

against the environmental polluters of this country. If that is not relevant, I don't know what this Parliament is for.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Chair will allow the comparison but not a long debate on the issue.

Mr. Waddell: I have made my point, Mr. Speaker. That action was cowardly, gutless and Gestapo-like, and the Government is going to pay for it as some time. This country will not put up with those kinds of tactics. We will raise the matter in Question Period and continue it on in the debate this afternoon. I tell Hon. Members that if I could I would adjourn the House in protest, but I would like to have the opportunity in Question Period to put some questions to the Government on this gutless and arbitrary action.

Mr. Fretz: For two years they have been there.

Mr. Waddell: Yes, they have been there for two years, my friend, prepared to camp out, which is more than you've been prepared to do for peace.

Mr. Fretz: Everybody has a right to speak here but not to camp.

Mr. Waddell: You are just Ronald Reagan's poodle. You just put your hand up like a dish rag—

Mr. Fretz: Talk about the issue.

Mr. Waddell: —when the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) says "vote, vote, vote". What a bunch of Levesques, dish rags.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Fretz: Why didn't you vote against your Party?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I would ask the Hon. Member to get back to the issue at hand today and I would ask other Hon. Members to listen to the Hon. Member who is speaking.

Mr. Lewis: Get introduced to, not get back to.

Mr. Waddell: I will return to that later in my speech, Mr. Speaker.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, this debate also concerns another matter, but the PCB spill in Kenora on the Trans-Canada Highway—

Mrs. Maily: On the Trans-Canada Highway!

Mr. Waddell: —on the Trans-Canada Highway, is also related to the problem of liquid waste, and I think that Canadians are fearful and angry following this very serious incident. They are asking that preventive action be taken so that this type of accident, which was preventable, will never happen again. I think that in a Special Committee of this House, perhaps under the new rules, we should look into the transport of toxic and dangerous materials. We should ask what are the long-term effects of these dangerous substances,

Supply

on a six-week fetus, for instance. The federal and provincial Governments have been neglectful, in my opinion. For example, the truck driver told this Red Lake family: "This is only mineral oil, not PCBs." What kind of Government cover-up must we put up with when we are told that this extremely dangerous leak was supposed to be mineral oil? How could this Red Lake family cover up the possibility of physical or mental deformity of their unborn child?

• (1210)

[*English*]

There are some real questions arising out of this spill. Perhaps I can put it in English, which I speak much better. If you look at the facts and the evidence, we have a family from Red Lake, Ontario, a husband, his pregnant wife and two children who followed a truck for 25 kilometres. They pulled the truck over and were told that this substance coming off the truck was only mineral oil to be cleaned off with rags and gasoline. The body of the car, including the windshield, as well as the motor, were covered with PCBs, this very toxic chemical. The family travelled all the way to Winnipeg in a contaminated car but they had to read about it in the *Winnipeg Free Press*. The car was impounded in Winnipeg. The truck was not carrying any warning signs and it appears, although I am not certain, that the driver was not aware of the dangerous cargo.

We are told that in Quebec, from where the truck came, the Government was led to believe the transformer was drained before shipment. Someone was obviously misleading the Quebec Government. Someone obviously misled the family concerned. The relatives of that family claim that at least six cars were contaminated and they are still driving the streets of Red Lake. The provincial hot line in Kenora as advising that the cars be washed with water and paper towels, and that they be placed in a paper bag and taken to the dump. This despite the fact we know that PCBs break down very slowly in the environment and are carcinogenic; they cause cancer. The RCMP has seized several shipments of improperly labelled and packaged PCB contaminated soil. The Ontario Ministry of the Environment shipped the samples on a commercial airline in violation of the rules.

It seems to me we have some real questions about the negligence, perhaps criminal negligence, of the company. We also have negligence on the part of the Government of Ontario given the way it reacted to the spill and dealt with it, and its lack of laws for dealing with this properly. The Trans-Canada Highway has been reopened even though the Ontario Government thinks entire sections will have to be replaced. The truck is still leaking PCBs one week after the accident. The facts mount up and up and present a case of negligence on the part of a number of people.

The point that I am making is that the Government is quick to put young people who are in favour of peace in jail, but it is very slow to react to the allegations of negligence in this particular case. As a matter of fact, the Minister said they reacted quickly, but where was she? She was not even in the