

that, if the leave was granted and if I made any remarks, any honourable senator who wanted to amplify those remarks or criticize them would then have the right to do so, because it seemed to me that it would be unfair to let me explain my point without other honourable senators having the right of reply.

I simply raise this matter, not to argue but so that it will be on the record and so that we will not have accepted the view of the deputy leader without its being noted that there are other views.

Senator Frith: Honourable senators, I am certainly grateful to Senator Smith for the opportunity to make it clear on the record that I was not suggesting that there not be full opportunity to do exactly what is being suggested. I was simply saying that it seemed to me that procedurally the best way of doing that would be to do it on third reading. However, I do not believe it is of such great moment, and if we can clarify it by saying, in effect, that leave was granted to suspend rule 78(2) and to have debate when the committee reported in this case, then the problem is solved and we need not say any more. We all agree that, the explanation having been given, the opposition, or any senator, for that matter, should have an opportunity to discuss and explore the explanation.

● (2140)

The Hon. the Acting Speaker: Let us be clear about this. As I understand it, before I call third reading tomorrow senators will be invited to comment on Senator Bird's explanation.

Senator Roblin: Honourable senators, may I express my understanding of the position in order to regularize it? It seems to me that leave has been granted, in effect, to begin debate on the subject. That is the effect of having given leave to Senator Bird to make her statement, which, personally, I

appreciated hearing because I think it raised some very interesting points. However, in effect, we have granted leave to dispense with the rule of no debate. Having done that, it seems to follow, as far as I can make out, that if an honourable senator wants to adjourn the debate to another time the Senate might agree to such a course being adopted. That was my position when I endeavoured to move the adjournment of this debate. Of course, the Senate could refuse to allow its adjournment, although that is not likely, being the body it is; but if it did, I would have to accept it. Otherwise, I think you should accept my motion that this permitted debate be adjourned by me, and allow me to make a few comments, as well as anyone else who wishes to participate, on the next occasion.

Senator Frith: Honourable senators, I made the suggestion and it has been declined. The motion has now been made and we will accept the motion.

On motion of Senator Roblin, debate adjourned.

CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES AS CAUSES OF CRIMINAL BEHAVIOUR

REPORT OF HEALTH, WELFARE AND SCIENCE COMMITTEE—
ORDER STANDS

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the consideration of the Report of the Standing Senate Committee on Health, Welfare and Science entitled: "Child at Risk", tabled in the Senate on 16th October, 1980.—(*Honourable Senator Bonnell*).

Hon. William J. Petten: Honourable senators, Senator Bonnell has asked that this order stand until Wednesday, March 31.

Order stands.

The Senate adjourned until tomorrow at 2 p.m.