

Criminal Code

dealt generally with the word "health" which is used in a vague sense in clause 18 of Bill C-150.

As motion No. 34 tends to qualify the word "health" used in respect of abortion, I am glad to congratulate the hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce (Mr. Allmand) who laid down and defended so eloquently his approach to the problem. I was quite astonished, however, to see the Minister of Justice (Mr. Turner) throw cold water on his enthusiasm.

Not so long ago, the hon. member for Gatineau (Mr. Clermont) also moved an amendment. You will remind that it was beaten all hollow. I thought then that perhaps the amendment was not of a swinging type or that it did not get the approval of the new Liberal members since the hon. member for Gatineau belongs to the old guard.

At any rate, in so far as the amendment now before us is concerned, that cannot be the case, since it is moved by a Montreal lawyer, a new member of parliament, a member of the young team.

Mr. Speaker, during the last election campaign, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) took pleasure in emphasizing across the country the importance of dialogue. Since the election, he has proved his point by hiring defeated Liberal candidates; in fact, many offices have been opened. Several of those defeated candidates are meeting people across the country. Several of them have been mobilized and they travel across the country to carry on a dialogue with the public. In the meantime, in this house, the members normally elected by the people, such as the hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce and the hon. member for Gatineau, are ignored. The views of those members, the views of even the Liberal members are of no interest whatever to the Prime Minister.

The proposal of the member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce is rejected in advance. The Minister of Justice made it clear yesterday, as reported on page 8399 of *Hansard*, and I quote:

Despite the obvious sincerity and the wealth of argument introduced by hon. members who support this amendment... I suggest to the members who are supporting this amendment that the words in the bill itself more adequately and conclusively convey the meaning that they themselves wish to convey than do the words that they are offering to the house.

How stupid can you be?

In Poland, where abortion is commonly practised, any reason is good. Health grounds [Mr. Godin.]

are also recognized. In order to set women free, any reason is valid. For health reasons, women undergo abortion and a week later, those very women are engaged in road building like men.

Everyone will agree that is the way to recover quickly. It was certainly advantageous for the Polish government to legalize abortion since the legislation in that regard, passed without opposition, is profitable to the state, which is the main employer. Polish women are not healthy enough to have children, but they are in perfect health to work for the minister of highways at \$13 a month.

In that socialist country where there is a guaranteed monthly salary of \$11, the department of highways is so generous that it pays as much as \$13 a month to women working at the construction of roads. Not healthy enough to be wives, with everything that is involved in that state of life, but in perfect health when it comes to working in plants, building highways and bridges and farming. One third of Polish farms are owned by women. In approving abortion for Polish women—

Mr. Speaker: Order. I must interrupt the hon. member and beg him to come back from Poland to Canada and more especially to the amendment before us.

It seems to me the hon. member's comments of these last few minutes have nothing to do whatever with the amendment under consideration.

Mr. Godin: I thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

I shall get back to the matter since, for all kinds of reasons, people talk of abortion in that country.

I was in Poland and I wish here to thank the Canadian government for having given me the opportunity of making such a trip.

Abortion is accepted in order not to lose three months of work.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it important that Canadian women should know what the future has in store for them when this famous bill is passed or when, unfortunately, clause 18 is passed.

I wish to point out, once again, that so as not to lose three months' work, women agree to resort to abortion. Yet, the average salary in Poland was \$25 per month. In that country, where a 9 cubic foot refrigerator costs \$450, you can imagine how many months one has to work in order to buy one, Mr. Speaker.