

[*Translation*]

Mr. Don Boudria (for Mr. Duhamel) moved:

Motion No. 1.

That Bill C-76, be amended by deleting Clause 2.

Motion No. 3.

That Bill C-76, be amended by deleting Clause 3.

Motion No. 6.

That Bill C-76, be amended by deleting Clause 4.

Motion No. 9.

That Bill C-76, be amended by deleting Clause 5.

Motion No. 12.

That Bill C-76, be amended by deleting Clause 6.

Motion No. 14.

That Bill C-76, be amended by deleting Clause 7.

Motion No. 15.

That Bill C-76, be amended by deleting Clause 8.

Motion No. 16.

That Bill C-76, be amended by deleting Clause 9.

Motion No. 17.

That Bill C-76, be amended by deleting Clause 10.

He said: Madam Speaker, first I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Chair for accommodating me this morning in this unusual situation and also to thank all hon. members for their co-operation.

If no other settlement is reached on this issue I would hope that a meeting of those concerned, perhaps even the house management committee—I see my colleague opposite, the parliamentary secretary to the government House leader—would be held soon to find a way that documents could be accepted in the form suggested this morning in my point of order, if not for the bill before us now, at least for those we will consider in future.

I think that would update this institution a little. In any case I do not want to dwell on this too much. I want to go on now with a few remarks about the bill under consideration and especially the amendments presented to it.

• (1020)

As you said so well and so eloquently this morning, Madam Speaker, the Liberals propose deleting many clauses from this bill. Of course, the ultimate goal is to delete the whole bill, because we find that it has two main components: first, it would of course impose

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charges on students, and second, it would also establish a process for charging fees to register lobbyists.

[*English*]

Perhaps I can move to the first of these themes, that of imposing fees on student loans.

Bill C-76 removes the six month grace period for Canada student loans and adds six months of interest for those students who have to borrow in order to access post-secondary education. We as a society are saying how we must all work to increase our academic level in this country to ensure that our young people have more and more of the tools that are required in order for them to have meaningful careers in order to be ready for the job market. We are all concerned about the rate of high school dropouts. We are trying to eradicate that. There is a group in my constituency, in the community of Rockland, working hard toward convincing young people who have dropped out of school to go back and, for those who have even an inkling of dropping out, trying to change the minds of those young people.

What does this bill do? The exact opposite. I see my distinguished colleague from Carleton—Gloucester, himself a former school teacher. I am not sure whether one is ever a former school teacher. I think once a school teacher, always a school teacher. The member for Carleton—Gloucester taught high school. He knows perfectly well the attractions there are for young people to leave the educational facilities and go into the work force. Those are instilled in our young people and by everything that is out there, for example the old jalopy with the chrome wheels on it that too many young people are ready to give up school to try and purchase, a few months later only to be left with the payments on the jalopy and the car parked behind the garage. It is so sad to see that immediate gratification being sought by purchasing some of these less than totally useful objects and sacrificing one's future for them.

Here we are giving a further disincentive to young people to stay in school. It is already far from easy. In the province of Ontario tuition fees have increased astronomically under the present provincial government after it promised to abolish tuition fees altogether. My colleague from Thunder Bay who is a former member of the Ontario legislature, as I am, will know what a burden it is on young people right now. In addition to higher tuition fees, the young people have to finance those tuition fees. They will now have to pay interest for a