

ined. Particular attention must be paid to offenders who were incarcerated under the habitual offenders' provision but whose offences would qualify them for a finding as dangerous offenders under the existing Criminal Code provisions and give cause for concern over their prospective release from custody.

The Solicitor General (Mr. Kaplan), and the Minister of Justice (Mr. MacGuigan), are consulting with respect to the most proper and appropriate means of maintaining the delicate balance between individual rights and the welfare and protection of society as a whole.

The calls for new legislation give rise to concern, for a number of reasons. New legislation is time consuming; it imposes a potentially large burden on the courts to review cases and it does not address the pre-1977 convictions for

Adjournment Debate

offences that could give rise to a post-1977 application under Part XXI.

Alternatively, if an existing mechanism can be found that offers a way to review these cases in light of the need to balance the concern for fairness to the individuals involved and the concern for protecting the public against any members of the group who are dangerous, it would seem preferable to employ such a mechanism. If no such mechanism is available, then new legislation would be considered.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Corbin): The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 11 a.m.

At 6.35 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.
