

was convicted of brutal sexual assaults on girls between the ages of six and nine years; the same Charles Head who, during the time he was under a life imprisonment sentence, was once declared criminally insane and had the sentence reduced to 15 years; the same Charles Head who, on a weekend pass, raped, mutilated and murdered Tanya Bush, a girl of seven years, who was the daughter of a prison guard.

I believe, as many others do, that Tanya Bush was killed because there is no death penalty at present for the murder of the wives or children of our prison guards and policemen. There would have been a death penalty if the same Charles Head in his vendetta had killed the prison guard, the father of the little girl. I suggest that by separating prison guards and policemen, we put their families in jeopardy against vicious attacks by these hard-core killers.

I suggest that some of the comments made by people in the parole system about inmates are of interest, and I should like to refer to some comments made about Charles Head:

This inmate from Mountain Prison was seen today at his request. He had also been reported as becoming emotionally upset again. On the whole, Head has adjusted well to his institutional life at Mountain Prison, and he states he had a short pass to visit his mother at New Year's, 1972. Physically, he looks well, much better than he was when he was confined to the protective custody unit here for several months.

Attention is drawn to my memo to the Vancouver office of the National Parole Service dated—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order. May I ask for the co-operation of the hon. member. He is obviously reading from some kind of statement that has been sent to him, a statement of which he himself says he does not know the authorship. It would, therefore, seem to me impossible for the hon. member to vouch for the facts contained therein, since he would have no way of checking their authenticity. I think perhaps he has made his point about the person to whom he has referred and I do not think it would help debate in this parliament if reports such as this, of which there is no authorship, are put on the public record; I do not think that would help our institution at all. We do want to have fair play on matters that are of public interest, so I would ask for the hon. member's co-operation in not reading the document he has before him.

**Mr. Reynolds:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and I shall abide by your ruling. I should just like to say from my own knowledge that this same man, Charles Head, of whom I am speaking, four months to the day before he killed Tanya Bush was recommended for parole. This recommendation was made by one of the so-called research experts. This is the point I am trying to make. I should like the minister to ascertain who is the author of this letter, and I can supply him with the first page of it. I think people of this sort are the ones who are causing this problem, these so-called "bleeding hearts".

I might also mention at this point that I support the motion moved this afternoon by the hon. member for Yukon (Mr. Nielsen) to set up a parliamentary committee to review our prison system. We should not foist this off on a royal commission or leave it to our judges. The

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members of this House who have been elected by the people of this country should solve this sort of problem.

The case to which I have referred proves there is an argument in favour of having a deterrent; I think it is a fine example. Who knows how many people capital punishment has deterred from committing murder?

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Before I recognize the next speaker I should like to thank the hon. member for Burnaby-Richmond-Delta. It is an extraordinary situation, one in which passions run much higher perhaps than is the case in the ordinary type of debate that we have. I do thank him for complying with the wishes of the Chair.

● (1650)

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, it is quite interesting to hear the speeches on a bill being examined in our spare time. Since there is nothing else for us to do, I would like to make a few remarks on Bill C-2, to extend the abolition of the death penalty for another term.

Mr. Speaker, when similar debates took place in 1966 and 1967, I was not at all convinced that the abolition of the death penalty could solve anything concerning the problem we want to solve in Canada. After a five-year experiment, I am not more convinced. The government itself, the supreme authority, has decided to abolish the death penalty for criminals, but we unfortunately have had to realize that these individuals have continued to apply the death penalty. I think, Mr. Speaker, that the law is society's safety valve and without the law, there would be only anarchy.

The events which have taken place, especially in the past two weeks, concerning a host of prisoners condemned to life imprisonment, or very long imprisonment, have shown us that, whether we like it or not, we were unable to have them serve the sentence which had been imposed upon them.

This very morning, we heard that a bunch of prisoners—for when a group of about half of dozen escape, I suppose you can call that "a bunch"—have escaped from prison while outside the prison with a large number of others, which could only make it easier for them.

We see a steady rise in crime in Canada, and the death penalty as we have known it since 1961 applies to premeditated murder.

Listening to the liberal member speak just now, I got the impression that he was speaking as if we were still living at the time of la Corriveau. But since then, there have been many amendments to our penal code, among them that, since 1961, the death penalty applies only to premeditated murder. And I am in favour of capital punishment in such cases. There are a number of points I should like to take up in a few minutes that are allotted to me. I should like to draw the attention of the House to the way in which justice is carried out in Canada. Not so long ago, during the 1970 October crisis, a man—and not just anyone, but a minister of the Crown—was kidnapped and strangled. I do not know if it is because the police are unable to find the perpetrators of this crime, or because the courts are unable to apply strict laws to those who are