

Criminal Code

should accept therapeutic abortions for various reasons, we have one of the most strict acts of all.

But once again, that is not the point I want to make. I am not interested in those people who would deliberately paralyze a democratic institution and then go beg for votes in the province of Quebec, through false representations and demagoguery.

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): I am most pleased to contribute in a positive way to the discussion on this amendment, moved by the hon. member for Beauce (Mr. Rodrigue), amendment to delete from the bill the words: "or health".

I would like to ask the hon. member for Matane (Mr. De Bané) not to run away, to stick to his seat. It is the first time we see him since the beginning of this session. I should like him to have at least the courage of his convictions, and to remain here.

Mr. Speaker—

Mr. De Bané: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. De Bané: On a point of order—

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please.

[Translation]

Mr. Fortin: —when the hon. member for Beauce—

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please.

[Translation]

Mr. Fortin: —moves his amendment—

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Would the hon. member resume his seat? That is not a point of order. I would make the observation again to hon. members that points of order and questions of privilege are important parts of our procedure. If hon. members use them in an exchange with each other, that only serves to diminish their importance. I would caution against this kind of exchange which has occurred before. If the hon. member has a point of order and would cite the relevant Standing Order which pertains to his point of order, I would be pleased to hear it.

[Translation]

Mr. Ouellet: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

I think that in the course of his remarks the hon. member for Matane (Mr. De Bané), who was often interrupted, was telling a few home truths to the members of the Ralliement créditiste, and—

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please.

[Translation]

Mr. Ouellet: Such truths were not taken into account—

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the hon. member rising on a point of order or a question of privilege?

[Translation]

Mr. Ouellet: I rise on a point of order.

The members of the Ralliement créditiste have constantly interrupted the hon. member for Matane while he was making his speech, which shows a lack of decorum at this stage of the debate, and I would have this to tell them: For about fifteen days, I have seen them in the house wearing a white beret, and I think this shows a total lack of decorum. Let them take off their white berets.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, after these remarks,—

Mr. C. A. Gauthier (Roberval): Stupid—

Mr. Fortin: After these remarks—which the member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier) rightly said were stupid, to respect the decorum of the same member—I would like to come back to the proposed amendment.

I appreciated the remark of the hon. member for Matane when he told us that the Ralliement créditiste is wasting the time of the house, that the Ralliement créditiste is boycotting or filibustering the debates. I will tell him that when he makes such statements, he is entirely wrong. What we have been doing, for over fifteen days, or nearly nineteen days,—time is not important in this house, what counts, Mr. Speaker, is the legislation we pass and not the stupid speeches that can be made by the hon. member for Matane.

It will take all the time required, but when we are through, the Canadian people will recognize that the Ralliement créditiste has the courage of its convictions, that it is faithful to its constituents, and that it has made its best sincerely and honestly—and not paid to