Criminal Code

Mr. Speaker, I wish to move, seconded by the hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Fortin), the following amendment:

That Bill C-150, an act to amend the Criminal Code, the Parole Act, the Penitentiary Act, the Prisons and Reformatories Act and to make certain consequential amendments to the Combines Investigation Act, the Customs Tariff and the National Defence Act be not read a third time but that it be referred back to the Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs with instruction to add a clause providing that clause 18 will come into force after the same has been approved by the Canadian people by means of a referendum.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): You mean a plebiscite.

Mr. Caouette: A referendum.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, such is the amendment we wish to move, not in order to—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): The Chair having some doubts as to the acceptability of the amendment request permission to consider the question.

The hon, member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette).

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Speaker-

[English]

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Cenire): Before the hon. member proceeds, Mr. Speaker, there is a minor point. I wonder if he should not name another seconder. I believe the hon. member for Lotbinière (Mr. Fortin) has already spoken on the main motion.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): I thank the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles). If this is so I would ask the hon. member for Témiscamingue, Quebec, (Mr. Caouette) to name another seconder.

[Translation]

Mr. Caouette: Allow me to suggest that the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Latulippe) second my amendment.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order. The seconder of the amendment of the hon. member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette) is then the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Latulippe).

[English]

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, are we going to be given an opportunity to challenge the admissibility of this amendment?

Mr. Peters: No.

• (8:50 p.m.) [Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Since we live in a democracy, I would ask the hon. members who have a few remarks to make on the acceptability of the amendment moved by the hon. member for Témiscamingue (Mr. Caouette) to kindly bring them to the attention of the Chair.

Mr. Caouette: Mr. Speaker-

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Is the hon, member for Témiscamingue rising on a point of order?

Mr. Caouette: No, Mr. Speaker, I am not rising on a point of order, but I simply want to proceed with my remarks, since the Chair has informed us that it will take the amendment under consideration. Therefore, we shall not discuss it now.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order. May I ask the hon. member to resume his seat. The hon. member has just moved an amendment and, according to the rules, he should resume his seat and only rise thereafter on a point of order.

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): The hon. member for Lotbinière is rising on a point of order.

Mr. Forin: Mr. Speaker, with all due deference, I should like to ask you to which standing order you are referring to prevent the member for Témiscamingue from pursuing his speech.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): To the standing order which provides that a member may take the floor only once. As the hon. member was completing his speech, and moved an amendment, I ask him, if he wants to rise on a point of order, to kindly state his reasons for doing so.

[English]

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I submit with respect that it would be quite in order to allow the hon. member to finish his speech as long as—

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): As long as he has not spoken for 40 minutes.

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): —as long as he has not spoken for 40 minutes. Sometimes we lose track of time when we are