

*Criminal Code***GOVERNMENT ORDERS**

[English]

CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT ACT, 1977

AMENDMENTS TO CRIMINAL CODE

The House resumed, from Thursday, June 30, consideration of Bill C-51, to amend the Criminal Code, the Customs Tariff, the Parole Act, the Penitentiary Act and the Prisons and Reformatories Act, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Before resuming consideration of the motions of the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams), seconded by the hon. member for Edmonton Centre (Mr. Paproski), perhaps I could indicate to the House, further to comments I made on June 30, what I have in mind with respect to the grouping of motions at the report stage of Bill C-51. I have some notes prepared with respect to these groupings, and in order to save hon. members some stenography of their own I can simply read them for the record and provide photo copies for hon. members to consider while they debate these motions. That will give them an opportunity to consider the matter.

As I indicated earlier, motion No. 2 standing in the name of the hon. member for Palliser (Mr. Schumacher) was to be debated and voted on separately. However, motions 21 and 22, also in the hon. member's name, are similar in nature and I intend to group them for debate with motion No. 2, so that a vote on motion No. 2 earlier referred to will, I think, dispose of motions 21 and 22. Since the grouping earlier has been somewhat altered I should perhaps review the groupings that we have brought forward for discussion up to this point.

● (1510)

Motions Nos. 3, 4, 5, and 6 will be grouped for debate and, if required, a vote on motion No. 3 will also dispose of motions Nos. 4, 5 and 6. Motions Nos. 8, 9, 10 and 11 will be debated and voted on separately. Motions Nos. 12, 13 and 14 could be grouped for debate and a vote on motion No. 12 will dispose of motions Nos. 13 and 14. Motions Nos. 15 and 16 could be grouped for debate and, if required, voted on separately.

I have since had an opportunity to have a closer look at the remaining motions and it would be my intention to group them as follows. Motion No. 17 standing in the name of the hon. member for Moose Jaw (Mr. Neil) will be debated and voted on separately. Motions Nos. 18 and 19 could be grouped for debate but would require separate votes. Motion No. 20 will be debated and voted on separately. I have already indicated to hon. members that motions Nos. 21 and 22 will be grouped with motion No. 2 for debate and vote. Motions Nos. 23 and 24 could be grouped for debate and one vote.

Motions Nos. 25, 26 and 27 should be grouped for debate and, if required, the question will be put on motion No. 25, with an affirmative vote disposing of motions Nos. 26 and 27. A negative vote on the motion, however, will require the question to be put on motion No. 26, which in turn will dispose

[Mr. Speaker.]

of motion No. 27. Motion No. 28 has already been grouped with motion No. 7. Motion No. 29 standing in the name of the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Leggatt) will be debated and, if required, voted on separately. Motions Nos. 30, 31 and 32 should be grouped for debate, and a vote on motion No. 30 will also dispose of motions Nos. 31 and 32. Motions Nos. 33 and 34 could be grouped for debate and vote.

Motions Nos. 35, 36, 37 and 38 should be grouped for debate and, if required, a vote on motion No. 35 will dispose of motions Nos. 36 and 37. The question on motion No. 38 should be put separately. Motion No. 39 standing in the name of the Solicitor General (Mr. Fox) will be debated and voted on separately.

Mr. Alex Patterson (Fraser Valley East): Mr. Speaker, on the last occasion this bill was before the House I indicated that it was my desire to make a few comments on this clause, and specifically on motion No. 28. For the benefit of those who read *Hansard* and may wonder what this debate was about, as we have been dealing with other matters for the past week, I wish to read from the order paper. The motion reads:

"(2) Every order in council, regulation or form made under this act shall be laid before parliament within fifteen days after the order in council, regulation or form, as the case may be, is made or, if parliament is not then in session, within fifteen days after the commencement of the next ensuing session thereof and every order in council, regulation, or form shall be subject to affirmative resolution of parliament and shall not come into force until published in the *Canada Gazette*."

I realize that the mover of this motion, the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams), and other speakers from this party have indicated very clearly the motion and some of its ramifications. However, sometimes repetition produces the desired results. Stating my support for this motion will add one more voice to the crescendo of requests for the adoption of this amendment.

As we look at the history of this legislation, we see that many amendments have been proposed by the government. A great many were proposed by the opposition parties, but very few of any consequence were accepted by the government. I hope this one in particular will receive the support of all in this House, because it is a very reasonable and logical request when dealing with the Criminal Code of Canada.

If Canadians are to be held accountable, it is imperative that they be made aware of the provisions of the law. Under our system of government it is almost impossible for any person to know whether he or she is living completely within the law as enacted by federal, provincial and municipal governments. Therefore, it is imperative that to the very best of our ability they be made aware of the law and the regulations. I say this because of the complexity of the system under which we operate. I believe the law should be as clear and concise as possible and, as I have said, every effort should be made to acquaint the public with its requirements.

In response to comments by the hon. member for Calgary North, the Minister of Justice (Mr. Basford) stated it is imperative that police officers and customs officials know and understand the regulations so that in dealing with the citizens