

Criminal Code

their unfortunate and trying stand—I understand it—none of them asserted in his speech the right of the foetus to live. To avoid incurring the Prime Minister's disfavour, governing members submitted to his dictatorship.

Mr. Mongrain: It is not true.

Mr. Valade: Mr. Speaker, if that is not true, let just one Liberal member stand up and vote against the bill on third reading, and we will say to the hon. member for Trois-Rivières that perhaps that is not true. However, we would like to know why up to now no Liberal member has had the heart and the courage to stand up and express publicly his personal views on this bill, in the light of his Christian philosophy, his aspirations and his conscience. No, Mr. Speaker, all of them—

Mr. Mongrain: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Trois-Rivières (Mr. Mongrain) on a question of privilege.

Mr. Mongrain: I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, because the hon. member makes inaccurate statements. Some Liberal members have voted against the proposed legislation. Some Liberal members have moved amendments, others view things differently, and it is for that reason that they vote for the bill, not because they got orders from the Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There is no question of privilege. The hon. member for Sainte-Marie.

Mr. Valade: Mr. Speaker, time does not allow me to answer, but I say to the hon. member for Trois-Rivières that I shall go on public platforms in due course and we shall consider together the studies made in committees. Committee members first started by abstaining and fell into step in order to block all the amendments we had moved to bring to heel a host of members—

Mr. André Ouellet (Papineau): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Papineau on a point of order.

Mr. Ouellet: Mr. Speaker, I wish to challenge the statement just made by the hon. member for Sainte-Marie (Mr. Valade). The facts are the very opposite of what he said, and, by referring to the minutes of proceed-

[Mr. Valade.]

ings of the committees and especially that of justice and legal affairs, it will be realized to what extent members of every party represented in the house took part in the debate in a completely impartial manner—

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Ouellet: I think the remarks of the hon. member—

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Ouellet: —for Sainte-Marie are quite untrue.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I do not think there is a point of order and I know the hon. member will admit it. However, if he wishes, he will have the opportunity to participate in the debate after the hon. member for Sainte-Marie has finished his speech.

Mr. Ouellet: I think the remarks of the member for Sainte-Marie (Mr. Valade) are the opposite of what I said myself when the bill was studied in committee. I categorically object to the assertion that we received instructions from the party. On the contrary, I did speak myself—

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Ouellet: —at a certain time—

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Mr. Ouellet: —against the clauses of the bill—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. There is no question of privilege and I do not think there is any point of order.

I invite the hon. member for Sainte-Marie (Mr. Valade) to continue his speech.

Mr. Valade: Mr. Speaker, I thank you.

I am closing because the time is very short and we really want to make a decision with regard to this bill.

I did not intend to refer to any one member in particular. I spoke of the whole situation. On the other side of the house, a number of Liberal members do not agree with this bill and, because we have been given the assurance there would be a free vote, I invite them to show themselves as free men. I invite them to take their responsibilities and to do as we do, on this side. Some Progressive Conservative members are in favour of the bill, with some reservations, others are against it. As far as I am concerned, I object to certain parts of the bill, namely those dealing with abortion and homosexuality. I am in favour