

Criminal Code

The charges were read out in court. The man was charged with two things in this instance, possession of an unlicensed pistol in his possession in other than his dwelling place. He pleaded guilty on the first count. On the second count he said, "My hunting territory is my dwelling place."

The judge did not accept that and charged him with being guilty on both counts. That is a pretty fair assumption. He then proceeded to lecture and admonish the person appearing before him, and concluded by dismissing the case. There was not one dime in terms of a fine. If that is the kind of control we are going to have with the implementation of this bill, it is going to fall flat on its can.

I have asked the minister to indicate to this House how many times there have been prosecutions on the basis of charges of carrying unlicensed weapons, revolvers, or what have you, in the commission of a crime. I asked that question months ago. The minister has not yet responded. Provision is there not only in this bill but in previous ones. However, the provisions have not been carried out as the Canadian people, who want a little order and justice in this country, perceive them to be.

Coming to government secrecy and the eloquent arguments of the hon. member for Calgary North (Mr. Woolliams), I am reminded of a statement made yesterday by the Secretary of State (Mr. Roberts) and the document that he tabled in the House. All it says is that we are going to have to slacken off a little bit on government secrecy. It indicates that that little bit is damn little.

The minister is concerned about the standing committee on statutory instruments. He feels that the hon. member for Calgary North is going to create some problems. Having listened to the minister, I feel that if we follow the minister's suggestion it will obfuscate that particular committee. The hon. member for Calgary North indicated that while Canadians sleep, this all-powerful government which seeks to be more powerful drafts orders in council that in a majority of cases never appear in the *Canada Gazette*. For that matter, who reads the *Canada Gazette*? Once it is there it is supposed to be engraved in stone, and everybody knows about it.

I recall, in a different context, the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) talking about trade and international dealings with the United States. He remarked that the United States was like an elephant and that Canada was like a mouse; that we were subject to the rumblings and twitchings of that, I will not say monster, but mighty beast. I would like to put that analogy in a different context. The Canadian people may well be the mighty beast. If we continue down the trail that this government is leading this country, that mighty beast is going to twitch once more. Indeed, it may well roll over and crush this government by regulation. That would be the best thing that could ever happen to this government.

Mr. Neil: In view of the time, Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I might call it one o'clock.

[Mr. Brisco.]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock p.m.

At 12.58 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[English]

TRANSPORT**REQUEST FOR RETURN OF VESSEL TO ARGENTIA-NORTH SYDNEY SERVICE—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43**

Mr. John C. Crosbie (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the fact that the CN ferry *William Carson* sank during the first week of June off Labrador and that the government still has not purchased or chartered a replacement and the fact that a vessel has been moved from the Argentia-North Sydney run to replace the *Carson*, interfering with the movement of thousands of tourists and passengers and seriously affecting the already weak local economy in the Placentia area as well as the shipment of cargoes of fish from Newfoundland by reefer truck to the mainland, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Whiteway):

That this House censure the cabinet minister representing Newfoundland, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, for permitting interference with the Argentia-North Sydney ferry system and the weakening of the economy of the depressed Placentia area and directs the minister to cease discriminating against areas of Newfoundland outside his own district and the Minister of Transport to act immediately to return the vessel purloined from the Argentia-North Sydney run to that service.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please, does such a motion have unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Some hon. Members: No.

* * *

COMMUNICATIONS**ALLEGED GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE WITH BROADCASTING PROGRAMMING—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43**

Mr. Ray Hnatyshyn (Saskatoon-Biggar): Mr. Speaker, I have a motion under the provisions of Standing Order 43 on a matter of urgent and pressing necessity. In view of the statement of the press spokesman for the Secretary of State that a "nice" telex was drafted to the President of the CTV network asking that they join the national grid for the CBC TV's July 1