

*Criminal Code*

tial violence, corruption, public order or the total integrity of society are involved, or where the general consensus of what is right and wrong is involved, then there is a connection between law and morals. In those certain areas of private behaviour which are more properly left to the conscience, which are in private and do not involve public order or the corruption of others, particularly the young, we are of the view that this is no place for the criminal law.

The opposition has expressed itself with great force and on occasion with great eloquence during this debate. Without in any way presuming on the good temper of the house, with almost everything having already been said, with public opinion having been generously alerted and with the position of hon. members having been very forcibly set forth to their constituents and the people of Canada, I hope we can move on to what is before us in the way of a legislative program. Parliament must operate in the balance between being a theatre—the forum of the nation—and a workshop. I want to thank hon. members for their repeated courtesies to me, despite some of the strong language throughout the debate, and call upon them to give the best conclusion to what has been a most energetic debate.

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, it is always a pleasure to follow the Minister of Justice (Mr. Turner). I was one of the first members on this side to congratulate him when he was made Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs; therefore it is not in any spirit of affectation that I say that I have enjoyed working with him and members of his department. When we are all working for reform, we as members of parliament feel that we have achieved something so far as our dedication is concerned.

I do not want to appear to be throwing cold water on the speech the minister just made, but I want to come to grips with this great committee of which he speaks. What kind of a bill do we have before the house? It is not the kind of bill wherein an average man who is charged with an offence and does not have the money to get bail can find any solution. It does not help people of that kind. In the application of our law there is still a law for the rich and a law for the poor.

Through public relations a group behind the minister and his party painted great pictures with large brushes, for example, in *Maclean's Magazine*, before the bill was presented to the house. There was a beautiful

portrait of the minister, and this bill was to be one of great reform. It is not. The minister will be the first to admit that nothing has been done by parliament in this lengthy debate to change the fact that people without means who are arrested for the same offences as others with means, will appear before magistrates and judges who will set bail and they will remain in jail because they have no means while the affluent person will be able to walk out of jail. Nothing in this bill solves that problem.

When we speak of the average man we do not really mean a man with an average income. As a lawyer who worked his way through university, I have seen young boys and girls charged with joyriding in an automobile or stealing an automobile, which are indictable offences. Every boy likes to put a key in a car and drive it. Boys love to drive sports cars. When appearing before a judge or magistrate he pleads guilty without the benefit of counsel, and he then finds himself at the age of 16 or 17 years with a criminal record.

There is nothing in this great bill of reform to expunge the criminal records of such boys as I have mentioned. After completing school a boy with a criminal record walks into a bank to apply for a job. He is well dressed and the manager says he would like to hire him. When the bank starts to check on the boy it is found that he cannot be bonded. There is no job for that boy because his record bounces up all the time. He may have committed two or three small offences when a young boy. What happens if he gets into something that is rather serious? Crown counsel stands up in court and says that this man is applying for bail. He was found guilty of minor offences when he was young and a rebel, but he is now at the stage of life where he has matured. Crown counsel lists all the offences of which the boy was found guilty.

I would like to see something done to expunge such records and help the youth of this nation. The human resource is the greatest resource. If this bill did something to expunge the records of young people, they would then have a chance to hold good jobs and even be able to join bar associations. Lawyers acts in all provinces contain the same prohibition. If a person has been charged with an indictable offence it is difficult for him to try and join a bar, and I do not mean the kind of bar one finds in the Chateau Laurier. If something had been done in this regard I would have said it was a great