

*Historic Sites and Monuments Act*

been stated that the use of marijuana is bringing about a change in their personality and mental process. If so, it is highly important that we study it, and study it quickly, in order to bring forth some measure to correct the situation.

It has also been indicated that the incidence of the use of marijuana among students getting poor grades is much higher than among students with high grades. If that is so, it may indicate there is a symptom among young people that must be immediately corrected, an attitude towards life, an attitude towards work and school, an attitude towards parents.

The allegation has been made that the use of marijuana is a stepping stone to the use of heroin. The R.C.M.P. officials who appeared before the standing committee seemed to indicate that this was so. In this connection, when one thinks that there were 2,700 convictions with respect to marijuana last year, and that the greater number of them concerned people within the ages of 20 to 29 years, then one realizes the necessity for a study on ways and means to curb the use of marijuana because of its potentially dangerous effects. One realizes also the necessity for the government to look at the proposal regarding the expungement of criminal records.

● (5:10 p.m.)

If the study should indicate that the drug marijuana is neither addictive nor damaging to the physical and mental well-being of a person, then unfortunately we have convicted 2,700 people in the year 1968 on a most serious charge. As we know, with a conviction against a person, especially one of tender years, there is a difficulty which arises in respect of travel, employment and bonding. So this places on us the onus not only to act but to act quickly with regard to this serious matter. I hope that once the preliminary report is made some action may be taken by the government with regard more especially to the drug marijuana. Many people feel that it should not be listed under the Narcotic Control Act but should be listed under the Food and Drugs Act. As the father of a family and with children attending school I am greatly appalled by and concerned about this problem, because the obtaining of marijuana in high schools is so easy. The encouragement by other students to try this imposes upon me the responsibility to urge upon the government quick and wise action with regard to the drug marijuana.

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Without a doubt, I believe the minister and others would agree that L.S.D. has been proven to have a damaging effect on the physical and mental well-being of young people. Young people are now veering away from L.S.D. but appear to be turning to marijuana. I hope the minister will keep these thoughts in mind, especially the thought that the drug is psychologically addictive. I hope he will bear in mind the consequences in respect of the physical and mental well-being of young students, as well as the consequences of conviction with regard to present and future employment and travel. I hope that he will act wisely in this area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Motion agreed to, bill read the third time and passed.

### HISTORIC SITES AND MONUMENTS ACT

AMENDMENTS RESPECTING BOARD MEMBERSHIP, REMUNERATION, ETC.—REPORT STAGE

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development)** moved that Bill C-153, to amend the Historic Sites and Monuments Act, as reported (without amendment) from the Standing Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development on Wednesday, March 12, 1969 be concurred in.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is it the pleasure of the house to adopt the said motion?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

Motion (for concurrence) agreed to.

**Mr. MacEachen** moved that the bill be read the third time and do pass.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Mr. Chrétien) has asked me to represent him at this stage of the study of the bill, because he unfortunately had to be away from the capital today on official business.

However, on second reading, that is on January 20 last, he gave some explanations with regard to the bill and, at that time, members of the different parties had the opportunity to express their support. The bill was then submitted to the Committee on Indian Affairs and Northern Development that reported the bill without amendment.