

Environmental Affairs

municipal infrastructure. Whether we are looking at the U.S. interstate highway system, which is full of pot holes, or the downtown areas of many American cities, we know it is a problem which needs to be addressed.

On May 4, 1987, the Minister of the Environment (Mr. McMillan), speaking to the Ontario Municipal Water Association:

Water pollution has become so bad in this country that vast numbers of Canadians cannot take water quality for granted in their communities—a third of the Canadian population (eight million people) live in municipalities that do not treat their sewage.

Faced with those bills, municipalities in every part of Canada are seeking a quick fix. Having ignored the problem for so long, without planning for the day of reckoning or budgeting for it, they now expect the federal Government to help bail them out.

That kind of attitude is not one which is shared with Members of my Party, at least not myself, nor my Leader. We are of the opinion, as is the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier), as proven in his excellent motion, that the federal Government should consider co-operating with all the provinces and with the municipalities in order to update and review the municipal infrastructure.

[Translation]

On June 1, 1987, Mr. Speaker, the Right Hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Turner), made a speech before the Canadian Federation of Municipalities, in which he indicated that, upon the 50th anniversary of this organization, it would be important for the Canadian people, through its federal Government, to adopt a policy whereby the three levels of Government would make a concerted and collective effort to renew and update Canada's municipal infrastructures. This is an important issue, and I urge all Hon. Members to support the initiative taken by the Hon. Member for Ottawa—Vanier (Mr. Gauthier) in his motion today.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hour provided for consideration of Private Members' Business is now expired. Pursuant to Standing Order 42(1), the order is dropped from the Order Paper.

It being 3.30 p.m., the House stands adjourned until Monday at 11.00 a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 3(1).

The House adjourned at 3.30 p.m.