

*Canada Development Corporation*

**Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance)** moved that Bill C-219, to establish the Canada Development Corporation, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

He said: Mr. speaker, the concept of the Canada Development Corporation has created widespread public interest, as well as some interest in this House, where it appears that all of the opposition parties seem to be in favour of the Canada Development Corporation yet against it at the same time.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

**Mr. Benson:** Fundamental issues such as the need for a Canada Development Corporation, its objectives, the role to be played by the government, and the nature of its ownership have been thoroughly discussed. The government has benefited from this public discussion and from the briefs it has received in preparing the bill now before the House.

This government believes that there is a role to be played by a new institution, backed by substantial sources of Canadian capital and managed by skilled, experienced Canadian entrepreneurs, to help make possible fuller Canadian participation in the growth and development of Canada. Such an institution will be able to work closely with the other members of the Canadian business and financial community and provide Canadian entrepreneurship with the access to more substantial concentrations of Canadian capital required to ensure a greater Canadian presence in the growth of our own economy.

The general environment into which the new corporation will fit is that of a rapidly developing and diversifying Canadian economy. It is an economy with an enormous resource base and a still greater potential, and a greatly expanded secondary manufacturing sector that must grow and prosper in a highly competitive international environment. Business and industry have entered a new period of internationalism which makes it desirable that there be a number of Canadian controlled corporations with headquarters in Canada and with the kind of institutional strength and management capabilities to compete successfully in Canadian and international markets.

To take advantage of the opportunities and to meet the challenges created by this environment demands a vigorous, inventive and skilled people, large scale organization and the mobilization of substantial blocks of capital and entrepreneurial talent. In a country at Canada's stage of development and, open as we are to foreign capital and international competition, it also requires appropriate government policies.

While Canadians have one of the highest saving rates in the world and provide the bulk of Canada's private investment needs, foreign ownership and control of Canadian industry have become very extensive. Canadians have enjoyed significant material benefits as a result of these investments. Nevertheless, Canadians today are asking why they cannot participate more fully in their own resource and industrial development and in the

growth of strong Canadian based corporations with extensive international interests and operations.

It is against the background of all these factors that the federal government has determined to move ahead with the bill to establish a Canada Development Corporation. The purposes of the Canada Development Corporation—

**PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION****SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED**

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Vegreville (Mr. Mazankowski)—Grain—Suggested amendment of repayment formula under Prairie Grain Advance Payments Act; the hon. member for Fraser Valley West (Mr. Rose)—Public Service—Review of Staff Relations Act—Consultation with employee associations—reference to committee; the hon. member for Halifax-East Hants (Mr. McCleave)—Transport—Suggested use of light on Halifax monument as signal for shipping.

It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members business as listed on today's Order Paper, namely, notices of motions, public bills.

**PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS****HIGHWAYS****REQUEST FOR FEDERAL PARTICIPATION IN CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM IN ATLANTIC PROVINCES**

**Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants)** moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should consider the advisability of declaring as rapidly as feasible a 90-10 formula of cost-sharing with the Atlantic Provinces, of the highways program formerly carried on with those provinces by the Atlantic Development Board, and of joining with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in the Fundy Trail project, and of joining with Nova Scotia in building a crossing across the Shubenacadie River.

He said: Mr. Speaker, about two years ago the transport committee of this House considered the transportation problems of the Atlantic provinces and subsequently reported on June 17, 1969. One recommendation of particular interest in this connection is to be found at page 39 of the Transport Committee's proceedings No. 28. I quote:

It is further recommended that the government should consider the advisability of instituting a five-year program of federal assistance to highways in the Atlantic provinces, \$30 million to be the maximum federal contribution in any one year. This program should be financed on a 90-10 basis. The provinces would be required to submit plans for a defined network of all-weather highways, chosen for their effect on competition among transportation modes in the Atlantic provinces, and for their con-

[Mr. Speaker.]