S. O. 21

[Translation]

POLLUTION

WATER CLEAN-UP—QUEBEC MUNICIPALITIES' REQUEST

Mr. Gilles Grondin (Saint-Maurice): Mr. Speaker, I rise in the House today to comment on the Canadian Government position about water clean-up in Quebec.

Hon. Members know that under the terms of a federal-provincial agreement Ottawa has paid 16 2/3 per cent of the expenditures required to clean up lakes and rivers in that province.

They know as well that a number of Quebec municipalities are asking Ottawa to contribute to the funds needed to help them carry out their depollution projects.

In my opinion, the current water pollution situation is so urgent that immediate action on the part of the Canadian Government is required to assist Quebec municipalities.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that Quebec is entitled to the same kind of treatment as the other provinces to help its municipalities, and that a federal-provincial agreement should be negotiated at the earliest opportunity to correct the situation.

[English]

FISHERIES

SUPPORT PRICE FOR CAPELIN URGED

Hon. William Rompkey (Grand Falls—White Bay—Labrador): Mr. Speaker, a serious situation has developed in the Newfoundland fishery. The cod have refused to come ashore, the lobster have refused to show up, the Government has refused to pay unemployment insurance for fishermen after May 15, and now the Japanese have refused to pay a decent price for capelin. The boats are tied up and that is creating a very serious situation.

I am addressing this statement to all those Members opposite who are over 51 and who understand the importance of regional development in this country. The younger ones need not pay attention. For those who understand and care about regional development, let me state what must be done. The Japanese must be told that they have to pay a fair price for capelin. The Fisheries Prices Support Board has to be ordered to act on this immediately and support the price of fish. The Government should put in place a marketing agency to make sure that this does not happen again. That must be done immediately.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN'S INTRODUCTION OF BILL TO HELP ABATE ACID RAIN

Mr. Bill Blaikie (Winnipeg—Birds Hill): Mr. Speaker, I was disappointed, as I believe were many Canadians who are

concerned about acid rain, that when the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) had an opportunity to take the President of the United States aside in Venice he only chose to discuss his concerns about the free trade pact, the one-way suicide pact he wants to sign with the United States. He did not take any time to discuss with the President anything concerning the President's commitment to a bilateral accord on acid rain.

Further, I recall the day in the House when the Prime Minister embarrassed all of us by making fun of Congressman Jerry Sikorski, deliberately mispronouncing his name and saying that he had not heard of him. I want Members of the House to know that this same Congressman yesterday introduced a Bill in the U.S. Congress which would have the effect of meeting Canada's demands with respect to acid rain abatement, as would a number of other Bills in the Congress.

I hope the Prime Minister and other members of the Government in particular will take this opportunity to write Congressman Sikorski and all members of the U.S. Congress to urge upon them the passage of either the Sikorski Bill or any other abatement Bills before the House that would have the effect of meeting Canada's demands. The Prime Minister should be the first on the list to emphasize that congressional vehicle as a means for meeting Canadian needs.

[Translation]

VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS

LA MAISON D'AMITIÉ—REQUEST THAT NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION BE GENEROUS

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier): Mr. Speaker, this week the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women released a report entitled Battered But Not Beaten: Preventing Wife Battering in Canada. As it happens, I have in my riding a shelter home, "La Maison d'amitié", a non-profit organization established more than 10 years ago to help distressed women and children. This home is partly funded by the NCC, the National Capital Commission, where the rent is geared to the financial resources of the organization. That is the way it is, people do have to seek assistance. Of course the rent and operating expenses constitute a financial challenge.

The meagre resources of La Maison d'amitié partly originate from certain levels of Government, but not the federal Government, and have enabled it to survive this far. However it has just been advised by the NCC that the annual rent, that was \$1, will be increased, not to \$500 as it was this year but to nearly \$3,000 a month. Mr. Speaker, people like battered women and distressed children will no longer be able to find in my riding a place where they can be cared for and given at least a little attention, a little love and a little understanding.