

Private Bills

fields of borrowing and to do so on a basis of equality with the near banks.

People have told me that they have paid 2 per cent per month interest to finance companies. If banks are allowed to free their interest rates more people will go to banks when they need to borrow money. People's ability to borrow will be greatly enhanced, and they will have more sources from which to borrow since the banks have branches all over the country. People will be able to borrow at reasonable rates of interest, and that is a right which they should have. In a geographical sense the banks have brought their facilities within the reach of people all across the country.

• (6:00 p.m.)

So far as bank interest rates are concerned, there is a ceiling on interest rates at this time which the banks cannot ignore. It does seem strange that they are unable to meet the demand of the borrowing public at the established ceiling. The committee has recommended the removal of the ceiling, and it would seem to me that we should consider whether such action will accomplish what the committee intended, making credit available to small businesses and individuals requiring small loans. If the removal of the ceiling does not accomplish the intention then it is open to parliament to take action in respect of making loans available to all Canadians at a reasonable rate of interest. Should the improvements intended fail to materialize parliament must have the power to do whatever is necessary to bring about the desired results.

The Acting Chairman (Mr. Richard): Order, please. It being six o'clock it is my duty to leave the chair in order that the house may consider private members' business.

**PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT
MOTION**

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE
DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. It is my duty, pursuant to provisional standing order 39A, to inform the house that the questions to be raised at the time of adjournment tonight are as follows: The hon. member for Burnaby-Coquitlam (Mr. Douglas), Transport—British Columbia—Federal contribution to Burrard Inlet Crossing; the hon. member for Chapleau (Mr. Laprise), Expo '67—Montreal—Representations with a View to Allowing Every Citizen to Visit Expo; the hon. member for Prince Edward-Lennox (Mr.

[Mr. Fleming.]

Alkenbrack), Shipping—Request for Opening of Channel to Amherst Island.

The house will now proceed to the consideration of private members business as listed on today's order paper, namely private bills, notices of motions (papers), and public bills.

PRIVATE BILLS

[*Translation*]

Mr. Rosaire Gendron (Rivière-du-Loup-Témiscouata): Mr. Speaker, will the house agree to give priority to Bill No. S-41, which does not seem to occasion any controversy, so that it might be considered in committee of the whole house, read for the third time and passed.

I understand that, as a result of an agreement between the various parties in the house, the suggestion would be acceptable, inasmuch as there would not be any debate, except for a few words to explain the aims of the amendment.

[*English*]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I should point out to the house that if it is the desire to follow the suggestion of the hon. member for Rivière-du-Loup-Témiscouata, those bills on the order paper in the first, second and third positions may be stood at the request of the sponsors. Item No. 4 on the order paper is the resumption of a debate and therefore it can be stood only by unanimous consent. Item No. 5 on the order paper can be stood at the request of the sponsor. I suggest this procedure in order that we may deal with item No. 6. Is the house prepared to accept the request of the hon. member?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Wahn: Mr. Speaker, I agree with the suggestion that we proceed with item No. 6 on the assumption there will be no debate on that bill. Before standing item No. 4 let me say it is my understanding that the hon. member for Mégantic (Mr. Langlois) is prepared to withdraw his amendment. Perhaps we could have that amendment withdrawn before proceeding with item No. 6.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is that agreed?

Mr. Peters: No.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Perhaps I should point out to the hon. member for St. Paul's that an amendment moved by an hon. member can