

*Criminal Code*

where electro-encephalograms and drug therapy will be available. In this way, by fundamental research we will learn a little more about this kind of menace and we might save some other little girl.

I read in the *Brockville Recorder and Times* this heading: "Cowan Would Hang Marcotte In His Santa Suit". I quote from that article:

Ralph Cowan, Liberal member for the suburban Toronto riding of York-Humber, says he would have hanged "Santa Claus" murderer Georges Marcotte "on the anniversary of his murder and in his Santa Claus suit."

He speaks for the retentionists. I believe there is no recent case more deserving of hanging than that of this man Marcotte. One obvious fact is that the hon. member for York Humber (Mr. Cowan) does not mind speaking out strongly and forcefully in favour of vengeance. In my opinion this is just not adequate. I do not believe I am unduly squeamish about killing. I do not feel like my deskmate does about boxing or wrestling or violent sports. In fact, if there is a killing in the ring this is one of those things that may happen. I participated in a good deal of killing for a time in the First Division and I saw the victims of my own gunfire. I hated the idea and I have had moments since when, like some of my friends who were bomber pilots, there was a powerful sense of personal revulsion. I do not believe anybody can take pleasure in killing.

It is a cowardly picture I get, when I read the books of Robert Bickerdike, of society taking some creature, deliberately manacled him and bringing him up the stairs to his doom. This is an act which does not dignify our civilization. I think what characterizes the second half of the twentieth century is the universal search for human dignity. Mr. Bickerdike said that if it is wrong for an individual, during a period of mental aberration, to take away the life of a fellow being, what must be said of the state which in cold blood, in calm deliberation and with elaborate preparation, hangs a man on the gallows?

Hon. George P. Graham of Brockville was one of Mr. Bickerdike's keenest supporters. Rev. Mr. Benoit of Montreal put it this way:

If a man is not fit to live he is not ready to die, and we have no authority for continuing this relic of barbarism.

If we look back only 25 years we will find the finest exemplar of capital punishment

[Mr. Matheson.]

who ever lived in the world, and his name was Adolf Hitler. He not only killed people who murdered, raped and pillaged. He also used this convenient device to get rid of all sorts of troublesome people such as those who had from his viewpoint tainted blood and who were not politically acceptable. In my opinion, this is completely contrary to the spirit of religion in its broadest and best terms. I earnestly hope that we may follow the moving injunction of the right hon. gentleman who spoke so earnestly as we move into holy week. I hope we follow the course which I think is the unmistakable course of progress, and will say that this is not acceptable because we respect human life too much.

The degradation of this punishment, Mr. Speaker, is clear, I think, when we look at what it has done to a number of people who have participated—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order. I must advise the hon. member that the time allotted to him has expired.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Clermont:** On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The right hon. member for Prince Albert (Mr. Diefenbaker) was given permission to continue. He spoke for one hour and forty-five minutes. If the hon. member intends to continue for several minutes, I object to giving him the right to do so.

[*English*]

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order. If the hon. member for Leeds requires time to complete his remarks I think he should make that request of the Chair.

**Mr. Knowles:** Agreed.

**Mr. Matheson:** I do not consider myself in any way an authority like the right hon. gentleman—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. Is the hon. member requesting extra time to complete his remarks?

**Mr. Matheson:** If I may.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Does the house give unanimous consent to grant the time?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

● (5:20 p.m.)

**Mr. Clermont:** Mr. Speaker, I object. Leave was refused the hon. member for Queens (Mr. MacLean). It has also been refused other