Protection of Privacy

The warrant was not for the apartment in which this lady lives, nor for the other apartment in that building which is presently occupied. I might add that the building itself is going to be torn down very shortly. The warrant they had was for a basement apartment, and the RCMP broke into it. They also took their dog into the apartment, and it cleaned up on the cat's food. Of course they have the dog to smell around the place. It's a very nice dog. Since then I have met him. As I say, he's a nice dog, but hungry.

Mr. Speaker, this woman was insulted; she was assaulted. There was absolutely no justification and no excuse for that. In my opinion there was no excuse for that warrant to be issued. If they want to go after Mr. Assaly they should make out the warrant in his name, go to his home and go after him. As I say, maybe the police believe he runs the narcotics operation in Ottawa. They may even believe that one of our protective staff runs it. But, if they do, they should have got a warrant for his apartment.

The apartment in the basement which they broke into had had nobody living in it for two months. I presume they must not have been following the case that closely. To the Minister of Justice and to the Solicitor General (Mr. Allmand), if anything had been found in this lady's apartment, illegally or not, I suppose it would not make any difference. That would prove the case so far as they were concerned. But I suggest that is going to the extreme. I gather that the police were raiding throughout the Hull-Ottawa area that night. As a matter of fact, it was very hard for me to get hold of anybody in charge of the raid. I finally had to find them in Hull. Whether they drink coffee there, or whatever the arrangement is, I don't know. Anyway, it appeared to be a very big operation. Maybe they do this every week. But if the Minister of Justice is right in what he says, then every member of this House had better think about what the hon, member for the Yukon said a few moments ago when he asked if the total telephone structure of the city of Ottawa was being tapped, and the answer was, "We cannot tell you for security reasons.'

I suggest that the police on their marijuana raids should start at the edge of the city and go through every house as they come to it. They could have a judge with them in a car and have him write out a search warrant after they have found something in a house. Better still, the Minister of Justice should be honest with this House and tell us that all he needs is a writ of assistance, instead of this legislation, that can be supplied to all his agents throughout the country so that raids can be made any time at all. If that were done, then I am as sure as I am that I am standing here that we would enforce law and order. In fact we would have a gestapo. We would have a nazi regime. This would be a fascist state. I am also sure there would be less crime and that criminals would be punished much more speedily. But, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that not one member of this House wants that to happen, yet every member of the House knows of instances where it does

When this happens, what are people to do? Does this particular person have to go out and hire a criminal lawyer and lay charges of assault and maybe even of battery against the police? I may say that this was a fellow by the name of Kruger. Somebody asked me what I would

have done. I said I would have had Constable Kruger immediately on his way to the Arctic, to Inuvik or somewhere like that, and stick him there. And I would see that he remained there, if I were his superior.

Certainly we can have law and order, Mr. Speaker. But some hon. members seem to believe that this simply means arresting a lot of people, convicting a lot of people and putting a lot of people in jail. We already have more people in jail in Canada than many civilized countries of the world.

Mr. Nielsen: And they are getting out quickly.

Mr. Peters: No, they are not getting out; they are escaping. They get on top of each other; they make a pyramid of themselves to reach the top of the prison wall, simply because the place is so crowded. When he is asked about escapes, all the Solicitor General does is tell us that we have bought another piece of land, that we are going to put up another prison building and that will solve the problem.

As I say, we can use law and order in this country. But if we abuse law and order there is always a response, and I suggest the time is coming shortly for that response. This particular gentleman whose wife was insulted and assaulted did not make any bones about it—that if he had been home he would have shot the guy. I suggested to him that he do it in self-defence, to make sure the guy was coming in when he shot, rather than going out, because it is a little easier to prove self-defence if the guy was hit in the front rather than in the back.

I still believe laws have to be obeyed, Mr. Speaker, but I do not believe any person can walk into your house and search it without a warrant. And I do not believe such a warrant should be easily obtained. If the police come to my house with a search warrant for marijuana, they don't have the right to go through the house, find an unregistered firearm and charge me with that offence. If they are looking for marijuana, they don't have to go through my refrigerator. I don't know much about marijuana these days-maybe that is where you keep marijuana-but the police certainly do not have to dump all kinds of medicine pills out on the floor and empty the aspirin bottle to see whether there is marijuana in it. Marijuana, so far as I know, is grass. It does not look like pills. At least this guy should have known what he was looking for, and I really do not know why he had to do a full examination of the lady. I do not believe he was providing any gratuitous medical information to her. This was an insult to the man and an insult to the people, and it is an insult to me, Mr. Speaker. It should be an insult to every Canadian unless you believe your police forces should be a gestapo. If you do, the rules can go out the window.

• (1700)

As I understand it, two or three people used to make all the decisions for the gestapo and there were no difficulties at all. The courts and justice were very quick. We do not think that way, yet the minister is suggesting in this instance that if you get illegal evidence and that illegal evidence is worth while, no matter how you came by it, then you have a case. He is saying that the end justifies the means. That is what justice was saying when they

[Mr. Peters.]