

If the death penalty returns to Canada, I will no longer live in a civilized nation. I chose to come to Canada, I married one of its daughters, I have learned to love this country and I will continue to do so whatever Parliament decides.

But returning the death penalty is turning back the clock of civilization and in my opinion it is doing a dishonour to the memory of the men who died for that civilization. Please, Members of Parliament in Ottawa, do not force me to commit premeditated murder against my will.

**Mr. Kindy:** Mr. Speaker, I have somewhat of a comment to make. It is a known fact that we have democracies in the world and that we have dictatorships. One of the functions of the state is to defend its own people against dictatorship. This is why we have wars. People in the Second World War fought against the Nazis because they wanted to preserve liberty.

Article VII of our Constitution guarantees legal rights to life, liberty, and security of person. The state has an obligation to preserve the security of the individual. If we have a war, the armed forces go out to defend the security of the state. When they go out they fight and they kill to preserve democracy, to preserve the security of persons, to preserve it from tyranny.

The Hon. Member talked about Nazi Germany and about the Jewish people. I think Canada and other free countries were involved to destroy Naziism because it was killing people.

**Mr. Oostrom:** Six million.

**Mr. Kindy:** Yes, six million Jews, and I am not counting the 20 million in eastern Europe who were killed. The state has an obligation to preserve life and to preserve liberty.

On the other hand, we have terrorists that work within the country, so the state has its obligation. It has a police force to preserve liberty of the individual so that terrorists do not take over. We have the mafia and we have the criminal killer.

If we follow the logic of the Hon. Member, we should disarm the police forces; we should disarm the army and just give up or succumb to dictatorship and to anarchy inside the country. This logic is difficult to follow.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** I would hope the Hon. Member would come to his question. This is questions and comment period.

**Mr. Kindy:** It was a comment, but my question is: Would he propose complete disarmament so that nobody would be killed? That is my question.

**Mr. de Corneille:** Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to reply to my colleague. I am glad he is asking questions, as we all should ask one another, on a matter as serious as this one.

First, the quotation I took was from a man whose name is Reverend H. J. Dyckman, a Christian clergyman living in Canada, who is recounting his experiences in the Netherlands as a child.

The objective of his letter was to point out that when we send out our men to fight against an enemy, we tell them that

### *Capital Punishment*

when the enemy throws down his arms, no matter what they have done until that point, we must not then kill them, we must not then torture them. At that moment they must obey that understanding. He said that if we follow that, even with the atrocious killers as took place with some of the Nazi soldiers in some of the Nazi activities, if we tell our soldiers to do that, can we do any less for ourselves as parliamentarians? I think that was the first question, and I think that is what he was asking about.

Second, my colleague also raised the question of war. I think I indicated that we use war, that in fact we kill in self-defence. Self-defence is the only kind of action which I think people in civilized countries and civilized societies would hold to be the time when they would take up arms to kill someone.

Of course when Canada went to war with the Germans, with the Italians, and with the Japanese, it was a war to prevent murder, a war in self-defence. Canada sought no aggrandizement of territory. Canada sought no plain ordinary war just to fight. Canada fought in self-defence with other nations that they might survive. It was not a war of aggression. It was a war of defence. I hope Canada will never undertake any wars of aggression. It is not in our interest to do so. We enter into war only to defend ourselves and other people throughout the world from the horrors of dictatorship, to which my colleague quite rightly pointed.

● (1950)

**Mr. Orlikow:** Mr. Speaker, I was struck by the statement of the Hon. Member from Calgary who reminded us that six million Jews were slaughtered by the Nazis before and during World War II. I would like the Hon. Member for Eglinton—Lawrence (Mr. de Corneille) to confirm my understanding that the State of Israel, where so many of the Jews who survived the Holocaust have settled, has abolished capital punishment and that when Israel wanted to put Adolf Eichmann, who was responsible for the killing of so many Jews, to death it passed a special law for just that case. There is no death penalty for any other murderers, including terrorists who are so active killing people in Israel.

**Mr. de Corneille:** Mr. Speaker, I would confirm what my hon. friend has pointed out. Not only is this true in the case of Israel, but as Reverend H. J. Dyckman from the Netherlands, who has lived and worked in Canada all these years and is now a Canadian pointed out:

Reinstatement of the death penalty happened in the Netherlands in 1940, about 60 years after it had been abolished. It was a Nazi Government which restored state executions after a brutal invasion. Civilization ended in the lowlands then, barbarism returned for five long years.

In the spring of 1945 my country of birth was liberated. In September of that year a new, democratically elected parliament in a free nation voted to abolish the death penalty again.

In other words in the Netherlands it was only during the era of Nazi brutality that in the last nearly 100 years we saw capital punishment in that land. It was with the driving out of