

telephone communications from house to house and from house to office. It is not a regular phone. It is subject to interception by scanners. Anyone among the Canadian populace who did not know that these conversations are susceptible to interception must have spent the last several years on Mars. However, for those people who did not know that we as members of Parliament and the Department of Communications, the minister and so on, can all bring our considerable abilities in communication to bear to let Canadians know that they are subject to interception on these cellular phones and to act accordingly.

Even as we speak, the technology of cellular phones is being improved. As we move from the current analog system into digital cellars it will become increasingly difficult to intercept the calls. Yet here we are rushing to judgement and changing the Criminal Code for something that we do not need to do. Until such time as we know that the technology will prevent the interception let us deal with technological means to control the interception. No matter what steps we take people are going to keep on using cellular phones because of their convenience, obviously. This is sensible and we all know this. Some people are going to continue to intercept them.

On the grand scale of things it does not really rate up there with major criminal offences in this country. It does not. If what happened to the Prince of Wales several months ago happened 500 years ago the interceptor might have been decapitated. We have perhaps progressed from that stage to the 1990s and we do not need to use such extraordinary means to deal with what is ostensibly a fairly minimal offence.

Canadians need to be informed of the consequences of using their cellars. They do not need to be jailed because of their use.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois):** Before resuming debate it is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 38, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Parkdale—High Park—National Defence; the hon. member for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce—Montreal Economy; the hon. member for Hillsborough—Veterans Affairs; the hon. member for Saanich—Gulf Islands—Trade.

### *Government Orders*

**Mr. Stan Keyes (Hamilton West):** Mr. Speaker, as always I am privileged to have the opportunity to rise in this place on behalf of the constituents of Hamilton West in my hometown, this time to speak to Bill C-109. It is a bill being tabled by the Minister of Justice. It includes Criminal Code amendments as well as changes to the Crown Liability and Proceedings Act and the Radiocommunications Act.

I know my colleagues are dealing with its wire-tap provisions with which we are generally agreed. I want to focus for a few minutes on the cellular communications and privacy aspects of the bill, as have been discussed even as recently as by my colleague from Halifax.

Let me say from the very beginning that I and my Liberal colleagues believe that we need to achieve greater privacy in communications. There is no question of that. We believe there are a number of concerns that need to be addressed. We have attempted to do that, be it at first reading of this bill, second reading, report stage and even prior to that at committee stage. We sat in committee and discussed privacy matters with members of the House from all sides.

• (1645)

The fight against the so-called nuisance junk phone calls that bother seniors in our ridings and families at home continues. How many times have we had to get up? It always seems that these marketing firms always think things through and assume that the most likely time people will be home is at the dinner hour. We are sitting with our family, enjoying our chicken, potatoes and corn and then the phone rings. Who is it? It is somebody selling something. Even more insulting, it is some computer voice that is kicked onto the telephone line.

Then there are the business people and professional offices that are often interrupted. Their privacy is interrupted. We also have to find a way to stop the nuisance of junk fax messages that are now making trouble for businesses and professionals.

In my own constituency office in Hamilton the fax machine kicked in and out came a request to purchase comics books at a discount rate from an American