

● (1410)

[English]

### CRIMINAL CODE

#### STIFFER PENALTIES FOR DRUNKEN DRIVERS

**Mr. Bill Attewell (Don Valley East):** Mr. Speaker, Bill C-18, an Act to amend the Criminal Code, contains stiffer fines and tougher jail sentences for those persons convicted of dangerous or impaired driving. These changes, which came into effect on December 2, 1985, will be welcomed by all Canadians. The Minister of Justice (Mr. Crosbie) has shown real leadership in taking the necessary initiatives to get these improvements into law.

I was with the Justice Minister at Queen's Park yesterday when he and the Attorney General of Ontario spoke of the objectives and importance of this new legislation. The scope of criminal liability has been expanded where an impaired driver has caused injury or death.

The sentences will be much tougher for dangerous or impaired driving offences. For instance, dangerous or impaired driving causing death now carries a maximum penalty of 14 years. The RIDE program which began in the City of Etobicoke, Ontario, in 1974, together with this new legislation, will most certainly go a long way to deter dangerous and impaired driving and thereby save the lives of many innocent Canadian citizens.

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### CN MARINE

#### FERRY SERVICE LAY-OFFS IN NEW BRUNSWICK

**Mr. Fernand Robichaud (Westmorland-Kent):** Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my profound disappointment with the treatment which some workers in my riding are receiving at the hands of the Government.

As if the cuts at the Canadian Wildlife Service in Sackville, the lay-offs at the CN shops and the relocation of the animal pathology lab were not enough, I have been informed that CN Marine is laying off nine employees at the ferry crossing from Cape Tormentine, New Brunswick, to Borden, Prince Edward Island. The Government is showing no mercy. It is cutting left and right with absolutely no feeling for the welfare of the people it is affecting, with absolutely no concern for the damaging effect it is having on the less developed regions of the country which must rely heavily on federal Government dollars and federal jobs to keep their economy afloat.

The People of New Brunswick cannot understand the action of the Government because they were led to believe that more jobs would be coming their way. Instead, the Government is cutting jobs, and the Government is deceiving and mistreating the people of Atlantic Canada.

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### THE PRESS

#### CLAIM TO ACT AS OFFICIAL OPPOSITION DISPUTED

**Mr. J. R. Ellis (Prince Edward-Hastings):** Mr. Speaker, last October 7 the publisher of *The Citizen* of Ottawa was interviewed on the French language program "Le Point". I do not know to what extent Mr. Keith Spicer spoke for the rest of the media during this interview, but he must certainly have spoken for *The Citizen*, which is the most widely distributed newspaper in the nation's capital. Accordingly, his views and approach to publishing are of importance to the House and to the country, no matter in which language they are stated.

Today I should like to isolate one unequivocal statement which he made during the interview that sheds light on his perception of the role of *The Citizen* in national politics. In response to a question regarding his newspaper playing the part of the Official Opposition, he replied:

For lack of a real opposition, we had to perform this task and, quite so, Mr. Turner and his team have not. There is not even a particularly biting attack, and for lack of a true opposition, I think it is reasonable for the press to step in.

I should like to remind Mr. Spicer that the Opposition in the House has earned the right to the title not only of Official Opposition but that of Loyal Opposition, by going to the citizenry for its mandate. This gives opposition Members both the right and the obligation to criticize, within the boundaries of remaining loyal to the basic principles of our Constitution.

Mr. Spicer has no mandate from anyone except his shareholders and, as a good entrepreneur, no obligation to be loyal to anything except his profit and loss statement. The more I read his coverage of real events and some non-events, the more this becomes apparent.

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### REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

#### AWARD TO INCO FOR INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY—SIZE OF LAY-OFFS

**Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** Mr. Speaker, last month Inco Ltd. was given an award by the Department of Regional Industrial Expansion in the productivity category of the Canada Awards for Excellence competition. In giving this award to Inco, the Government ignored a basic fact: the increase in productivity was accomplished by Inco wiping out thousands of jobs over the past five years.

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It is the workers of Inco who should be given an award for increased productivity. Indeed, they are so productive that they produced themselves out of a job. Inco's award came less than three weeks before it announced yet another round of workforce reductions. No doubt the company is going for the gold medal in next year's competition.

In giving the award to a company which has cut its workforce from 34,000 to 14,000, the Government is sending a clear message to the private sector that the more workers who