

*Private Bills*

opportunity of discussing its various clauses when they are examined by a standing committee of the house.

**Mr. Caouette:** We do want to bring up the subject again.

**Mr. Remi Paul (Berthier-Maskinonge-Delaudiere):** Mr. Speaker, I listened very closely to the remarks of my hon. friend, the hon. member for Dollard, who surely did not put forward very strong arguments in his attempt to disprove the merits of the amendment introduced by the hon. member for Villeneuve.

I do not often agree with the views of that hon. member.

In my opinion, the hon. member for Villeneuve was too conservative this time in asking that this bill be hoisted for six months.

**Mr. Gregoire:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege.

I feel that the hon. member should withdraw his insult to the hon. member for Villeneuve whom he called a Conservative.

**Mr. Paul:** Mr. Speaker, I made no reference to narrow-mindedness. If I had, the hon. member for Lapointe could have thought I was alluding to him. I actually said that the hon. member for Villeneuve had been too conservative in his remarks, because he should have suggested that consideration of the bill be postponed for a much longer period than six months.

In my humble opinion, there are reasons for which this amendment ought to be adopted.

While attempting to refute the reasons the hon. member for Villeneuve had given for moving the amendment, the hon. member for Dollard (Mr. Rouleau) tried to compare the *Développement Central Ville de l'Isle Inc.*, to the Three Rivers bridge corporation.

The two corporations have been set up for quite different purposes. In the first place, in 1961 the Three Rivers bridge corporation submitted a bill that it was my privilege to sponsor. The object of the bill was not to further private interests but to develop the economy of a whole region, that of the heart of Quebec.

The arguments marshalled then for the passing of that bill were very serious. They rested, first, on the solvency of the directors of the corporation and their business experience; moreover, they asked for the special powers needed, under the Navigable Waters Protection Act, to carry out a project studied many times over a period of years by engineers for the provincial government as well as for private enterprise.

With regard to this bill, the hon. member for Dollard may lack some information, and he might be very interested to learn that the corporation of *Développement Central de Ville de l'Isle Inc.* would own approximately 1,400 acres of land on Ile-aux-Asperges as well as hold options on a large section of the rest of it.

I do not know whether the hon. member for Dollard is aware of the facts, but in my opinion, the members of the house ought to be. This corporation requesting special powers from this house today is on the verge of bankruptcy, so much so that the lots were bought four years ago from a mortmain corporation, and no capital and even no interest was paid for them; moreover, legal action was taken against the corporation several times before the superior court in Montreal.

**Mr. Rouleau:** Mr. Speaker, we are discussing the amendment introduced by the hon. member for Villeneuve to the effect that second reading of this bill should be postponed for six months.

I respectfully submit, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. member who now has the floor goes well beyond the limits allowed by the proposed amendment.

**Mr. Pigeon:** Reasons are being put forward.

**Mr. Rouleau:** I should like to have the opinion of the Chair.

**Mr. Paul:** I do not know whether the hon. member for Dollard has been enlightened by the remarks I just made but I am of the opinion that they are in order because I stated at the very beginning that the hon. member for Villeneuve had submitted an amendment for a six months' hoist, and I am now giving the reasons for favourable consideration of this amendment. My remarks concern the proposed amendment and the solvency of the corporation asking the house for the privilege to build a bridge, and the interruption by the hon. member for Dollard will not divert me from the subject I intend to deal with.

On several occasions the company was sued before the superior court in Montreal, and often threatened with seizure and sale of its properties by the sheriff. This mortmain corporation whose name I shall not reveal, has paid its creditors to keep a mortgage on the properties sold. In addition, Mr. Bock, the president of the company sponsoring this bill, is insolvent as you will find out by inquiring from the St. James street branch of the Bank of Montreal where you will be told that Mr. Bock is unable to manage his business.

It might be a good thing to grant special powers to a corporation but not to insolvent individuals.