

dom to find out what is the nature of the legislation passed there?

An hon. Member: You don't believe in the United Nations?

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): I don't believe in the hon. member's statistics.

Mr. Stevens: If our government telephone privileges allowed me to make a long-distance call to London, England, I might well have done that. But I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that if the hon. member does not believe my statistics, perhaps he believes the statistics of the *New York Times* in which the report was originally published.

[Translation]

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, the bill before the House, concerning the abolition of the death penalty, being of the highest importance, reflection and soul-searching should be the keynote of the debate for all of us. All my colleagues who with me will have to reach that important decision, know that it weigh heavy with responsibility. As for me, I do not feel that anyone can avoid his responsibilities by basing himself on a so-called public opinion which has been, and will be, shaped by well orchestrated propaganda bent on exciting the masses, moving them to cheap emotions and sentimentalism.

One thing has always struck me, Mr. Speaker, on hearing speeches on the abolition of capital punishment: individuals are so human, when capital punishment is being discussed, that they want to "humanize" dangerous criminals, rehabilitate them and spare them the death penalty.

On the other hand, it is these same people who cry out loudly for abortion, to kill innocent human beings and satisfy the whims of the weak and the depraved. They want to be humane to criminals who endanger the lives of innocent people, and they think it a crime to bring innocent people into the world. And so to my mind these people bear the sign of the beast in a century in which truth has become falsehood, and falsehood truth.

The Hon. Pierre Laporte was a victim of too much leniency in the enforcement of the death penalty. Not for a moment did his killers fear the death penalty, because it did not exist. Nor did Kennedy's murderer fear the death penalty for an instant, for the same reason. Assassins of all kinds and revolutionaries do not want the death penalty. Nor do anarchists, who advocate and organize violence, want the death penalty. You have to be pretty simple to think that murderers can still be made "humane".

The 24 Nazi war criminals at the Nuremberg trials in October 1946 would also have been glad if the death penalty had not existed to make them pay for their crimes. The death penalty was all right for the Nazi murderers, but some think that the death penalty should not exist for murderers who are not Nazis. There cannot be a double standard. There must be a death penalty for all murderers, as for the Nazi murderers.

[English]

In 1935, just before J. Edgar Hoover said, at the end of three years of repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, that they were three years of "the most terrible period of

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criminal history in the history of America," Dick Borden wrote:

Death for dealers of death is a policy that works.

At the close of the seventeenth century the English faced a crime wave far worse than ours. A trip from one English city to another, in those days, was a hazardous adventure. Some roads were so unsafe as to be literally impassable. Endless murders and robberies took place on the streets of London.

How did the English end this crime wave?

Not by calling in psychiatrists or theorists of moral uplift.

The English ended their crime wave by calling in Jack Ketch.

When a murderer was caught, they turned him over to the hangman. Brutal? Yes—but it worked.

By the end of the century such criminal strains in England were largely stamped out and the country has been notably free from crimes of violence ever since.

Death for dealers of death is a policy that works.

In spite of the repeated statement that hanging is not a deterrent to murder, American gangsters long complained that it was. Nor have statistics belied their complaint—far from it. Life imprisonment is not only more cruel, but is a most unfair and a much greater burden on good citizens. Let us not give up one unpleasant measure only to adopt a more unpleasant and much less successful one.

Melvin Mann in *Life Line*, Dallas, Texas, reprinted in *The Sword of the Lord* and reported in *Evangelical Baptist* of February, 1973, wrote:

Americans for Effective Law Enforcement believes that if the threat of capital punishment were real, rather than imagined, murders would in many cases, in fact, be deterred. Evidence to support this contention was found in the study made in 1970 and 1971 by the Los Angeles police department. This study included the compilation of statements taken from persons who had been arrested for crimes of violence. Those from whom statements were taken either had been unarmed during the committing of their crimes or had not used arms which they carried.

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Here are excerpts from the report on that study:

Margaret Elizabeth Daly, of San Pedro, was arrested August 28, 1961, for assaulting Pete Gibbons with a knife. She stated to investigating officers: "Yeh, I cut him and I should have done a better job. I would have killed him but I didn't want to go to the gas chamber."

Orelus Matthew Stewart, an ex-convict with a long felony record, was arrested March 3, 1960, for attempted bank robbery. He was subsequently convicted and sentenced to the state prison. While discussing the matter with his probation officer he stated: "The officer who arrested me was by himself, and if I had wanted, I could have blasted him. I thought about it at the time, but I changed my mind when I thought of the gas chamber."

Salvador A. Estrada, a 19-year old youth with a four-year criminal record, was arrested February 8, 1960, just after he had stolen an automobile from a parking lot by wiring around the ignition switch. As he was being booked at the station, he stated to the arresting officers: "I want to ask you one question. Do you think they will repeal the capital punishment law? If they do, we can kill all you cops and judges without worrying about it."

Ramon Jesse Velarde was arrested September 26, 1960, while attempting to rob a supermarket. At that time, armed with a loaded .38 caliber revolver, he was holding several employees of the supermarket as hostages. He subsequently escaped from jail and was apprehended at the Mexican border. While being returned to Los Angeles for prosecution, he made the following statement to the transporting officers: "I think I might have escaped at the market if I had shot one or more of them. I probably would have done it if it wasn't for the gas chamber. I'll