

Supply—Justice

• (8:50 p.m.)

[Translation]

Mr. Loiselle: Fanaticism, fanaticism.

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Chairman, we are studying the estimates of the Department of Justice, which department, in the mind of the people, is of prime importance. When looking at the total amount requested, namely \$13,514,000, we note that, in terms of government expenditures, this is one of the less costly departments.

This, Mr. Chairman, is due to the fact, as mentioned a while ago by the hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Choquette), that the administration of justice falls more within the jurisdiction of the provinces than that of the federal government. We have a Department of Justice here for the whole of Canada, which leaves to the provinces the administration of justice within their jurisdiction and their boundaries, whether they are out east, out west, or in central Canada.

In fact, the Civil Code comes under the provincial government, whereas the Criminal Code comes under the federal government. I should like to point out to the Minister of Justice (Mr. Trudeau) actions now being perpetrated in the province of Quebec which, to my mind, are absolutely of a criminal nature.

For instance, when driving around in the province of Quebec, we read on the viaducts we have to follow signs such as these: Vive le Québec libre! Vive le R.I.N.! We even see them on private properties. I wonder then, whether there is any law whereby those organizations, those political parties could be forced to pay the damages caused by their members. It is not that I want to keep anyone from becoming a member of the R.I.N. if he so wishes. Not at all. That is not my goal.

If those who shout: Long live free Quebec, long live freedom, take the liberty of damaging the property of others, of committing vandalistic acts throughout the province, I really wonder what kind of freedom we would enjoy under the administration of R.I.N. supporters in the province of Quebec.

Mr. Boulanger: It would no longer be freedom, but slavery.

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Chairman, besides, I was myself the victim of such an act. During the night of October 12 to 13, after I stated that we were a single Canadian nation made up of various cultures and that both official languages should be recognized throughout the country, some members of the R.I.N. wrote

on the foundations of my Hull home in letters about a foot and a half high, the words: "Caouette, colonized, defector and traitor".

I stated that I held the members of R.I.N. responsible for this act of vandalism. The next day, in *Le Droit*, there was a reply to the effect that it was probably members of the R.I.N. but that they had no orders to act in this way even if they had reasons to do so. They had reasons to deface with paint not only private homes but overpasses, streets, roads, the great traffic highways in the province of Quebec paid for by the taxpayers. Then, they have motives.

Mr. Chairman, obviously all kinds of reasons can be put forward. But I feel that the government should pass legislation to force these people to pay for the damages. If they lack the courage and the guts to give their names, to sign their names or show their faces, at least let them respect other people's property in the country and in the province of Quebec.

Mr. Loiselle: Hear, hear.

Mr. Caouette: Imagine a province like ours being administered by such irresponsible hot-heads.

Mr. Boulanger: More than that, extremists.

Mr. Caouette: Yes. more than that, extremists and madmen. This goes a little beyond extremism, they are anarchists. There is no authority for these people. They want to rule, and they talk eloquently about freedom, while failing to recognize the freedom of others. If we do not happen to think like them, if we do not want to make a mess of our country, if we do not want Quebec outside of confederation, we are colonized turncoats, traitors to our nation.

Mr. Chairman, on behalf of justice in Canada—and I say it here, in parliament—I do not think any French Canadian within the R.I.N. party could give me lessons in French-Canadian principles or patriotism, either in my province or in my country. However, one can be a French Canadian and patriotic without making virulent speeches, without trying to crush one's neighbours.

We have seen in Algeria experiences such as those the R.I.N. would like to put us through in Quebec. In fact, I met not so long ago a senior official from Algeria, where mutual hatred was spread, where they were at war for seven years and blood was running in the streets, to get independence. They got independence, but this official told me