

Historic Sites and Monuments Act

may have a knowledge of our country and be proud to call themselves Canadians.

One way of imbuing this feeling of pride is by means of greater understanding on the part of the board and an extension of its activities. This, of course, means greater support not only by way of legislation but financially, in addition to a great educational program the length and breadth of the country. It is because of my strong interest in this matter, my strong feelings in this matter, my strong support for Canadian history coming alive through the medium of this board that I deign to get up and take the time of the house for a few minutes on this subject. Poorly as I may have expressed it, I hope the feeling I am trying to convey has got across to the minister and to the board and that we shall in the not-too-distant future see them lift their eyes, get a broader perspective and realize that we can do a great deal more than we have done in the past if consideration is given to what I term co-ordination, liaison, partnership with the various provincial bodies, both governmental and non-governmental. This country is rich in historical knowledge; we should have the sense to do something about it before it is too late.

[Translation.]

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, it being six o'clock, with leave of the house, I shall take only a few minutes to indicate that we support Bill C-153, that we are happy about it and that the minister should be praised for it.

However, I wish to remind him of a particular fact in connection with the Sir Wilfrid Laurier museum, in the city of Arthabaska, in the Lotbinière constituency.

Mr. Speaker, I think this is an important subject. I am not speaking as a politician or otherwise, since Sir Wilfrid Laurier was, as everybody knows, a great man of the liberal party as well as a great Canadian statesman. The members of our group and fellow-citizens of Arthabaska admit it readily. The latter have moved heaven and earth to achieve their goal—and that is why I think it my duty to rise in this house and put forward a claim—namely the restoration and the maintenance, often carried on on a voluntary basis, of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's house in Arthabaska.

I would like to tell the minister that thousands of people visit that castle each year. It is called a castle but really it is not really due to the state of the premises. How-

[Mr. Winch.]

ever, Mr. Speaker, we believe that the government or that Board should study that matter very closely. I would like to make that request on behalf of the people of my city. This Board should institute an inquiry to subsidize in some way that historic site commemorating the coming there of a great statesman, Conservative, Liberal or of any other political affiliation.

Mr. Speaker, Sir Wilfrid Laurier was a man whose merit was recognized by everybody. My fellow citizens are pleased to recognize it also. We would be glad if the Historic Sites and Monuments Board would recognize it and do its utmost to undertake such restoration and to co-operate with the citizens of Arthabaska so that Sir Wilfrid Laurier's residence in Arthabaska may become an agreeable place to visit to commemorate events of the past.

I would not want to keep the house any longer. However, I would like the minister to take under serious consideration this request that I am making in the name of the people I represent. I ask him to give it special attention in order to come to their help.

Finally, I would like to remind him that the electoral district of Lotbinière has received no subsidy whatever during centennial year, and I suggest that the time has come to make up for lost time and, in this way, to give to the town of Arthabaska the importance it deserves, that is to commemorate the fact that Sir Wilfrid Laurier has lived there.

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

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

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): It being six o'clock I do now leave the chair until 8 p.m.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The house resumed at 8 p.m.

CRIMINAL CODE

AMENDMENT RESPECTING PLACING OF BETS BY ONE PERSON FOR ANOTHER

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (President of the Privy Council), for the Minister of Justice, moved that Bill C-197, to amend the Criminal Code, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.