

Mr. Deachman: I do not agree with that.

Mr. Horner: We have one member who does not agree. Now I see there are eight. I count eight hands up, Mr. Chairman.

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please. The Chair finds it very difficult to hear what the hon. member for Crowfoot is saying.

Mr. Horner: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I noticed a number of raised hands. Someone has accused me of not counting him, so there are nine.

An hon. Member: The hon. member cannot count.

Mr. Horner: Nine members out of perhaps 150 members here tonight.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Horner: The Minister of Justice jokes about this matter. Will he allow a free vote on this amendment? Will he stand up and say that members of his party can vote any way they like? Will he stand up and say that every member from the province of Quebec can vote the way his heart and mind dictates? He will not. He knows the party whip has things in hand. The minister laughs and jokes about this matter. It is a very serious matter today in Canada. We are confronted with acts of terrorism. We know that the War Measures Act was brought in because of an uprising within the country for the purpose of overthrowing the democratic rights of the people.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): I rise on a point of order, Mr. Chairman. Because the record goes out to a great many people, I should like it recorded that I am not joking or laughing at the issue.

Mr. Horner: But the minister is laughing and joking at the amendment moved by an hon. friend to my extreme left. He is laughing and joking at this amendment.

• (8:30 p.m.)

An hon. Member: Tell the truth.

Mr. Horner: I am telling the truth right now. I wish that every member of the party of the hon. member who told me to tell the truth could vote truthfully according to his conscience and the wishes of his constituents.

An hon. Member: Come on, Jack.

Mr. Horner: But no, the whips are on. The Minister of Justice could not rise to speak when I asked him to. He shied away from that point because he knew that if he did not, this amendment would carry. There is not a member of Parliament in the House who does not agree with this amendment and who does not believe that most of his constituents agree with it.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Horner: There are not nine members out of the 150 here tonight who can say, "We disagree with this amend-

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ment". Everyone here knows that their constituents agree with this amendment.

Mr. Francis: We want to hear how your side votes on it.

Mr. Horner: Now we hear great comments from the hon. member for Ottawa West. Let him make his speech after I am through. I would like to see the name of everyone opposing this amendment on the record, because their constituents will long remember it. They will long remember the government that brought in the War Measures Act.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Horner: This is the government that said there is terrorism and there is an uprising that is going to overthrow democracy. But each and every one of them will be turning against his constituents in voting against this amendment; there is no question about that. The minister drags out the five-year trial ban on capital punishment that was put into effect in December of 1967. We know that on that particular date the whips were on. But that does not necessarily apply to this act, because the bill before us is to provide temporary emergency powers for the preservation of public order within Canada.

There is no question in my mind that 70 per cent, 80 per cent, 90 per cent of the people of Canada believe that if a person is prepared to commit treason, to kill and torture human beings, good, law abiding Canadian citizens, he should receive the maximum penalty of death. I leave it to the government to decide by what means capital punishment should be applied, whether it be by hanging, the gas chamber or whatsoever method may be decided upon.

There is no question in my mind that most of Canada wants this amendment accepted and that most members of the House want it accepted. It is a cowardly act of the government to try to slide this amendment under the carpet tonight by dragging out the Criminal Code and saying that capital punishment is on a five-year trial period, so this amendment does not apply. This is a temporary measure for the specific purpose of preserving public order in Canada.

There is no doubt in my mind that capital punishment is in fact a deterrent. The Minister of Justice was a great believer in the value of a deterrent when it came to introducing the breathalyzer test. He used the argument that a deterrent was very important for the purpose of safeguarding persons using public highways. Now he does not believe in the value of a deterrent. He would rather have soldiers standing at the corner of every street, guarding every public building in Montreal with loaded machine-guns in their hands and fingers on the trigger. Is that not a deterrent? You bet it is a deterrent—but it is one that affects every law abiding citizen as he walks by the soldier with his finger on the trigger.

This amendment would bring in an effective deterrent for anyone committing a murder or an act of treason in order to create public disorder in an emergency situation such as the one we are now experiencing.