• (1415)

Oral Questions

Member for Yellowhead (Mr. Clark), to call the Member for Simcoe-South to order, following a speech he had made, and I challenged him to do what the former Progressive Conservative Leader, Robert Stanfield, did with the Member for Moncton at the time.

I may point out to the Member for Central Nova (Mr. Mulroney) what happened to the Member for Yellowhead afterwards. He failed to do what he should have done to clarify his Party's position, and it was his own Party that removed him from his position as Leader of the Opposition at the time. I therefore urge the Member for Central Nova to do his duty to Canada and to all French-speaking Canadians and keep a tight rein on Members of his Party who are not in agreement with that Party's philosophy, if indeed it has one, Mr. Speaker.

[English]

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

INVESTIGATION OF LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION—CALL FOR GOVERNMENT'S RESIGNATION

Mr. Gordon Taylor (Bow River): Mr. Speaker, the committee set up by the President of the Liberal party concluded that the Liberal Party was in a "state of disarray", that it was "tired, arrogant, self-serving, self-satisfied and irrelevant", and its aim was to build a better Liberal Party. Well, any improvement would make the Party better. In fact it could not sink any lower, or become any more corrupt.

In today's Globe and Mail there is a story of the Prime Minister's Office using taxpayers' money to snoop into the private life, before he was elected, of the Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party. They have no policies of their own to combat the debt-ridden unemployed society they have created, and they fear the honest approach of our Leader, so they try to find dirt to throw at him. They used the taxpayers' money to finance their misdemeanor. They could not find anything but good, and so the Minister of Finance (Mr. Lalonde) made up a story that, when he was in private life, our Leader was begging for the rich and for himself, when in fact his letters were pleading for a fair deal for the workers. The Minister's apology was hollow.

How many other Canadians are being snooped and investigated? Is any Canadian safe? No wonder the Liberal committee says this Government is self-serving. Canadians want their Government to show honesty and have integrity. The Liberals have betrayed Canadians. They should resign and let a man of the stature of our PC Leader take over and restore honesty and integrity to the Government of this country.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

TRANSPORTATION OF TOXIC WASTES THROUGH CANADIAN WATERS

Mr. Jim Manly (Cowichan-Malahat-The Islands): Mr. Speaker, last week a bargeload of toxic waste was shipped from Alaska to Seattle through Canadian waters. The 261 metric tonnes of waste from American military bases was contaminated with cancer causing polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs. Although this barge travelled through the inland passage of British Columbia, our provincial Government was not notified. According to the B.C. Environment Minister, our federal Government does not require pre-notification for such shipments in spite of the hazard they pose to our coastline.

The threat to marine life, and ultimately to human life, is taken seriously by the people of British Columbia even if the Ottawa Liberals choose to ignore it. This careless attitude on the part of the federal Government is the same that was shown to the uranium mine at Key Lake before the massive spill of radioactive material there a few weeks ago. It is a situation similar to the unwanted seepage of toxic waste coming from the United States across the Niagara River into Canada.

I call on the Minister of the Environment, (Mr. Caccia), the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Mr. De Bané), the Minister of Transport (Mr. Axworthy), and the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. MacEachen) to get together and draft regulations forbidding the transportation of toxic waste through Canadian waters.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[English]

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

OFFICIALS' INVESTIGATION OF LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

Right Hon. Joe Clark (Yellowhead): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Acting Prime Minister who will know of the admission by officials of the Prime Minister's Office that that office was using public funds, and publicly funded employees, to conduct a vain witch hunt into the background of the Leader of the Opposition before he was in public life, and may well have been involved in activities which will prove to be illegal.

I am sure that the Acting Prime Minister is as alarmed as I am by this evidence of the spread of a Watergate mentality into the Prime Minister's Office.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!