Criminal Code

Is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the said motion? All those in favour will please say yea.

Some hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some hon. Members: Nay.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: In my view the nays have it.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): On division.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I declare the motion negatived on division.

Motion No. 44 (Mr. Winch) negatived.

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (for the Minister of Justice) moved:

That Bill C-150, an act 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, as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, be concurred in.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the said motion?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Caouette: On division.

Motion (for concurrence) agreed to.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: When shall the said bill be read the third time?

Some hon. Members: Now.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Pursuant to special order made Friday, May 9, 1969.

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice) moved that 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 as reported (with amendments) from the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, be read the third time and do pass.

He said: Mr. Speaker, if I might introduce this motion in a very few words, I gather that all the amendments have been disposed of, that the report stage has been concluded and that we are now on third reading. I also gath-

[Mr. Deputy Speaker.]

er that under the rules I will have an opportunity to close the debate as well.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): The minister had better be careful. I do not think that provision applies to third reading.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I would point out that the minister has that right on second reading but not on third reading. There may be a disposition of the house in this regard, but I will not prejudge that matter.

Mr. Woolliams: He would not want to filibuster his own bill.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): In answering that remark may I say what ministers often say, namely, that we have had a full and searching debate—and I think I can say that with some justification.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Full, anyway.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Yes, it was certainly full. There have been serious and deep differences of opinion on certain aspects of this proposed legislation. I listened to those opinions with great feeling because I know how sincere and profound are the convictions of members in some quarters of the house, particularly those opinions that related to measures that affect private morals and the concept of life and death.

Despite this, Mr. Speaker, I am satisfied, as I stated previously on behalf of the government, that we have placed before hon. members a bill that is sound and useful, and one that has the support of a significant majority of the people of Canada whether within or without the House of Commons.

May I just review for the record the history of this bill. Members will recall that it was preceded by Bill C-195 which was introduced by my predecessor as minister of justice, the present Prime Minister of Canada (Mr. Trudeau). That bill was introduced on December 21, 1967, and it lapsed with the general election. When the new parliament was constituted I had the opportunity to review the bill, to meet with members of all parties of the house, to receive delegations from every quarter of the country and to listen to many representations. The bill was then reintroduced under the present appellation, C-150, and it contains significant changes from the earlier bill.

The present bill was introduced on December 19, 1968. Debate on second reading took place on eight different days. Second reading