Supply

this and subsequent debates on this document we will shed light on all of those areas of responsibilities that must be addressed.

I chose today, in the circumstances, to bring attention of the House to a particular example that shows how a little bad decision can lead to great catastrophe.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I recognize the hon. member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell on a supplementary, and then the hon. member for Chambly.

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell): Mr. Speaker, I just want to make a very brief supplementary comment only to indicate to my colleague that the purpose of my intervention was not to shed blame exclusively on the governments of other countries, but indeed to highlight the fact that collectively, and individually, I suppose to a degree, we have all been negligent in that regard.

I was using that example to illustrate how in the case of Akwesasne the damage was indeed created by those factories on the U.S. side. I accept that there are likely regions of our country in which we have probably done similar things which have affected U.S. residents or Canadian citizens as well. The situation could very well have happened in reverse.

I want to stress again that this particular situation here is largely, if not totally, caused by factories which are only a few hundred feet away, but in another country in that particular case. It is just a comment I wanted to make.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Does the hon. member want a rebuttal on the comment?

Mr. McCurdy: Mr. Speaker, it occurred to me that because my hon. colleague from Essex County is sitting beside me, I wanted to reiterate that we are only a few hundred yards from Detroit. Detroit has a grossly inadequate sewage disposal system.

Just a few months ago they started dumping millions of gallons of untreated sewage into the Great Lakes. Yes, there needs to be a concerted effort along the Canadian-American border to have an arrangement that ensures that we respect one another's environment. This can only come through a coherent trans-boundary environ-mental control agreement that covers many areas, including air pollution, water pollution, the installation of nuclear plants and the like, because there are no limits that are drawn by any border or any boundaries.

● (1550)

[*Translation*]

Mr. Phillip Edmonston (Chambly): Mr. Speaker, I was very impressed by the hon. member for Windsor—St-Clair and his grasp of the problem. I too have questions for the government about the Green Plan released yesterday by the Minister of the Environment, and my constituents are also anxious for more information.

I would like to ask a question about pesticides because I realize the hon. member for Windsor—St-Clair has a background in science, Mr. Speaker. According to an article published in le *Journal Vert*, it seems a very-well informed source in the *Union des producteurs agricoles*, who prefers to remain anonymous, has revealed that certain onion and apple producers use pesticides that are not approved by Ottawa. A representative of Agriculture Canada, Mr. Jacques Audet, seems to have said that although they were not able to prove it, there was every reason to believe, on the basis of field samples, that the unlawful use of non-approved pesticides was in some cases taking place on a large scale. So my question for the hon. member for Windsor—St-Clair is: Is he aware of the problem? And does he think the government has really dealt with the problem in its Green Plan?

[*English*]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I would hope that the hon. member for Windsor-St. Clair would reply very shortly, in a very succinct manner, please.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—St-Clair): The answer, of course, is no, Mr. Speaker.

[*English*]

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, as leader of the opposition in the House and as Whip, I want to thank the members of the House for allowing this debate to continue today. It is an important debate but, nevertheless, it is Friday and a lot of members would like to get home for the weekend. It is difficult sometimes for members to catch