

*Courts Amendment Act*

express disappointment that some of them will be delayed even as long as to the beginning of next year, as he indicated. For example, the Minister talked about righteous indignation from this side. However, it actually happened that there was righteous indignation from the other side when we indicated that the problems of street prostitution and pornography would be referred to the Fraser Commission. Tories asked why it should be referred to a commission when we all know what should be done, or at least the Conservatives know what should be done. Wherever I went during the election campaign I heard the Tory solution for dealing with street prostitution. Now I learn from the Minister, in his first intervention in the House, that they are waiting for the Fraser Commission which was set up by the former Government to deal with street prostitution. That is unbelievable. I wonder what the Tories from the West Coast will be telling their constituents has led the Government to lose the sense of purpose which it had to deal with that subject.

I hope the Minister will address that issue sooner. I agree with the public protest on the subject. I think it is a subject which does need action and I am disappointed, as I know all of the supporters of the Government must be, that the new Government will be waiting for the Fraser Commission to report.

With regard to the other aspect, the subject of pornography, it has become even more urgent as a result of the decision last week, on which the Minister of Justice must surely have been briefed by his officials. Stores in the Province of Ontario which were formerly under municipal regulation as to the exposing of sexually explicit material are now no longer subject to regulations. Sexually explicit material in Ontario can again be put lawfully within reach and view of the entire community, including children and the areas of public schools.

This was an issue in which my own municipality and the other municipalities in my region had acted by putting forward by-laws which worked well but which have now been found to be invalid. So the pornography issue, even more than the prostitution issue, is an urgent issue for action. This Government, with the tremendous mandate it has, is waiting for the Fraser Commission to report on subjects about which they knew all the answers during the election. Now we find we must wait.

In his remarks the Minister spoke about bringing forward the divorce legislation and bringing forward some parts of the omnibus Criminal Code which had been brought forward by Mr. MacGuigan when he was Minister of Justice. The Minister spoke on a number of other subjects and I look forward to having them brought forward quickly. I would like to indicate that my menu will be a responsive one, not a list of things that we will be introducing. Being in the Opposition our role is to respond. I want to tell the Minister that we will not copy the practice of the former Opposition of opposing everything for the sake of opposing it.

*[Translation]*

We would do what my leader . . . The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner) said yesterday that we in the opposition are prepared to approve and help expedite any proposed legislation we can agree with, if it is good legislation. I can assure the Minister of Justice (Mr. Crosbie) that he will have my full co-operation and that of my Party. I may say that the same policy will apply to the legislation before the House today.

*[English]*

Bill C-3 is a small piece of the former legislation, Bill C-55. I do not know why the Minister has not addressed judicial salaries in this legislation. I do not know why he has left out some of the other pieces which were contained in Bill C-55. As he indicated, the judicial salary issue is a very important one on which he will have received representations, as I have, from the Canadian Bar Association. He will have read the report of a former Minister of Justice, Otto Lang, on that subject. If the Minister wants to bring matters forward even more quickly than he indicated, he will not find this Opposition, like the former Opposition, wanting to force the House into long periods of eventually meaningless debate before anything could get past the fabulous present Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Nielsen).

I want to deal with one other subject on the Minister's menu, and that is his offer to provide the Attorneys General of the provinces with full consultation about the appointment of federal judges. I think that is a sensible policy. I know it was the purpose of the former Government and former Ministers of Justice always to consult with Attorneys General about appointments being made in the provinces, or to seek to do so. However, I do not think that should be a one-way street. Justice, in one aspect and in another, is a shared area of jurisdiction. The Attorneys General of the provinces have their responsibilities and the Attorney General of Canada and the Minister of Justice has his. I believe that if full consultation is to take place with the provincial governments with regard to federal appointments, there should also be consultation by the provincial governments with the federal Minister with regard to appointments which they propose to make within the system of justice.

I have discussed that with some provincial Attorneys General and found total unwillingness to have any form of consultation at all about the appointments within their areas of jurisdiction. Now we have a Government with the same political colour as the governments in most of the provinces of our country. Perhaps that will assist the present Minister in a proper kind of co-operative relationship. If consultation is to take place with the provinces on federal appointments, I do not see any reason why, in the public interest and in the interest of an effective system of justice, there should not be consultation by provincial Attorneys General about appointments within their responsibility with the federal Minister. In the interests of an effective federal system the Minister of Justice should be willing to encourage the provinces to come forward and to have that type of consultation.