Wednesday, July 10, 1946.

The house met at three o'clock.

TORONTO HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

POWER TO PURCHASE CERTAIN LANDS AND TO BORROW PURCHASE MONEYS

Hon. LIONEL CHEVRIER (Minister of Transport) moved for leave to introduce bill No. 299, respecting the Toronto Harbour Commissioners.

Mr. GRAYDON: Would the minister give an explanation of this?

Mr. CHEVRIER: The object of this bill is to authorize the harbour commissioners of Toronto to purchase a tract of land having an area of 3.4 acres lying north of their present holdings on the north side of Fleet street and east of Fort York armouries in the city of Toronto. The bill also gives to the Toronto harbour commissioners authority to issue debentures in order to raise money with which to pay the purchase price. The powers contained in the bill are in addition to and supplemental of the powers already contained in the Toronto Harbour Commissioners Act, 1911.

Mr. CHURCH: Has the city corporation approved the purchase as indicated in the text of the bill?

Mr. CHEVRIER: I understand it has.

Motion agreed to and bill read the first time.

PRIVILEGE

MR. MICHAUD—REFERENCE TO ARTICLE IN MONTREAL "GAZETTE"

Mr. BENOIT MICHAUD (Restigouche-Madawaska): Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of privilege. On the front page of this morning's issue of the Gazette there appears an article headed, "Debate on controversial budget carried on before empty seats." As the title suggests, this article criticizes severely, without justification, hon. members of the House of Commons. If the reporter had taken the trouble to inquire into the cause of the absence of a large number of members yesterday afternoon he would have found out that a great many of them were busy in attendance before a large and important committee. The reporter stated that there have been 245 members in the house during the course of the present session but, as we all know, three vacancies have occurred. Either the reporter's sense of observation is no keener than his

judgment, or else he is disclosing an unusual lack of good faith, and that requires no further comment.

Mr. GRAYDON: You cannot accuse that reporter of bad faith.

PRIVATE BILLS

FIRST READINGS-SENATE BILLS

Bill No. 254, for the relief of Jessie Violet Louise Stargratt Burton.—Mr. MacLean.

Bill No. 255, for the relief of Helen Louise Mitchell Meyer.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 256, for the relief of Donald Dale Carr-Harris.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 257, for the relief of Eugene Ernest Hubert George Colnaghi Williams Waterfield. —Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 258, for the relief of Gratia Lauzon Rousseau.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 259, for the relief of Laura Olive Byers Manley.—Mr. Boucher.

Bill No. 260, for the relief of Vera Gertrude Horder Fournier.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 261, for the relief of Julia Patricia Byrne Coté.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 262, for the relief of Dorothy Adelaide Grace Vennor O'Toole.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 263, for the relief of Lillian Doris Howard Clark.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 264, for the relief of Helen Agnes Stuart Colt.—Mr. MacLean.

Bill No. 265, for the relief of Alma Gosselin Carbonneau.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 266, for the relief of Florence Cleveland Smith des Baillets.—Mr. MacLean.

Bill No. 267, for the relief of Florence Winnifred Dunlop Starkey.—Mr. Stuart (Charlotte).

Bill No. 268, for the relief of Francis John Stone.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 269, for the relief of Mary McCallum McNamara.—Mr. Stuart (Charlotte).

Bill No. 270, for the relief of Leah Helen Shute Main.—Mr. MacLean.

Bill No. 271, for the relief of Cecile Simonne Robert Turgeon.—Mr. Boucher.

Bill No. 272, for the relief of Edward Cotapschi.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 273, for the relief of Catherine Young Rivard.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 274, for the relief of Mary Jane Michelle Ahern de Brabant.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 275, for the relief of Jean Ethelwyn Marshall Ross.—Mr. Maybank.

Bill No. 276, for the relief of Frank Ernest Smith.—Mr. Baker.

Bill No. 277, for the relief of Cleora Elizabeth Doyle Mastine.—Mr. Senn.