

of the workers, it would be a signal to the labour movement, to the co-operative movement, and to Canadians generally, that we like small business, that we like individual enterprise, that we like personal ownership, and that we like Canadian management.

Senator Roblin: I must tell my honourable friend—

Senator Flynn: You have not always spoken that way. I remember the days when you were a member of the CCF.

Senator Roblin: If my honourable friend were to pay attention to the measures of the budget—which in some respects has not been well received by my honourable friend—he would find out that that is precisely what we are doing in the budget.

Some Hon. Senators: Hear, hear.

Senator Roblin: We are taking the position of the labour unions in the Province of Quebec which, in difficult times, encouraged their members to get involved in their own businesses and for which they have received a special tax concession from the Government of Quebec. A tax concession of a similar nature is provided for in this budget. That deals precisely with a case such as the one in Hamilton.

In any instance where a province wishes to support, by means of tax concessions, these labour-inspired small businesses of the kind my honourable friend speaks about, we have said that we will be glad to co-operate.

Senator Argue: I have listened carefully to what the Leader of the Government in the Senate has said and, in reading between the lines, I think it only fair to come to the conclusion—because of the policy announced in the budget and as interpreted now by the government leader in the Senate—that the decision will be made in favour of the workers' co-operative. I am glad to get that encouragement, and I hope that that favourable decision is made public soon.

Senator Flynn: That is not a question either!

Senator Roblin: I do not mind encouraging my honourable friend, but the principles I enunciated previously are the ones which I am sure will prevail in the matter.

Senator Argue: So, the answer has to be "yes."

Senator Flynn: There was no question.

Senator Argue: Senator Flynn, when you were over here, you did the same thing—

Senator Flynn: Honourable senators, I rise on a question of privilege. Senator Argue has repeated what was said by Senator Olson a few minutes ago, that being that when I was on that side I carried on in the way that Senator Argue is—

Senator Argue: Not as effectively, but you did try.

Senator Flynn: I challenge you and Senator Olson to point to an occasion when I took more than two minutes in putting a question.

Senator Guay: Oh, oh!

Senator Flynn: It would have happened only on those occasions when I was interrupted by Senator Guay. On those

[Senator Argue.]

occasions, you would have to include the time that it took to deal with Senator Guay's interjection. I challenge any one of you to prove that I took more than two minutes on a preamble to a question.

Senator Frith: That is all that Senator Argue took.

An Hon. Senator: In 1979.

Senator Argue: I shall defer to His Honour the Speaker.

The Hon. the Speaker: I should like to draw to the attention of honourable senators that, under rule 20B:

A preamble to a question, whether it is asked orally or in writing, is out of order.

● (1450)

Senator Frith: But—

The Hon. the Speaker: I would also refer to rule 32, which says:

A debate shall not be in order on an oral question, but brief explanatory remarks may be made by the senator making the interrogation and by the senator answering the same. Observations upon any such answer shall not be allowed.

We have exercised a little licence this afternoon, but I thought I would point this out to the house.

Senator Walker: For the benefit of those who may not understand, what is the rule, Your Honour?

The Hon. the Speaker: Rule 32.

Senator Argue: "Brief explanatory remarks." Everything is perfectly in order.

[Translation]

CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT BILL, 1985

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

Leave having been given to revert to Committee Reports:

Hon. Joan B. Neiman, Chairman of the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs, presented the following report:

Wednesday, June 12, 1985

The Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs has the honour to present its

FIRST REPORT

Your Committee, to which was referred Bill C-18, intituled: "An Act to amend the Criminal Code, to amend an Act to amend the Criminal Code and to amend the Combines Investigation Act, the Customs Act, the Excise Act, the Food and Drugs Act, the Narcotic Control Act, the Parole Act and the Weights and Measures Act, to repeal certain other Acts and to make other consequential amendments", has, in obedience to the Order of Refer-