

*Criminal Code*

Black and Chinese people would come and replace us in Canada.

Those are the consequences the passing of this bill would have, if its application were to be left to individuals who are not prepared to accept those drugs. That is a problem.

First, it is a medical problem, besides being a moral problem. I appreciate that if it takes the advice of higher medical authorities, the government will be able to legislate in such a way as to enable, not all the people but the competent authorities, to use certain drugs in cases of sickness, great weakness and so on, but it should be severely controlled, like all poisons, some drugs and injections which are now reserved exclusively to the medical board.

I suggest that it is not at all the business of the house to study this problem, but we should rather leave it to higher medical authorities from which the government might take advice, as it always does—

[Text]

**Mr. Francis:** Will the hon. member permit a question? He said that this is no business of the House of Commons. May I ask him why, since this concerns part of the Criminal Code which was enacted by this House of Commons?

[Translation]

**Mr. Gauthier:** Mr. Speaker, this happens to be prohibited by the Criminal Code, because our fathers were much wiser than some of us are today. They thought that natural law should not take precedence over divine law, and that is why we have today some very judicious clauses in the old Criminal Code.

I realize that the more we seem to become refined, the more stupidly we act. I believe that the old saying: "He who acts the angel, acts the beast" is still true. I also realize that we are heading in that direction today.

I stated that this was a medical problem which should be submitted to the relevant authorities. If our prominent medical authorities were consulted on this point, as are high religious authorities on the moral aspects of the case, I am sure that we would obtain legislation more in keeping with the medical point of view, and that it would not be legal to sell those drugs like a bottle of Pepsi, in the corner store.

Those are our reasons, Mr. Speaker. If, today, vaccines or shots of all kinds, which are only given with a medical prescription, were sold in all the small stores, in short, if all drugs and remedies subject to medical

prescription were made available to the general public, I think that the house would commit a grave error. And that is exactly the error we are about to commit, if we pass this bill.

This is a field which should be restricted exclusively to the higher medical authorities. Furthermore, we should bear in mind the serious moral problem which the passing of this bill would create in every province, especially in the province of Quebec where the majority of the people are Roman Catholics.

[Text]

**Mr. Willoughby:** Will the hon. member permit a question? I understood him to say that this should be left to the medical authorities. I would appreciate the hon. member telling me how this could be left to the medical authorities, when if they give this advice they are breaking the criminal law?

[Translation]

**Mr. Gauthier:** If I read the bill correctly, I think the medical authorities accept it as an ordinary medical product just as any other patent medicine. That is precisely to what I am objecting. I do not want birth control pills to be sold as freely as Buckley's syrup or any other such medicine. I think most of the hon. members will agree with me that the bill, as it now stands, is simply dreadful. If the bill only provided for a study of the question by the medical board, I would support it. But the purpose is to make this available to the public, and to that I object. I suggest that the people are not ready for such publicity, particularly when we know the meaning of publicity nowadays. It is said that everything is a matter of publicity, that anything worthless can be sold with good publicity.

**Mr. Lachance:** Social Credit for instance.

**Mr. Gauthier:** It would be the best thing if Social Credit could make use of that publicity, but the old line parties and financiers prevent it from doing so because it is not a paying proposition.

Publicity has to be curbed, Mr. Speaker. The only means to curb publicity is to refer this question for consideration by higher authorities who are as competent as most of the members of the house, because, for my part, I am speaking as a father putting forward his principles as a Roman catholic. I know that the bill conflicts with ethics and public interests, though some members have involved the Roman Catholic religious authorities when speaking of public interests. Religious authorities favour public interests