

with provincial Governments, is very important. Its examination of the history of similar legislation in the United States and elsewhere is also very important.

I suggest it is only appropriate that this House respect the work of that important interdepartmental working committee. For that reason, I suggest that to move ahead at this point, today, with the legislation, improved though it may be by passage of the amendment which is now before the House, would in fact preclude the very important study which is being done by the interdepartmental working group. I believe we should recognize the important work that is being done. This is a sensitive and important question. There are a number of areas of concern with respect to the whole question of drug abuse and the very serious inadequacies of the Government's response in the area of alcohol and drug abuse, particularly in terms of rehabilitation and education programs. That is an area about which we, as New Democrats, feel very strongly.

We believe as well that there has to be a careful examination of the legislation to ensure that it does in fact comply in all respects with the provisions of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. I note in particular the provisions with respect to literature. I know this will not be the only opportunity in which this House will have the occasion to discuss this legislation. As I understand it, it will in fact, under the rules, come back before the House. Let us hope that the interdepartmental working committee which is addressing this question seriously will examine the important issues surrounding it and will report back to the Government and that following that report, we can then examine the legislation, giving it the care it obviously deserves.

**Mr. David Kilgour (Edmonton—Strathcona):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak strongly in favour of passing the Bill today and to say that I think we owe an enormous vote of thanks to parents, legislators, store owners, victims of all manner of crimes, Canadians generally, and to the Member for Mississauga North (Mr. Horner) for bringing this measure along. As you will recall, Mr. Speaker, between 1980 and 1983 I tried to get a similar Bill through but was not successful. I can only pay the utmost respect to my colleague for having persevered and pushed this Bill through to the point at which it is now.

I understand that Assistant Commissioner Heaton of the RCMP told the Standing Committee on National Health and Welfare that closing head shops—and we heard earlier there were thousands of them across Canada—would be the single biggest factor in combating the drug trade. I understand that head shops have been abolished in approximately 40 States in the United States and that young people are now coming to Canada where the paraphernalia can be bought freely and taking it back to the United States.

I was extremely disappointed to hear the spokesman for the New Democratic Party indicate that those Members will attempt to talk the Bill out today. I very much hope that this will not be done by other Members in the House for many

### *Illicit Drugs Promotion*

reasons. I would indicate to Members of the New Democratic Party that if they do talk the Bill out, everyone watching this debate or reading about it, will know—

**Mr. Robinson:** Let's have the question now.

**Mr. Keeper:** Why do you raise that prospect?

• (1430)

**Mr. Kilgour:** At 3 p.m. we will know whether or not members of the New Democratic Party will talk this Bill out. If they do I can assure them I will do everything I can to make it an election issue in the upcoming election.

**Mr. Keeper:** Why do you not deal with the substance of the Bill instead of throwing around accusations?

**Mr. Kilgour:** My friend from Burnaby objects to the possible censorship aspects of the Bill. The Hon. Member for Mississauga North dealt with that. If my friend from the NDP is suggesting that magazines such as "High Times", "How to Cheat Your Drug Dealer", and "How to Make Money in Dealing in Drugs" are the kind of titles he is worried about, then I do not think his constituents share his view.

The Bill has had amendments made to it which will make it a better Bill. It deserves the support of all Members from all sides of the House. I give full credit to the Hon. Member for York South—Weston (Mr. Nunziata) for his contribution to the debate. I believe his Party has indicated that it will support the Bill.

The drug problem has been called an epidemic in this country. I know that Hon. Members will say that the Hon. Member for Edmonton—Strathcona used to be a drug prosecutor. I also indicate that I have defended people charged with drug offences. I would like to give an example of a client that I once defended on a heroin charge. This is a matter of public record since he said it in court. He began his day every morning at 8 a.m. or 9 a.m. by getting up and going around and breaking into apartments. In this case it was in Winnipeg. He did that until 2 p.m., by which time he would have raised enough money to buy his two caps of heroin. He would arrange to deliver the money to his dealer. He would take his two caps of heroin and get high, have dinner and go to bed. He would wake up the next day and do the same thing. He would do this seven days a week.

A study done in Philadelphia showed that about 200 drug addicts—that few—over a 10-year period committed something in the order of half a million crimes in the City of Philadelphia. If that is the type of thing that the Hon. Member for Burnaby—

**Mr. Skelly:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Let us make it abundantly clear that the New Democratic Party does not advocate that. Possibly the Hon. Member for Edmonton—Strathcona (Mr. Kilgour) does. The absolutely misleading presentation by this Member is completely—