

sion on circuit or for assizes, depending upon which of these terms they prefer.

Statistics are not available on a comprehensive basis with respect to the number of persons released on bail charged with indictable offences who commit indictable offences while on bail, or the relationship of a criminal record to the probability of the commission of an indictable criminal offence while on bail. The Ouimet report recommended that there should be a central registry, and I am sure this has been discussed. I have not heard every speech in this debate, unfortunately, but I hope the federal government is working on this problem and that it will establish a central registry in each province with some link with the national capital. This would be an important addition to the legislation when the act receives the approval of Parliament and becomes law.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

\* \* \*

#### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, there seem to be a few reluctant people around. I believe there have been some discussions and it may be possible to proceed with orders Nos. 27 and 39. Both are set for report stage and third reading. I am told the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance has a brief statement to make in each case, and provided he is unprovocative these two items should get through fast.

**Mr. Mahoney:** I intend to be unprovocative, but I must say the items with which I am prepared to deal are items 39 and 51, the Canada-Jamaica Tax Convention—

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** That is satisfactory. We shall switch to items 39 and 51 and hear what the parliamentary secretary has to say.

\* \* \*

#### FARM IMPROVEMENT SMALL BUSINESSES AND IMPROVEMENT LOANS ACTS

##### AMENDMENT PROVIDING ADDITIONAL THREE-YEAR LOAN PERIOD

**Hon. John N. Turner (for the Minister of Finance)** moved that Bill C-191, to amend the Farm Improvement Loans Act, the Small Businesses Loans Act and the Fisheries Improvement Loans Act, as reported (without amendment) from the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs, be concurred in.

● (4:30 p.m.)

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Mr. Mahoney).

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, this is the report stage: the hon. member should wait for third reading.

#### Farm Improvement Loans Act

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order. I will put the motion again.

**Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Again on a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance (Mr. Benson) is not here. The motion should be made by a minister who is here.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Mr. Turner, for Mr. Benson, seconded by Mr. Richardson, moves that Bill C-191, an act to amend the Farm Improvement Loans Act, the Small Businesses Loans Act and the Fisheries Improvement Loans Act, be concurred in. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** When shall the said bill be read the third time? Now?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton, for the Minister of Finance)** moved that the bill be read the third time and do pass.

**Mr. P. M. Mahoney (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I would not want to take a chance on anyone missing this remarkable offering that they are about to receive. The only reason for saying anything at all is that a number of general questions regarding the scope, application and effectiveness of these programs were raised at the committee stage and the government would like to record a review of the programs being undertaken. For this reason I should like to take about two minutes of the time of the House.

We have before us Bill C-191 which has been reported, without amendment, by the Standing Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs. The purpose of this bill is to extend the existing legislation governing these programs for a three-year period ending June 30, 1974, and to provide for appropriate loan pools to permit their continued operation. The current lending periods for these programs would, in the absence of amendment, expire on June 30 of this year.

Hon. members will recollect that when the most recent amendment was made to one of these acts, the Small Businesses Loans Act, in March 1970, the government indicated that it was the intention to review these three very similar programs as a group in order to assess their effectiveness and, if justified, to bring forward any changes resulting from the review at a later date. This review has been started, but it would be unrealistic to expect it be completed before the end of June, 1971, when the present legislation expires. In particular, sufficient time must be allowed to obtain a comprehensive picture of the views of the various interested groups affected by these programs—of their needs and the adequacy of existing private and public facilities.

With this in mind it would seem shortsighted to make piecemeal changes in the existing legislation at this time without the benefit of a comprehensive overview. It is the government's intention to proceed with this assessment