

*National Housing Act*

obligation that rests upon the executive government, of alone initiating measures imposing charges upon the public exchequer."

I know you have studied these points in detail but I thought it useful to bring them again to your attention.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger):** I have listened with great attention to the very interesting arguments put forward by hon. members in respect of Bill C-6. If hon. members will permit me, I should like to express my remarks in respect of the argument in French.

[Translation]

When he spoke, the hon. member for Hamilton West referred to a procedure that has nothing to do with the point of order. His remarks were very interesting but I do not feel that I should comment on them at this time. Still, some of his remarks were pertinent, and I shall make it my duty to submit them to Mr. Speaker.

With regard to the point of order, I shall read a few explanations and my ruling will rest on citation 246 (1) of Beauchesne's 4th edition, after which I shall refer to another citation.

The bill introduced by the hon. member proposes amendments to Part VIII of the National Housing Act which deals with loans for the financing of municipal sewage treatment projects.

The act stipulates that loans can be granted to facilitate the construction or expansion of sewage treatment facilities. Under clause 1 of the bill introduced by the hon. member loans could be granted in order to facilitate the construction or expansion of water mains and storm sewers. However, in the existing legislation, there are provisions for forgiveness of 25 per cent of the loan and interest, under certain conditions. Clause 2 of the bill would increase the percentage of this forgiveness to 50 per cent and to 75 per cent in certain cases.

As the legislation now in effect sets a limit to disbursements out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund with regard to these loans, the bill under consideration would abolish this limit.

Finally, clause 3 of the bill introduced by the hon. member provides that the required expenditures will be provided through appropriation acts.

The Chair is of the opinion that such works would entail a disbursement of public moneys. Therefore, this bill is actually what might be called a money bill.

Clause 1 of the bill would extend availability of loans for a further purpose. Clause 2 would provide for an easing of terms and restrictions governing loans. As for clause 3, it provides appropriation of funds by Parliament for the purposes of the bill and eventual elimination of limits on disbursements out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund, allowing for loans of unlimited amounts.

The hon. member is raising a specific point when suggesting that a private member's bill can provide easing by the government of conditions governing loans.

I submit that the subject matter of the hon. member's bill includes points because of which it could only be brought forward by a minister of the Crown, and accompanied by a recommendation from His Excellency.

[Mr. Watson.]

I shall not refer to the arguments brought forward by the hon. member for Laprairie (Mr. Watson) referring to citation 249 from Beauchesne's and I shall confine myself to the Standing Orders.

Standing Order 62 (1) provides that:

This House shall not adopt or pass any vote, resolution, address or bill for the appropriation of any part of the public revenue, or of any tax or impost, to any purpose that has not been first recommended to the House by a message from the Governor General in the session in which such vote, resolution, address or bill is proposed.

As for the particular point on forgiveness of loans, I shall refer to citation 246 (1) of Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules and Forms, 4th Edition, which reads as follows:

(1) The recommendation of the Crown is needed for such measures as Bills relating . . . to the repayment . . . or compounding of sums due to the Crown—

I shall also quote citation 256 (1):

(1) A resolution, imposing on the Dominion Government the obligation to carry out a compact not fulfilled by the Government of the late Province of Canada whereunder settlers were to receive moneys derived from Crown lands, was ruled out because it did not originate in committee and was not recommended by the Governor-General.

[English]

Under those circumstances, it is difficult for the Chair to make the decision to allow the bill to proceed. Therefore, it is the ruling of the Chair that the bill cannot proceed.

**Mr. Reid:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I think there might be consent to take Bill C-13 in the name of the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta (Mr. Reynolds) during the remaining time.

**Mr. Bell:** Mr. Speaker, on this point of order, let me say that the hon. member was ready to proceed with this important bill. However, at least half the private members' hour has been taken up with procedural matters, as well as with Your Honour's extensive and well researched decision. I hope there is agreement that we adjourn and not continue with the short time left of private members' hour. I hope this meets with everybody's approval.

• (1730)

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Boulanger):** As hon. members have heard, there is a suggestion that we do not continue with private members' hour. I need the unanimous consent of the House to call it six o'clock. Is it agreed?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

At 5.35 p.m. the House took recess.

**AFTER RECESS**

The House resumed at 8 p.m.