

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

Mr. Speaker, I think that with the insertion of that detail in clause 18 of the bill, once more difficulties would be avoided.

If my memory serves me well, it was necessary in the province of Quebec until recently to obtain the father's authorization, for instance in the case of a person under the full age of twenty-one years applying for a driver's licence or any other thing normally granted only to persons over the full age of twenty-one years. The Civil Code of Quebec will be amended soon and the mother will also be able to give her consent if it is impossible to find the father or if he refuses. I therefore think the federal government should use discretion so as not to go beyond the provisions of the provincial laws. That is why I ask for an explanation on clause 18 of Bill C-150. Mr. Speaker, I think it would be important to have the opinion of the hon. Minister of Justice (Mr. Turner) as well as that of his colleagues and other members of the house. I think that, pursuant to Standing Order 75, the amendment has been tabled early enough to enable members of the house to take notice of it and to appraise it.

I want once more to point out quite clearly that this amendment has been moved with some reservation. I moved it in case clause 18 would be agreed to. However, if the amendment tending to delete clause 18 is agreed to my amendment would not hold out any more. But in case amendment No. 19 were not rejected, I would then ask the house to pass my proposed amendment.

Mr. Rondeau: Mr. Speaker, my colleague, the hon. member for Abitibi (Mr. Laprise), had considered asking this evening to the Minister of Justice (Mr. Turner) his opinion on this amendment, but I thought it advisable to rise, in order to enable him to think about it until tomorrow afternoon. It is a serious, logical and judicious amendment, because the hon. member for Abitibi wishes to amend clause 18 by substituting to the words "... a female person who, being pregnant" the words "who is married or of age, or a female person under age with the written consent of her parents or guardian."

Now, we are considering a most serious amendment, because how can we imagine that a pregnant girl of 17 years of age could have an abortion without the consent of her parents?

It is possible that a young girl, who could be an only child, for instance, becomes pregnant and would like to get an abortion, without the consent of her father who could be anxious to be a grandfather. The girl might want to interrupt her pregnancy for all kinds of social considerations or not to let her parents know. Then, because the law authorizes her to get abortion without the knowledge of her parents, the father could one day learn about it and realize he missed an unique opportunity to become a grandfather.

From that point of view, I believe the girl's father has a right, as far as his grandson is concerned.

Moreover, if his daughter, one day, is remiss in her duties towards her child.—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. It being ten o'clock it is my duty to put the questions to be debated at this time.

[English]

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

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

TRANSPORT—BORDEN-TORMENTINE FERRY RATES

Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough): Mr. Speaker, I regret that the other day when asking the Minister of Transport (Mr. Hellyer) about the ferries between Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, I directed my question to the wrong terminal and it ended up with the Minister of Finance (Mr. Benson) who immediately disclaimed responsibility for the cargo and the container. I did not know, in the few days following my question, there would be such change and turmoil as developed in connection with the Minister of Transport.

It is not new, Mr. Speaker, for representatives of the province of Prince Edward Island to be addressing this chamber on questions of transportation. Indeed, the Fathers of Confederation from my province over one hundred years ago very wisely put transportation at the top of the list of priorities. The Province of Prince Edward Island entered Confederation on the promise of "continuous and efficient communication with the mainland". The people of Prince Edward Island were assured that, as far as humanly possible, the province's insular geographic disabilities would be overcome as a result of national governmental