

Illicit Drugs Promotion

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I would say that that is a point of debate. If the Hon. Member wishes to express it in debate, that is fine. The Hon. Member for Edmonton—Strathcona has the floor.

Mr. Skelly: If he would use it properly maybe we would all benefit from it.

Mr. Kilgour: The people of Canada will know and judge whether Members opposite calling for more study and for more interdepartmental committees—

Mr. Skelly: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The previous speaker's information and presentation is absolutely incorrect. The Government is calling for more study and wishes to present that study—

Mr. Horner: That's wrong!

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): That, too, is debate. The Hon. Member for Edmonton—Strathcona has the floor.

Mr. Skelly: You are full of hops.

Mr. Kilgour: The Hon. Member for sunglasses tells me that I am full of hops.

Mr. Skelly: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. My riding is Comox—Powell River.

Mr. Kilgour: The point in this debate is not hops. It is coke, crack and heroin. It is all manner of narcotic drugs which, as I was indicating, have caused in one city alone half a million crimes in a 10-year period. As someone who used to be a prosecutor in Vancouver, I assure the Hon. Member that they have caused a great many crimes of violence, crimes of property—all kinds of tragic crimes in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia.

Mr. Skelly: Maybe we are talking about the quality of prosecution and not the relevant issues of this particular Bill.

Mr. Kilgour: Let me say to you, Sir, or to anyone who might be watching this debate or reporting on it that if the five other members of the New Democratic Party who are sitting in the House when I sit down talk about this Bill beyond the next 25 minutes—

Mr. Keeper: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I would like to know why the Hon. Member does not deal with the substance of the Bill. Why does he not tell us what he thinks about the issue?

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): That is not a point of order. The Hon. Member will have an opportunity to speak this afternoon. There will still be plenty of time.

Mr. Keeper: Restrain this man and tell him to stick to the truth.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): The Hon. Member for Edmonton—Strathcona has the floor.

Mr. Kilgour: Mr. Speaker, let the people of Thunder Bay, Winnipeg, Vancouver and Regina note if these Members get up to talk this Bill out. If this Bill is not passed today—

Mr. Keeper: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The Member continues to accuse us of doing things which we have no intention of doing. He is not dealing with the substance of the amendment. What is wrong with him?

Mr. Skelly: He is talking the Bill out.

Mr. Kilgour: Let the people know that we have 20 minutes and if the four of them get up to talk this Bill out it will drop to the bottom of the list. There will then be 11 matters ahead of it before we can vote on it.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I have two points to raise. First, at this point, as I understand it, we are debating an amendment. I would ask the Speaker to restrict the scope of debate to the substance of the amendment. Second, we are prepared to vote now on this amendment. It is the Hon. Member for Edmonton—Strathcona who appears to want to continue the debate. Let us get on with the vote.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): That is not a point of order. The Hon. Member for Edmonton—Strathcona knows what the amendment is. I would appreciate very much if he would carry on with his debate.

Mr. Kilgour: Mr. Speaker, I would be delighted to sit down and vote on the amendment. I hope very much that I am in error when I am told that the New Democratic Party will talk this Bill out. I am delighted to say that I support the amendment. The reasons have been given very capably by the Hon. Member for Mississauga North. I will now sit down.

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in support of the Bill proposed by my colleague from Mississauga North. I am also pleased to support the amendment that is offered to the Bill. I want to indicate that I would have supported this Bill with or without the amendment that has been proposed.

If this Bill can, and I believe it can, in some small measure contribute toward the lowering of drug abuse in our society, then we should congratulate the Hon. Member for Mississauga North and all others who support it. I know that my colleague from York South—Weston (Mr. Nunziata) was the only opposition Member who participated in the committee process on this Bill. As a matter of fact, one Party did not participate in the debate at the committee level at all.

Mr. Della Noce: What was the Party?

Mr. Boudria: An Hon. Member asks me what is the name of that Party.