

Mr. Riis: At one time he was a So-Cred MLA from the Province of British Columbia. They interchange positions like some of us change socks. There are a number of Conservatives running for the leadership of the So-Cred Party in British Columbia. One would be hard pressed to find a single policy on which there is a difference between the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada and the Social Credit Party of British Columbia. I know that my friends across the aisle may have long lists of such policy areas. I hope they will stand up and point them out.

We have seen what has happened in British Columbia. I challenge any of my friends in the House from British Columbia or elsewhere to stand up and say that what the Social Credit Party in British Columbia has done to education from kindergarten through post-graduate studies has been positive, progressive, or good. I ask them to stand in their place and say that. I do not think there is an educator in the world who is not absolutely aghast at what has gone on in that province in terms of anti-intellectual and anti-educational policies.

That is what they are doing and we make the linkage very carefully. That is why some of us are concerned about this particular Bill. We see the beginning of that trend now across Canada. We see that same regressive, mindless, thoughtless, anti-people type of policy. That is what concerns us.

Mr. Taylor: Mr. Speaker, if the Ministers in the NDP Government of Manitoba did not use so many thousands of dollars of federal tax credits for their own personal use, we would have more money for education.

Mr. Deans: I rise on a point of order. I would ask the Hon. Member to be cautious that he does not make allegations on a matter which is presently under judicial review. I think he would recognize, as all Members would, that such an allegation would be unfair and certainly unbecoming of this particular Member.

Mr. Taylor: What is unbecoming is what you say about some of our Members.

Mr. Benjamin: We will have you under judicial review later.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Charest): Order, order! I appreciate the comments made by the Member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans) but this is really something which falls within the domain of the Speaker. I hope he was addressing his comments to the Chair rather than to the Hon. Member.

Mr. Deans: Of course, always.

Mr. Benjamin: Now you can rule.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Prud'homme: Mr. Speaker, I apologize for coming a little late, but the place I come from is a very stimulating one for the conversations concerning what is going on now in the House of Commons. The people there, very well known for

that matter by the Government members, were asking me: "How could the Government jeopardize two of the programs for which the rest of the world look enviously to Canada"? As I was saying, federal contributions to post-secondary education and especially to health care are the envy of the whole world. Now, for considerations not submitted to the Canadian people, the Government is in the process of jeopardizing these two programs. That is what I wanted to emphasize tonight I will develop this point tomorrow.

• (2200)

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*English*]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 66 deemed to have been moved.

ABORTION—THERAPEUTIC ABORTION COMMITTEE PROCEDURES—DEATH OF OTTAWA WOMAN

Mr. Jim Jepsen (London East): Mr. Speaker, on April 24 I asked the Minister of Justice (Mr. Crosbie) about a tragedy which occurred recently in Ottawa. On January 23 of this year a young woman underwent an abortion at Ottawa Civic Hospital, but died because of complications arising out of that procedure. The report of the inquest revealed that the Criminal Code provisions respecting abortion had been all but ignored by hospital officials on the therapeutic abortion committee who had been given the very serious responsibility of protecting the rights of unborn children.

Under our laws abortion is illegal. This reflects the fact that it is morally wrong for a pregnant mother to kill the child she is carrying. Our laws do, however, make an exception where a mother's life or health is in danger in the opinion of the experts on a therapeutic abortion committee. Should a woman decide she wishes to consider an abortion, she can present her case to the committee for consideration and discussion.

At the Ottawa Civic Hospital, the interpretation of this law has been irresponsible in the extreme. No one connected with the hospital's therapeutic abortion committee seemed to know when this specific abortion was approved. Apparently it was already listed as approved on the day of the operation, two hours before the committee was to meet. Last year the Civic Hospital committee approved every application for abortion put before it, approximately 2,000 in total.

There can be no doubt that Canadian families, women, and unborn children are being victimized by a rubber stamp process of approving abortion requests. This has to be the most serious moral issue facing Canada because of the more than 65,000 deaths from abortion each year. We are fooled by the argument about the women who become pregnant through rape or incest. This year those situations accounted for