

perhaps one should not single out any particular area for condemnation on account of bad housing conditions. They exist from one end of the country to the other.

Mr. RICHARD (Ottawa East): On a point of order, I never said there were bad housing conditions in Ottawa.

Mr. COLDWELL: The hon. member says he did not say there were bad housing conditions in Ottawa. I want to tell my hon. friend, since he challenges my statement, that—

Mr. RICHARD (Ottawa East): I did not challenge anybody's statement.

Mr. COLDWELL: My hon. friend says there are no bad housing conditions in Ottawa. I have seen housing conditions in this city that are a disgrace to Canada. I did see Wallis house in the winter. I do not know what has been done about it in the meantime, but I saw that overcrowded condition. The condition of garbage pails lying all around that building, where I saw children playing on a Saturday afternoon, was a scandal to this country, to this government, and to the municipal authorities of Ottawa. Any hon. member, whether he be a municipal officer or a member of the House of Commons, who rises in his place to defend that kind of thing is not a fit representative either of a municipality or of the country as a whole.

Mr. RICHARD (Ottawa East): On a point of order, I am not going to allow any hon. member to put words into my mouth. I did not say it was good or bad housing, and the hon. member cannot put those words into my mouth.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. I would call the attention of hon. members to the fact that they should speak only once on second reading of a bill. It is not proper for hon. members to speak back and forth across the floor, or for one hon. member to interrupt another who has the floor.

Mr. RICHARD (Ottawa East): I was rising on a point of order.

Mr. IRVINE: What is the point of order?

Mr. RICHARD (Ottawa East): The hon. member said that any person who said such a thing was not fit to be a member. I want to know if that implies I am not fit to be a member.

Mr. COLDWELL: The hon. member can put his own interpretation upon my words.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Withdraw.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order.

Mr. RICHARD (Ottawa East): You made your own coat.

Mr. COLDWELL: I have said nothing I need to withdraw. I said that any hon. member—and I repeat it—who defends the kind of housing conditions which can be found from one end of this country to the other is not a fit representative of a municipality, a province or the dominion.

Mr. RICHARD (Ottawa East): I defend it.

Mr. COLDWELL: In discussing this bill hon. members have a perfect right to expose the deplorable housing conditions which exist in this country.

Mr. PROBE: Certainly; why cover it up?

Mr. COLDWELL: We have to face the fact that thousands of people from one end of the country to the other are living under conditions which are unfit for decent Canadian citizens, people who with their families are in overcrowded areas where the children cannot be brought up in a proper manner. Anyone who will read the statements made by the judge of the juvenile court of this city of Ottawa will see that he has said on more than one occasion that delinquency is caused by these bad housing conditions; and he has mentioned some of the projects we have discussed here this afternoon. So that when my hon. friend is criticized for referring to a condition which is right under our noses, I say it is time we took notice of what is going on around us.

I will say this, that I do not think these conditions are peculiar to the city of Ottawa. They can be found in Toronto; they can be found even in my home city of Regina. They can be found in Vancouver. As I said once before in the house, I have seen slum conditions in Halifax that are as bad as or worse than any I saw in London thirty or forty years ago. We have to face these facts. It is all very well to talk about a housing bill, but it is only going to build houses for well-to-do people. What group of people in this country can afford to pay \$75 a month for a housing unit?

Mr. HOWE: How much do you pay yourself?

Mr. COLDWELL: I am in the happy position of having an income which enables me to pay a rental of around \$100 a month.

Mr. HOWE: People like you and me have to live too.

Mr. COLDWELL: I beg the hon. gentleman's pardon?

Mr. HOWE: We have to have houses too.

Mr. COLDWELL: I know we have houses, but I say to the minister that if you have