

Private Bills

immediately, if that is agreeable to the house. It would take only a moment or two, if we could go into committee of the whole on the bill.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Trinity seeks leave to consider Bill No. S-16 in priority to the notice of motion for production of papers.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I think the agreement was that we would let the hon. gentleman go ahead, but in view of what you have just said, we will be taking the full hour on the motion. That is the agreement, and I think the understanding, as stated by the house leader, because it is conceivable that we might have a longer discussion.

Mr. Speaker: I wish to draw to the attention of hon. members that if a certain event transpires at 9.45 p.m. the Chair has no alternative but to interrupt the proceedings.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): The house can give unanimous consent, but I think it was understood that the motion—

Mr. Speaker: That may be, but the hon. member is making a request which would be in derogation of the understanding. I do not think there could be any particular undertaking on the part of the government with regard to that matter. There is either unanimous consent or there is not. Now, is there unanimous consent for the hon. member for Trinity?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

PRIVATE BILL

THE IMPERIAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY
OF CANADA

The house in committee on Bill No. S-16, respecting The Imperial Life Assurance Company of Canada—Mr. Hellyer—Mr. Chown in the chair.

On clause 1—*Change of name in French.*

Mr. McCleave: Mr. Chairman, this bill was considered earlier today in the committee on banking and commerce, and the other members of the committee have agreed that perhaps I should make a few remarks about it this evening, both on behalf of their parties as well as my own. I should just like to compliment this company on moving part of its mortgage operations into the maritime provinces during this past year. We have had problems with other companies which had done substantial business in the maritimes investing their money in other parts of Canada. We are certainly glad to see that

[Mr. Hellyer.]

the company named in this bill is opening up operations in the maritimes.

Clause 1 agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill reported and read the third time and passed.

FINANCE

CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING SURCHARGE ORDER
IN COUNCIL

The house resumed from Thursday, December 6, consideration of the motion of Mr. Martin (Essex East):

That an humble address be presented to His Excellency praying that he will cause to be laid before this house copies of correspondence or any documents exchanged between the Prime Minister or the Minister of Finance or any other minister of the crown and officers of the Department of Justice or the privy council or any other government department or agency on the subject of surcharge and imports order, P.C. 1962-902, dated June 24, 1962, and the amendment to the surcharge and imports order, P.C. 1962-987, dated July 11, 1962, and the import control list as amended by P.C. 1962-903, dated June 24, 1962, with particular reference to the legality of such orders.

Mr. Terry Nugent (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, I started to talk on this subject two weeks ago. On looking at *Hansard* to see where I was, I was a little confused for a while; I thought that perhaps the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate (Mr. Pickersgill) had been speaking instead of me. You may recall, Mr. Speaker, that I yielded the floor to a question from the hon. member, who I think forgot himself and started to deliver a very impassioned speech of his own which could be thought by some people to have some bearing on this topic. I do not want to discourage the hon. member, or any other hon. member of the house, because I am always happy to entertain questions, and I am even happier when they are pertinent or even intelligent. I hope, however, that these questions will not merely be an excuse to deprive me of the floor, as I have only a short time left this evening, no matter how long it may seem to some sufferers in this house.

I think I had made, or had started to make one point on this topic which deals with the production of papers. The motion of the hon. member for Essex East asks for papers, including all correspondence, in very broad terms between ministers of the crown and departments of government, especially with regard to legal opinions. I think I had made reference to the fact that it was the opinions which were asked for which disturbed me most in connection with this motion.