

I should like to refer to another two or three points of particular interest in this piece of legislation because it covers much more than drinking and driving. I refer specifically to the area dealing with credit card fraud. Now is a time perhaps plastic money is more popular than carrying cash for most Canadians. One important aspect of the Bill will be to set aside that particular area and to deal with the whole matter of credit card theft. Credit card offences have been modified to cope with the rising trend in credit fraud. Credit cards will be subject to the offence of forgery of documents and dealing with forged documents. Prosecutions for credit card offences may be instituted in a province other than the province within which the offence is alleged to have been committed. This is an important area, recognizing at the moment that people may be protected within various provincial jurisdictions.

Also I should like to deal with the provisions of the Bill dealing with new emerging types of crime, specifically computer crime. Basically the Bill recognizes three aspects of the problem of abuse of the computer system. The first is the unauthorized acquisition or destruction of hardware related to computers. The second is the unauthorized acquisition or destruction of computer systems data, and the third is the unauthorized use of computer services. At present the Criminal Code does not provide adequate protection for those adversely affected in these situations. Of course, these amendments will provide protection.

It is important to recognize that there are some obvious omissions in the very complex Bill before us. For example, we recognize that there are areas which have not been covered. We have indicated serious concern in the House over the last many months concerning pornography and the matter of changing the obscenity laws of the country. Many of us were hoping that this rather complex Bill would have included aspects dealing with pornography and defining obscenity. The whole matter of prostitution and soliciting for the purposes of prostitution must be dealt with. I trust the Government will be bringing in legislation quickly to address those areas.

A problem was brought to our attention not many months ago regarding the fact that women were jailed because they failed to testify against their spouses or people with whom they were living. Obviously the area dealing with contempt of court must be dealt with. There is the issue of trial within a reasonable time. This Bill takes a major step in an attempt to streamline the justice system, but I suspect that in spite of the changed and new regulations, it will often come down to the willingness of the players involved to streamline the justice system. Rules and regulations are only as good as the players involved. There are certain types of judges, who, in my estimation, do not necessarily fulfil their obligations as they ought to and will often allow an extended wait for trial.

● (1640)

There are the issues of child abuse and wife battering. There are a great many critical areas of the law with which we must deal. Since they are omitted from this particular Bill, I would certainly encourage the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minis-

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ter of Justice (Mr. Speyer) to do what he can to ensure that legislation to address these very critical areas will be brought forward soon.

As far as all of us are concerned, the clauses dealing with drinking and driving are critical. I was pleased to see that the new provisions will also be applied to boating and flying. With the number of people who go to the recreational areas on the lakes, rivers and coasts of Canada, this has become a serious problem. It is natural that we would expect these changes to the Criminal Code as they relate to impaired driving to relate also to impaired boating and impaired flying. With all of these being grouped together in the Criminal Code, it will certainly make the work of the police much easier.

In closing, I would like to say that while we are anxious to get this Bill before the committee and to hear representations from the appropriate groups and individuals, we would like to point something out particularly to those folks who advocate instant or lengthy jail sentences for drinking and driving. In British Columbia alone, if a jail term were to be expanded from a minimum of 14 days to a minimum of 30 days, the additional cost to that one province would be \$2.7 million. I would also like to point out to Hon. Members that the jails in both the United States and Canada are already jam-packed with people who are there because of drinking and driving offences. The average cost of jailing an individual who is held under these conditions is \$60 per day.

I do not expect for a moment that, other than making a very clear statement of the seriousness with which we take this particular offence, simply jailing people for two or three months will be the answer that will resolve this question. I do believe the answer is education and an expenditure of funds by the Government to ensure that a decent educational process is put into place. I am disappointed, however, to find that the Minister of Justice recently reduced funding to the public legal education program by \$700,000. I think it is appropriate to point that out today. Again, this is not the type of step that complements the legislation before us today.

We are looking very seriously at getting this Bill into committee for passage that is as rapid as possible. We anticipate the representations to be made by those who should comment on this Bill other than Members of the House of Commons.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Questions or comments?

Mr. Nickerson: Mr. Speaker, I have one very brief question to ask the Hon. Member for Kamloops-Shuswap (Mr. Riis). Are we to understand from his presentation that it is the official policy of the New Democratic Party that liquor firms should not be allowed to sponsor sporting events? Second, am I to understand that it is that Party's policy to ban liquor advertising from newspapers and magazines and presumably also from radio and television?

Mr. Riis: Mr. Speaker, I have two observations to make. When the New Democratic Party formed the Government of Saskatchewan, it in fact did take steps in that direction. When