

a property. As everyone knows now, it has been repeated many times today, the cut-off date has been extended to March 30, 1975, providing that the construction work on a house or the improvements referred to in the loan request begin before March 31, 1976. I must say quite candidly that we repeat ourselves. I heard it all this afternoon. Any veteran by virtue of a sales agreement entered into with a director can ask for supplementary financial assistance, apparently up to a maximum provided for by the Act until March 31, 1978.

If such a loan application includes an amount for the construction of a home or other renovations, construction work must begin before March 31, 1979. It is believed that these new arrangements made possible under these provisions of the Act will be particularly useful to qualified veterans who are still in active service and who are not thinking of retiring before four or five years. If time allows it, I can give still more statistics. When the limit is set at March 31, 1975, that means that World War II will have been over for 30 years and, the Korean War, for 20 years.

It is quite difficult if this is analyzed in an objective manner with all sentimentalism put aside, to claim that veterans did not have enough time to ask for re-establishment funds provided for them after the war and active service. There are some, like me, who took advantage of the other advantages that were at our disposal. Some attended university, others used their funds to set up a business.

We must stick to this part of the Act; we all have been helped to date, those of us who wanted to be, and taking into account the agricultural emphasis in the Act at the time, there has always been a requirement concerning the minimum age required for part-time farming or for small acreages. The hon. member for Timiskaming (Mr. Peters) talked about that this afternoon. Here again, I could go into lengthy discussions, but it was so well said by the hon. member. The limit was brought down from three to two acres. Today a final agreement has been reached allowing veterans to build a house on approximately 17,000 square foot lots. Until now, the veterans have got what they have been willing to ask for. To reduce or still to remove the acreage requirement has now given this new idea to some of our veterans. And why not take advantage of the legislation at the age of 55 and buy a house for one's retirement as a pensioner on a small piece of land in the suburbs, away from the urban centres? One could then take fully advantage of this act which allows one to build a house on a small piece of land at a price that is still debatable, because it is not easy nowadays to build under the existing legislation with a loan of about \$18,000. Everybody knows that this figure is higher today because in our area, namely Pointe-aux-Trembles, in the eastern part of the island of Montreal, where lots are probably the cheapest right now, it is still possible to build a house for approximately \$23,000 or \$24,000. This is much more than the amount of \$18,000 allowed under the act.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to let other members speak before ten o'clock. I had much more to say, but I humbly admit that I would probably be covering the same ground, since my colleagues as well as opposition members have spoken before me.

Adjournment Debate

Mr. Speaker, I wish to say in conclusion that I listened with interest to the speeches of hon. members from both sides of the House. I am convinced that we are all sharing here the same concern about our veterans. I hope also that the Minister of Veterans Affairs, who is probably keeping his trump cards well hidden, will be able some fine day to bring in some legislation on which the opposition for once will fully agree with us, since we already recognize that we must keep on helping our veterans.

I have complete faith in the government, the Prime Minister and his cabinet, and especially in his efficiency and his gumption.

[English]

Mr. Donald W. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): Mr. Speaker, this is not the first occasion on which I have risen to speak as the clock reaches ten o'clock. I do not share the confidence in the government that was so eloquently spoken of by the speaker immediately preceding me. As we approach the solemn ceremonies of November 11—

● (2200)

[Translation]

Mr. Boulanger: Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Since I was busy giving part of my speech to the messenger, I did not hear with what part of my speech the hon. member did not agree. Did the hon. member specify? I would like to know.

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): If I may, Madam Speaker, I just want to say that I am not as confident as the hon. member who spoke before me. He expressed his confidence in the government. With your permission, Madam Speaker, I should like to call it ten o'clock.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[Translation]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

IMMIGRATION—CONSEQUENCES OF DEPORTATION OF HAITIANS—ATTITUDE OF THE MINISTER

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Madam Speaker, according to departmental figures, the Immigration Appeal Board is presently reviewing the cases of 828 Haitians who have applied for the landed immigrant status.

I understand that this Board has rejected up to now some 90 per cent of the appeals for those who came in after November of 1972.

As Canadian citizens and as citizens of the world, we cannot and we will not wait until we witness the massive deportation of some 900 to 1500 Haitians before we get