

S.O. 21

Vankoughnet
Vézina
Vincent
Warner
Weiner

Wenman
Wilson
(Swift Current—
Maple Creek)

Wilson
(Etobicoke Centre)
Wise—113

NAYS

Members

Allmand
Angus
Benjamin
Boudria
Broadbent
Caccia
Copps
de Corneille
Dingwall
Epp
(Thunder Bay—
Nipigon)
Gagliano
Garneau
Gauthier
Heap
Hovdebo

Jewett
Kaplan
Keeper
Langdon
Malépart
Manly
Marchi
McCurdy
McDonald
(Broadview—
Greenwood)
Mitchell
Murphy
Nicholson
(Trinity)
Nunziata
Nystrom

Oriikow
Ouellet
Parry
Prud'homme
Riis
Robichaud
Robinson
Rossi
Skelly
Tobin
Waddell
Young—41

● (1310)

Mr. Speaker: I declare the motion carried.

It being after one o'clock p.m., I do now leave the chair until two o'clock p.m.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[English]

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

OZONE LEVELS IN MONTREAL

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Davenport): Mr. Speaker, as you probably know, ozone can pose a serious problem to human health in our urban centres. In Montreal, for instance, ozone levels are frequently higher than the standard considered safe for human health. Ozone can impair breathing by harming lungs and it can cause damage to crops and vegetation. The Montreal group STOP recommends that "Environment Canada and Environment Quebec work together to monitor ozone levels upwind and downwind of Montreal, and in rural areas of Quebec" and to "measure the amount of airborne pollutants inhaled by pedestrians in downtown Montreal".

I urge the Minister of the Environment (Mr. McMillan) to approve STOP's proposal to establish an ozone control strategy for Montreal to determine what actions are required to eliminate the hazard to human health posed by high ozone levels.

HUMAN RIGHTS

IRAN—PERSECUTION OF BAHAI'S

Mr. Geoff Scott (Hamilton—Wentworth): Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember a continuing war, namely, the systematic persecution of the Baha'is, the largest religious minority in Iran. This horror story has been going on since the hateful Ayatollah Khomeini regime took power in Iran seven years ago. The matter is especially urgent at this moment since the United Nations Commission on Human Rights is this week drafting a resolution in New York for the General Assembly.

Continued pressure and international monitoring of the situation in Iran have helped keep the number of executions down, but thousands of Baha'is, including elderly people and young children, are still suffering physical intimidation. Livestock and crops have been plundered by Iranian authorities. All Baha'i property, including cemeteries, has been confiscated.

Canada has been vociferous in protesting this campaign of terror. Now we must take one step further at the United Nations. I ask the Government to consider instructing the Canadian delegation to move a human rights resolution on Iran.

* * *

[Translation]

HUMAN RIGHTS

PLIGHT OF MEMBERS OF BAHAI FAITH IN IRAN

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, to continue in the same vein as the Hon. Member for Hamilton—Wentworth (Mr. Scott), I want to point out that action is urgently needed by Canada at the United Nations to help members of the Baha'i faith in Iran. There are 300,000 Baha'is in Iran, none of whom have legal status as "persons" under the Constitution, because the theocratic regime considers them to be "infidels".

● (1405)

[English]

Their refusal to give up their religion has led to the judicial murder of 207 Baha'is and the imprisonment of 700 more, including children. Many of these prisoners have been mentally and physically tortured.

The more fortunate Baha'is who have kept their freedom are denied the right to work. Many of those fired have been ordered to repay their salaries from years of employment, and their children are either denied public education or mistreated in school. Widows and children of executed Baha'is have their property confiscated by the state.

The Canadian Government must act now at the UN to sponsor a resolution condemning these atrocities, and reassure