

Criminal Code

would like to ask the Prime Minister whether he would consider establishing other standards so that bilingual districts might be created in those two provinces which are located at both ends of Canada.

Mr. Speaker: The question put by the hon. member is much too general, and I do not think it can be asked at this time. The hon. member might put it on the order paper.

[*English*]

GRAIN

AVAILABILITY OF EASTERN CANADIAN PORTS

Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster): A question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce for the week end, Mr. Speaker: The next time he gives the house a run-down of the grain export situation in Vancouver, would he make available the latest figures and prospects for eastern Canadian ports, particularly Saint John and Halifax, with regard to grain exports, such ports being ready, available, and—I promise—free from bottlenecks.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS**CRIMINAL CODE**

The house resumed from Thursday, January 23, consideration of the motion of Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton) for the second reading and reference to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs of Bill C-150, to amend the Criminal Code, the Parole Act, the Penitentiary Act, the Prisons and Reformatories Act, and to make certain consequential amendments to the Combines Investigation Act, the Customs Tariff and the National Defence Act.

● (11:50 a.m.)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Bernard Dumont (Frontenac): Mr. Speaker, today, the Canadian Parliament has to deal with a bill to amend the Criminal Code, in matters of morality and private behaviour.

It seems that the papers, as a whole, have been concerned with problems of morals and of sex and with some others which were discussed and examined with the utmost caution.

We are witnessing today a strong trend towards exhibitionism and the public display

[Mr. Fortin.]

of obscenities. I was reading yesterday, in a newspaper, an article which made we wonder if here, in Canada, there is any need for amendments such as those recommended by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Turner). I would like to quote this article. The heading reads as follows:

Dutch homosexuals demonstrate... peacefully. Yesterday, in the Hague, about a hundred homosexuals and lesbians held a noisy demonstration in front of the Dutch Parliament, protesting against a national law which stipulates that adults of the same sex having relations are liable to a four year jail term.

So, Holland, a country known all over the world for its culture and learning, is imposing a four year jail term with regard to relations between adults of the same sex, while here, in Canada, we seek to legalize such behaviour.

I wonder whether it is not this lack of responsibility which carries with it the right or the power to amend the Criminal Code because at the end of the article, we could also read:

The third sex supporters gave out to members of parliament—

—in Holland—

—small heart-shaped candies on which were inscribed slogans such as: "love", "kisses", and so on.

When we realize that by amending the Criminal Code we make it possible to legalize all these things in Canada, we, of the Ralliement Cr ditiste, object to it and I should like to say to the Minister of Justice that the Progressive Conservative member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams) was right in presenting his amendment because it aroused public opinion which was becoming unconcerned. I thought the minister wanted to divide the omnibus bill.

In fact, the amendment moved by the hon. member for Calgary North made that suggestion because it reads:

(a) referring to abortion;

The government could have introduced a bill on that subject.

(b) referring to homosexuality and gross indecency;

That amendment should not be included in the omnibus bill. A separate measure should have been moved.

(c) referring to lotteries and gambling;

In my opinion, these matters should have been dealt with in a bill. With a free vote which we, of the Ralliement Cr ditiste have