Canadian National Railways

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. McGee: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order in connection with the proceedings which took place this morning when we were discussing this bill. It has to do specifically with a point of order related to a comment made by the hon. member for Essex East about the chairman of the committee at that time. I tried to raise it, the committee will recall, earlier this day but was prevented from so doing because the matter had been referred by the committee to Mr. Speaker.

In point of fact, the hon. member for Essex East made the specific allegation about the person who was occupying the chair at that time, and said that he was guilty of improper conduct. An examination of the record will confirm, I am certain, my recollection of the circumstances which led up to that allegation. I hoped the hon. member for Essex East would be in his seat at this time because I am sure he would wish to withdraw the allegation, which was highly improper, made concerning the chairman at that time.

Mr. Chevrier: Mr. Chairman, on the point of order, I think it is a practice to first raise a point of order within the rules of the house. We are now beyond five o'clock and technically speaking—I am not making this point, as I will indicate in a moment—the hon. member is out of order. Second, the time to raise a question of privilege or a point of order is when the committee is sitting. The hon. member rose—

Mr. McGee: He was on his feet.

Mr. Chevrier: The hon. member rose after the committee had risen and a report had been made to Mr. Speaker, and Mr. Speaker told the hon. member that he was out of order. Now the hon. member tries to raise this matter under other considerations, and I think he is still out of order.

The third point I make is that it is not up to the hon. member to raise the point, it is up to the Chair. If the Chair felt a reflection had been cast by any remark made by the hon. member for Essex East the hon. gentleman would have been called upon to withdraw and I am sure he would have done so at the time. I submit with respect that the hon. member is out of order on three grounds.

The Deputy Chairman: I am sure the record will speak for itself in relation to the point of order that has been raised. I now ask your leave to report the bill. Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Bill reported.

Mr. Speaker: When shall the bill be read a third time?

[The Deputy Chairman.]

Some hon. Members: Now.

Mr. Speaker: We have passed the hour of five o'clock but by unanimous consent we can proceed at this time.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Balcer moved the third reading of the bill.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

Mr. Speaker: It being five o'clock the house will now proceed to a consideration of private members' business as listed on the order paper.

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION ACT

AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE FOR PRINTING OF NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS IN BOTH ENGLISH AND FRENCH

On the order:

Second reading of Bill No. C-10, an act to amend the Financial Administration Act.—Mr. Boulanger.

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I believe this bill has been stood twice.

Mr. Speaker: Is the house leader requesting that this bill stand?

Mr. Churchill: No, Mr. Speaker. It has been stood twice.

Mr. Speaker: In the absence of the hon. member in whose name it stands this bill will be dropped to the bottom of the list, if it has already been called twice.

CRIMINAL CODE

AMENDMENT TO ABOLISH CAPITAL PUNISHMENT EXCEPT FOR TREASON

Mr. Frank McGee (York-Scarborough) moved the second reading of Bill No. C-12, to amend the Criminal Code (capital punishment).

He said: Mr. Speaker, my purpose in bringing forward this bill again at this session following the acceptance by this house of a government measure which limited the application of the death penalty and established degrees of murder is to place on the record of the house, for future debates which may occur on the subject, certain information that has come to light in this country relating to public opinion and feeling with respect to this subject, information that has come to light in Great Britain as a result of analyses that have been made there of the pattern of murder and the effectiveness of the legislation which has been in effect in that country since 1957, and also information concerning an event which occurred in New Zealand in