

### *Supply*

It is time we began to think about requiring producers to be responsible for recycling a portion of what they produce. It is time the Government of Canada made recycling a priority and made it clear to Canadians that recycling is required, and make it clear to companies that they are expected to do their share in recycling what they produce.

It is time that we establish a national waste reduction goal which will see a 50 per cent reduction in waste by the year 2000, and no waste within 50 years.

It is time to introduce legislation that will regulate and reduce packaging used for consumer and other goods. It is possible to purchase endless products that have cellophane over a box over a foil package over individual cellophane packages. Many packages are produced for all manner of products with between three and five layers. Almost all of that packaging material has a long decomposition life and with toxic ink used in printing on every layer. This packaging often has little value except for promotion.

It is time that we develop a cradle-to-grave policy for manufacturers in order to provide a market for goods once they serve their original purpose.

I have spoken of the Ridge Meadows Recycling Society and its work. The work of this society would not be possible if the whole community were not committed to participating and supporting recycling.

• (1740)

In Mission all Grade 5 students have launched an environmental week project to clean up local streams. They are spray-painting symbols of salmon on storm sewer covers in Mission to remind people to think about the kind of waste they are dumping into our sewer system. Next fall they will be working on a salmon fry project. The schools in Maple Ridge are participating in a love a tree project where they recycle the school paper. All communities on the north side of the Fraser River are vitally concerned about the disposal of cedar hog fuel that sits in huge piles along the side of the mighty Fraser River and streams that feed into the Fraser. Hog fuel has a toxic leachate that has a devastating consequence for the aquatic habitat. The people of my riding are looking to the federal Government to move to protect this tidal waterway, and are very conscious of the sensitivity of the environment. They know that protecting the environment begins at home, and they believe they have started. Now it is time for the Government to support their efforts through effective legislation. They believe it is time we set an example and put our own house in order within the precincts of Parliament.

This House has to become conscious and include in its program federal Government procurement practices which encourage the use of recycled materials; in particular that a minimum percentage of post-consumer waste paper be utilized, that there be introduction of legislation which will regulate and reduce the amount of packaging used for consumer and other goods, that there be the establishment of a national waste reduction goal which will see a 50 per cent reduction in waste by the year 2000 and no waste within 50 years and the development of a cradle-to-grave policy for manufacturers in order to provide a market for goods once they no longer serve their original purpose.

**Mr. Kaplan:** I want to ask the Hon. Member about one of her ideas which sounded like quite a good idea. That is that the Government seek to award contracts for recycled paper as a way of providing an incentive to the Government and to government employees to use recycled paper. What she neglected to mention is that such a contract would never be awarded unless there was some Conservative firm in the country that was in the business of preparing recycled paper. I want to ask her if she has looked into whether there are any Conservative firms in the paper recycling business.

**Ms. Langan:** I would like to thank the Hon. Member for what I am sure is a tongue in cheek question.

**Mr. Kaplan:** No.

**Ms. Langan:** Indeed there are no companies that are in any major way in the recycling of paper business. When you speak to companies, Conservative, Liberal or otherwise which are in the pulp and paper business about recycling, usually the question that is raised refers to the contaminants that leach out of and are the result of recycling of bleached paper and the inks and so on. There is the technology, however, albeit somewhat expensive, to protect the environment from those contaminants and to in fact recycle paper in a safe manner and to save numbers of trees in so doing.

**Mr. Boyer:** The answer was much better than the question.

**Mr. MacWilliam:** Mr. Speaker, my colleague raises some very salient points about the difficulties in recycling that we are experiencing right across this country. It brings to mind an incident which occurred in my family in the Ottawa area when my children were visiting here. I think it is a good example of some of the problems that we have. As a parent I try to discourage my children from drinking pop as much as possible but they always manage to get a can of Coke once in a while.