The Address-Mr. Mazankowski

murder in the name of preserving the emotional health of a mother—this in the name of birth control.

The deliberate destruction of human life through abortion is without foundation in human reason and is opposed to human nature. The destruction of human life for selfish motives is contrary to all the laws of God and man.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, I believe that we in this House and in this country had better realize that fact. We find ourselves in a society in which television and the other media engage in the perpetration of filth, violence and pornography, financed in many cases at public expense and referred to as "reporting it as it is." Much of this can only be categorized as cheap, unimaginative trash. Whatever precautions a parent might engage in, it is absolutely impossible for any parent completely to immunize his children against this kind of trash.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mazankowski: We find ourselves in a society where discipline and punishment have been replaced by permissiveness and reform and in some cases reward, where the criminal is treated as an unfortunate misfit, in many cases receiving royal treatment under the name of rehabilitation while his victim is the hard luck guy. We find ourselves in a society where moral and spiritual attitudes receive no consideration in the quality of a man or in the evaluation of his ability to develop his full potential and contribute to society. We see an increase in the use of alcohol and drugs. We see an increased incidence of venereal disease. These are things that treatment alone will never conquer; they are social diseases, most of which are the result of the sad behavioural problem which we have in this society.

So we must ask ourselves—why? We live in a society with all the technical, intellectual and medical expertise and we have made great progress in these fields, but in terms of human progress it can only be categorized, in my humble submission, as shaky and questionable. Much of this is the result of a deliberate route taken by government and by liberal intellectuals many of whom, I would suggest, are over-educated for their brains, whose behavioural attitudes are based on ease and expedience rather than on firmness and natural sense.

Although our educational system is rather sophisticated and advanced, it has failed to provide us with the necessary tools properly to communicate with one another, to live in harmony, to understand, to co-operate, to tolerate and to accept human life—all forms of human life—as something sacred.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mazankowski: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the major afflictions which affect our society are by no means limited to the pollution of our air, water and land but are, rather, pollution of the mind. The prerequisites for satisfactorily grappling with this problem are discipline, clear thinking, regard for spiritual values, and work. I do not want to pose as one who has a monopoly on morals and who is a paragon of virtue. Nor do I suggest for one moment that the state and the government can legislate behaviour and

morality. But I do say that our legislative measures and our educational systems can, and must, be tailored to restore and rededicate the family unit as the major pillar of our society.

We must adopt ways and means to strengthen family ties, for discipline begins in the home and that is where the breakdown commences, given the numerous counteractions which are deliberately perpetrated. These institutions must work in harmony, rather than in conflict with the family unit. Furthermore, the government must take firm and immediate action to stop the merciless acts which masquerade under the guise of therapeutic abortion. This is murder and is contrary to the laws of human nature. It is shameful, and it must be stamped out.

Some hon, Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Mazankowski: Never in my life have I witnessed anything so blatantly wrong, with no response from government. The state is charged with the responsibility of preserving the priceless heritage of life, and particularly of those who are innocent and unable to fend for themselves. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that we have reached the point in time where we will soon have to make a choice, and that choice is clear: it is whether we shall stand and fight for a philosophy of life, or whether we shall stand idly by and surrender to a philosophy of death.

• (1540

I want now to deal with the subject of transportation for a few moments, particularly grain transportation and movement in this country. Grain movement in this nation has reached a very critical state. Shipments are behind something like 135 million bushels this year compared to last year. In Vancouver there are at present 14 ships waiting to be loaded, and ten more are reported due within the week. The Thunder Bay terminal is half full, with four weeks to go to the commencement of the shipping season on the St. Lawrence River. This is not a new problem but it has become particularly apparent to me since becoming a member of this House.

The railways have failed to discharge their responsibility, which is to move commodities and people across this vast land. They have a mandate to perform and they are not living up to it. The government has a responsibility to force the railways to carry out their mandate and their obligations. Just today Statistics Canada reported that for the first two months of this year railway car loadings were down 3.5 per cent compared with the same period last year. This comes at a time when all steps, supposedly, are being taken to get goods moving; at a time when the economy is moving fairly briskly and when the demand for moving bulk commodities is at an all-time high.

We hear from the minister in charge of the Wheat Board (Mr. Lang), from the railways and from some farm organizations that the only way we can resolve the problem of grain transportation is to abandon the Crowsnest pass freight rates. Mr. Speaker, that is really what the railways want and what the minister seems to be engaged in with the railways. The hon. member for Crowfoot (Mr. Horner) called it a lobby, but I refer to it as a conspiracy. I believe that the railways, the minister in charge of the Wheat Board and some men in farm circles are engaged in a