerite Marie Rita Duchesneau Goulet.—Mr. Abbott.

Bill No. 38, for the relief of Edna Irene Yertaw.—Mr. McIlraith.

[Mr. Coldwell.]

Bill No. 39, for the relief of Gordon Alexander Cowan.—Mr. Bercovitch.

Bill No. 40, for the relief of Marion Cameron MacLaurin Nelson.—Mr. Bercovitch.

Bill No. 41, for the relief of Kenneth Grier Thornton.—Mr. Abbott.

Bill No. 42, for the relief of Hubert Earl Roberts.—Mr. Macmillan.

Bill No. 43, for the relief of Annie Elizabeth Cunningham Wheatley.—Mr. Abbott.

Bill No. 44, for the relief of Dorothy Theresa Downard Street.—Mr. Abbott.

Bill No. 45, for the relief of John Greig.—Mr. Bercovitch.

Bill No. 46, for the relief of Lloyd Charles Edward Francis Fulford.—Mr. Bercovitch.

Bill No. 47, for the relief of Joseph Gaston Yvano Rene Dupuis.—Mr. Hill.

Bill No. 48, for the relief of Audrey Alexine Stephenson Smyth.—Mr. Bercovitch.

Bill No. 49, for the relief of Lillian Shapiro Denenberg.—Mr. Bercovitch.

Bill No. 50, for the relief of David Rainville.—Mr. Abbott.

Bill No. 51, for the relief of Hortense Bienvenue.—Mr. Bercovitch.

Bill No. 52, for the relief of Evelyn May Grey Ladouceur.—Mr. McIlraith.

Bill No. 53, for the relief of Marie Jeanne Germaine Grenier Legendre.—Mr. Hill.

Bill No. 54, for the relief of Marie Adeline Alice Miron Lefebvre.—Mr. Bercovitch.

Bill No. 55, for the relief of Helenorah Keturah Donowa Harris.—Mr. Roebuck.

Bill No. 56, for the relief of Henry John Barrington Nevitt.—Mr. Bercovitch.

Bill No. 58, for the relief of Pauline Myrtle Barr Gaud.—Mr. McIlraith.

Bill No. 59, for the relief of Marie Alice Veillet Piché.—Mr. Boucher.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

NATIONAL REGISTRATION

Mr. BRUCE:

1. How many clerks were engaged for the national registration?

2. Were they engaged on a temporary basis?

3. Were they required to pass a civil service examination?

4. How many of these were men and how many women?

5. How many so engaged are getting exemption from military training?

6. How many men between the ages of twenty and twenty-one and between twenty-one and forty?

7. Could this work be done, (a) by war veterans over the age of forty, or, (b) by men who are too old for military service?