

*Criminal Code*

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. There was a moment when I thought the hon. member for Matane was dealing specifically with the amendment. I would suggest, however, that his latter remarks tended to drift away from the amendment. I point out to all hon. members that the difficulty the Chair has is that we have the Standing Orders and the citations in Beauséjour, and we can only operate with the co-operation of hon. members, short of naming them. That is exactly the problem we face. I point out to the hon. member for Matane that the house proceeds best with the co-operation of hon. members; that is the only way we can really proceed. If the hon. member persists in being out of order, he puts the Chair in a very difficult position.

[Translation]

**Mr. De Bané:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to remind the house that it is not I, yesterday, who interrupted the Ralliement créditiste when the hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Fortin) allowed himself to say that the Liberal party was made up of homosexuals. But I let them say these dirty things, Mr. Speaker, because I know that the worst thing these people can do is to underestimate the intelligence of the people. I want to come to this precise point: the amendment of the hon. member for Beauce. He knows very well—

**Mr. Caouette:** Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please.

[Translation]

**Mr. Caouette:** I rise on a point of order.

First I hear that the hon. member for Matane (Mr. De Bané) is now speaking without the permission of the authorities of his party. Nobody expected that.

Furthermore, as far as the point of order is concerned, we do not appeal to the intelligence of the member for Matane (Mr. De Bané) no more than we did yesterday, because we know he is deprived of any.

**Mr. De Bané:** The remarks which the member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette) has just made prove that his stupidity can only be matched by his demagogy. This is what he just proved.

[Mr. Rondeau.]

[English]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. I would invite the hon. member to continue on the amendment specifically or I will be in a position where I must refuse to recognize him.

[Translation]

**Mr. De Bané:** Mr. Speaker, as I said, the bill as a whole is the first attempt to regulate a most serious act which has been carried out for the past 100 years without any regulation. The regulation found in the bill contains several checking and supervisory mechanisms, namely that of enabling the provincial department, in each province, to check whether the legislation has been enforced to the letter, and not as the member for Beauce attempted to suggest, that it would become abortion on request.

Mr. Speaker, I conclude with these words. This bill led to a referendum in the province of Quebec in the last election and the Ralliement créditiste wanted it that way. I find that the tactics used by that group at this time are absolutely unworthy of our democratic system.

**Mr. René Matte (Champlain):** Mr. Speaker, I might have been caught off my guard to speak to this amendment which is almost identical to the preceding one, I agree. Fortunately, the hon. member for Matane (Mr. De Bané) came to the rescue. (Untranslatable pun on "débaner"—(De Bané) and "dépanner" (come to the rescue).)

Mr. Speaker, it might be advisable to explain why we come back with amendments which are so similar, yet the wording of which is different. There is a very logical, very clear reason for that. We have been telling ourselves that if the government, and in particular the Minister of Justice (Mr. Turner) feel, for instance, that the wording of amendment 38 where the words "unanimous decision" would replace the word "a majority" is not acceptable, then we offer him an alternative through another amendment which this time the minister might find more acceptable more in conformity with legalistic terminology. That is why we return to the charge. There is nothing alarming in that. We are not trying deliberately to hold up the business of the house. We are merely trying to find a formula to help us accept more readily the legislative measure on abortion.

It may be, Mr. Speaker, that there was an error at the start, when amendment No. 19, was placed at the end. Had it been studied at the beginning of the debate, all the other