

Mr. WAHN: Yes.

Mrs. MACINNIS: If such is the case, why propose in a bill to put in another version which is not there now, and which does not belong there—a more restrictive version? In other words, I want to know why, in your opinion, it would not be better to throw it out altogether rather than put in another version of it?

Mr. WAHN: Unless I made a mistake in drafting the amendment, I have entirely deleted the prohibition against the distribution of contraceptives or contraceptive information from the Criminal Code. That is all. All that is left is the prohibition against advertising other than in medical journals, information, instructions or devices relating to abortions.

Mrs. MACINNIS: You do the same thing; there is a piece of it left.

Mr. ROCK: He has eliminated contraceptives.

Mrs. MACINNIS: Why say this should not be in the Criminal Code and yet put a piece of it back in there?

Mr. WAHN: I see the problem. I would still leave in that section, the prohibition against advertising devices designed to cause abortions.

Mrs. MACINNIS: Why?

Mr. O'KEEFE: Because he thinks it is a good thing.

Mr. WAHN: I do permit it in medical or nursing journals, but it seems to me it could be argued that abuses could result if advertising were permitted, of devices designed to abort, in popular magazines.

Mrs. MACINNIS: Do you think that is a safeguard, even though the matter should not be in the Criminal Code you think we should put in a little piece about advertising in there?

Mr. KNOWLES: Is it not a demonstration of the committee's wisdom in the first place in dividing the two subjects?

Mr. WAHN: The existing section does deal with both problems of advertising and contraception.

Mrs. MACINNIS: No, there is no confusion on this point. I am not talking about the abortion piece at all.

Mr. KNOWLES: That is all he has put it in.

Mrs. MACINNIS: I see, you are just putting abortion back in.

Mr. WAHN: Yes, that is all.

Mrs. MACINNIS: Thank you very much, I see.

The CHAIRMAN: I should point out, before I recognize Mr. Prittie, that according to the new rules of the House of Commons any member of the House of Commons is free to attend meetings and he will be recognized by the Chair. The only limitation is that such member is not allowed to make amendments or to take part in votes. In all fairness, I will say that I will recognize members of the committee first, and if any other member wishes to participate in the proceedings, I will be glad to recognize him.

● (11: 50 a.m.)

Mr. PRITTIE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The comments of Mrs. MacInnis are interesting to me because she made exactly the same mistake as Mr. Gauthier and Mr. Langlois made when my bill was up for discussion in 1964.