14979 Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill and Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill

23 SEPTEMBER 1955 Committee on 14980
Private Members'
e Bill and
Resolutions

a minimum qualification should be prescribed for candidates.

I have got one more point. We have given our people only the right of election. In a democratic country like Switzerland, people have got four rights-they have the right to elect their representatives; they have the right to initiate Bills and demand for referendum of the Bills passed in their Parliament and they have also the right to recall Members from the Parliament, if they are not satisfied with the conduct of the Members. You know more than anybody else that very often this House lacks quorum. That means several Members keep themselves away from the sittings of this House. Several papers like the Hindusthan Standard, Times of India, Madras Mail, and Shankar's Weekly and some other Papers also have made constructive criticisms with all good intentions about the conduct of the members and have made suggestions to see that this supreme body of the nation does its work properly for the welfare of the people. Therefore, I submit to the Select Committee to include one provision in this Bill giving power to the people to withdraw the candidates who do not evince keen interests in the proceedings of this House and who aim only at money and Membership but not discharge their responsibilities as Members and do not participate in the proceedings and to see that the honour of this House is maintained, so that our democracy may, from day to day, grow to a State of perfection. Thanks.

Shri B. K. Ray (Cuttack): With the antecedents of my life, as a professional lawyer and then a Judge, I have had very little experience of fighting an election. The present election in which I have been elected was uncontested. Therefore, I have not been through the fire of election. I do not propose to speak anything with regard to the proposed Bill in relation to the procedure for election.

I think much better wisdom has been delivered by my hon. friends before.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may continue his speech tonorrow. I believe he is staying here tomorrow.

Shri Pataskar: Possibly that would be the last speech.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes, last speech before the Minister.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh (Amravati West): Why not extend the time a little more. There are a few more speakers.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Sixteen hours have been given.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: Half an hour more.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am not the master of time.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: The hon. Minister can give half an hour.

Shri Pataskar: If the Members so choose, I may not reply because the Bills are going to the Select Commit-

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEM-BERS' BILL AND RESOLUTIONS

THIRTY-EIGHTH REPORT

Shri Raghunath Singh. (Benaras Distt.—Central): I beg to move:

"That this House agrees with Thirty-eighth report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and resolutions, presented to the House on the 21st September, 1955."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is only aulotment of time. They have been liberal. There is no amendment.

The question is:

"That this House agrees with the Thirty-eight report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions, presented to the House on the 21st September, 1955."

The motion was adopted.