

words in it, some complicated sentences make numerous paragraphs, and risks of interference by the federal government in provincial jurisdiction and by judges in the field of probation officers are obvious in it.

I feel that the future of these young people is important and should clearly orient this legislation, so that this bill does not become the cause of a conflict of judicial interests between the provinces and the federal government.

Although changes should be made to it, it would be desirable that the bill be avant-garde, constructive and positive, and not punitive and adamant.

Mr. Speaker, I would sincerely wish that the present government take my remarks into consideration.

• (4:50 p.m.)

[English]

Mr. D. R. Tolmie (Welland): Mr. Speaker, one of the most important bills now before Parliament is the young offenders bill. It has been the subject of very much controversy. I think all hon. members agree that the Juvenile Delinquents Act, dating back to 1929, should be changed. The problem is that many people expert in the field of delinquent behaviour cannot agree as to the nature of the changes.

The reason that this bill is so important is that its provisions will affect the lives of thousands of young Canadians for years to come. These young Canadians could be my son or your son. If we pass a bill containing the right ingredients of protection of society, safeguarding the civil liberties of the young, with deterring effect and rehabilitation procedure, we will not only be doing a service to the young people involved but in the years ahead we will be saving this country literally millions of dollars now being spent on penal institutions. That is why this bill is so important.

When one inspects the costly penal and reform institutions now in existence, it is easy to see what a tremendous financial saving could be achieved. By reducing the number of inmates, we could materially reduce the number of institutions. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance to prevent as many young people as possible graduating from youthful offenders to hardened adult inmates. An enlightened progressive juvenile law will go a long way toward achieving this objective.

When the young offenders bill was introduced for first reading, it met with considerable opposition from various organizations and individuals experienced in dealing with young offenders. Naturally, we must give a lot of weight to these opinions, but certainly not to the point where a reasonable discussion of this bill cannot ensue. Before anyone categorically renounces the philosophy of and procedure under this proposed legislation, it should be remembered that this was not the hurried product of the Solicitor General's department. It had been the subject of extensive deliberations and hearings dating back to 1961. Those on the Department of Justice Committee sought out the opinions of persons knowledgeable in a number of fields and activities. They met with officials of provincial government departments, juvenile and family court judges, training school personnel, probation officers, un-

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iversity professors and private agencies. Many of the recommendations of this committee are now embodied in a new young offenders bill.

We cannot lightly set this bill aside unless, after further hearings, the preponderance of opinion seem to dictate substantial amendments. For those who uphold the present proposals and those who attack them, there is a common objective, to protect society and at the same time treat the young offender with a happy blend of enlightened severity and humane understanding with one avowed purpose, to restore him to society as soon as possible.

May I call it five o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Richard): Order, please. It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the hon. member for Compton (Mr. Latulippe)—Finance—Abolition of sales tax on sale of construction material; the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. Rowland)—Canadian National Railways—Reduction of passenger service in Northern Ontario—Suggested holding of public hearings by transport committee; the hon. member for Timmins (Mr. Roy)—Canadian Broadcasting Corporation—Mid-Canada program on "Weekend"—Action to rectify alleged dishonest presentation.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

ECONOMIC COUNCIL OF CANADA

TABLING OF REPORT ON INTELLECTUAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I may have the unanimous consent of the House to revert to motions for the purpose of tabling a document.

Mr. MacLean: This is agreeable to us, Mr. Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Richard): Is it agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Basford: Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to table two copies, in each of the official languages of Canada, of a report of the Economic Council of Canada entitled, A Report of Intellectual and Industrial Property.

[Later:]

Mr. McCleave: Mr. Speaker, I believe my hon. friend from Edmonton West has a question of privilege to raise. I stood up in order to give him a chance to get back to his place.