

Capital Punishment

McKay was the first to the door. Long used a pump action sawed off shotgun and killed McKay. McKay's parents, in their late seventies, are magnificent people who enjoyed their retirement. They were on a trip in California with their motor home when this happened. They were finally found—after the funeral. They tell me that they sold their trailer because they know that if they get sick or into trouble somewhere in their travels, Ron will not be around, as he once was when his father fell ill. At that time he brought them home. They now sit in their rooms, these beautiful gentle people, saddened, their life over and their pleasure over because their son is gone.

Mrs. McKay, the man's mother, a gentle, elegant, grey haired lady, said to me:

I favour capital punishment. My son died needlessly. I would have no hesitation, if someone challenged me, to pull the lever that dropped the trap on my son's killer. Yes, it is revenge. But there is Long in prison, living off society for the rest of his life, mean vicious man who hates authority, who hates policemen. No doubt he will learn to hate guards more. Is he saying: 'I have nothing to lose'?

Constable Roger Pierlet, 23, stationed in Surrey, B.C., was expecting his parents to arrive from Quebec on March 29, 1974, to share the celebration of his engagement. When they arrived, they were told their son had been murdered. Even as they were flying west, John Miller, 29, of Langley and Vincent Cockriell, 19, of Powell River, had set out to kill a policeman. They pulled Pierlet into a chase. Cockriell described the rest. The policeman pulled them over, walked up to the car, and, bang, the young policeman was dead.

Miller, Cockriell, and Long are under sentence of death and no doubt among those waiting for the decision of this House on capital murder. Perhaps they, more than any others, are responsible for the public outcry for the restoration of capital punishment.

Some will say I should not cite cases as proof because they are just one or two instances. However, what greater proof can there be than the innocent dying at the hands of relentless killers who do not fear prison but who might fear execution?

I can list many, many more. On March 2, Ian Wood, then 23, who had bought a Swiss FN automatic by mail, went into a Jericho hostel, occupied by young travellers from all across Canada, sprayed gunfire all over the place hitting four people, and a fifth was injured jumping out of the window.

Richard Smith, 22, of North Bay, Ontario was shot in the face and required intensive care for two months and massive plastic surgery to repair his jaw and face. He was also shot in the left side of his chest and left shoulder, and his right index finger was knocked off. This was not murder, only because the medical care was intensive and excellent. However, he is maimed for life. Christopher Dilly, 22, of Toronto was shot in the right thigh and right femur. He required extensive hospital care and is still using crutches. Arthur Skolnik, 22, of Sillery, Quebec, was injured in the left thigh and shoulder and has still not fully recovered. Paul Alexander Visosky, 20, of Toronto was shot in the right chest and had a collapsed lung. Finally, Yves Pierre Dion, of Moncton, jumped out of the window and was injured. At 3.45 p.m. on June 24, 1975, Mrs. Frieda Buxbaum, 42, parked her car in Eaton's parking lot, in the

[Mrs. Holt.]

centre of downtown Vancouver. She was planning to shop for her daughter's wedding the following week. A sex offender on day parole grabbed her before she got out of her car, bound her hands behind her back with a nylon stocking and strangled her. Her body was found there 12 hours later. This was the fourth assault on women in parking lots in that area. Her killer, when captured, complained that she should not have made so much noise.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member, but it is ten o'clock.

Mrs. Holt: May I finish tomorrow?

An hon. Member: Just call it ten o'clock.

Mrs. Holt: May I call it ten o'clock?

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

TRANSPORT—DATE OF REPORT OF TASK FORCE REVIEW OF SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, on March 22 I brought to the attention of the Minister of Transport (Mr. Lang) the fact that this matter came to my attention as a result of an answer I received to a question I placed on the order paper. It appears that the lifeboats for air and sea rescue which are provided at certain bases in the Atlantic region, those 44 foot rescue boats which are supposed to provide a patrol and rescue capability, can only operate in a few inches of ice.

● (2200)

I pointed out in the House previously, Mr. Speaker, as a result of an announcement by the Minister of the Environment (Mr. Marchand), who was then minister of transport, that a news release he had issued proclaiming the provision of four new lifeboat bases left and obvious void. This included, for some reason that defies understanding, the whole west coast of Newfoundland, stretching some 400 miles between two bases CG114 in Burgeo on the southwest coast and CG109 on the northwest coast.

A map of the area would show this place two of the lifeboat bases on the east coast and the other two on the south and southwest coasts. There are six lifeboat bases in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia which hopefully provide adequate support and protection for Canadian fishermen.

It is impossible to reconcile how supposed marine experts can determine the future needs and announce that four new lifeboat bases will be established. A Transport Canada news release No. 3875 stated that these four bases would be established in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and two in Nova Scotia to provide greater safety to