

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

• (10:10 p.m.)

I hope I have brought the seriousness of this situation to the attention of the Parliamentary Secretary and that he will be able to tell us exactly what the department is planning to do. We hope that they will stop playing with air pollution as if it were a toy. We are now dependent on the winds to bring in from the ocean much of the oxygen we use. We are depleting our oxygen by building roads and by construction work across Canada, by 1 per cent per year. The carbon dioxide content since 1900 has risen by 10 per cent. What a heritage we are passing on!

I would remind the government that the United States spends \$480 million to combat air pollution alone. What does Canada spend? Perhaps the Parliamentary Secretary can tell me, but my figures show me that it is \$300,000. If they were to spend relatively the same amount as the United States, the figure would be \$48 million. How can the federal government give leadership without adequate research? Perhaps I could leave the House the solemn warning of President Johnson in the following words, "Either we stop poisoning the air or we become a nation in gas masks groping our way through the dying cities and the wilderness of ghost towns".

I hope that I have in some small way awakened this sleeping department to the gravity of the situation that is facing us today.

Mr. Stanley Haidasz (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I appreciate very much the interest of the hon. member for Simcoe North (Mr. Rynard) in the problems of air pollution, especially as they affect health and life. At the same time I would like to reassure the hon. member that the federal authorities are not only aware of the problems of air pollution, and indeed of other forms of environmental pollution, but are very concerned about them. That is why at the present time we have before us in Parliament the Canada Water Act. That is why the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Munro) has taken additional steps within his department, asking that top priority be given to the problem of air pollution in particular so that in the shortest possible time he may present to Parliament a clean air act.

For the past 15 years various branches of the Department of National Health and Welfare have been studying this problem, and last month the minister reorganized the envi-

[Mr. Rynard.]

ronmental pollution division and established a new air pollution control division under the directorship of Dr. Stanley Winthrop. More money has been assigned within the department, not only to hire personnel and to carry out additional programs which would give us a better idea of the extent and the effects of air pollution but also to co-operate with the provinces and to conduct further research in this field.

Last autumn the Minister of National Health and Welfare convened a meeting in Ottawa of experts on air pollution, which included staff of his department as well as experts from the provincial departments which deal with this problem. They have agreed on some very urgent, major problems concerning air quality, and it is hoped that within the very near future national standards will be determined.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. I am sorry to interrupt the Parliamentary Secretary, but his time has expired.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—SUGGESTED
SALARY INCREASE FOR FEDERALLY
APPOINTED JUDGES

Mr. H. E. Stafford (Elgin): Mr. Speaker, last Wednesday in this House I asked the Minister of Justice (Mr. Turner) if he was giving consideration to an increase in the salary of federally appointed judges, since the Minister of Justice of Ontario recently announced salary increases to provincial judges whereby some provincial court judges are making within \$500 of the amount the federal government is paying Supreme Court judges of the provinces, and up to \$4,500 more than the federal government is paying county court judges.

The federal government pays county court judges \$21,000 and Supreme Court judges \$26,000 per year. At the same time, the Ontario government pays the chief provincial judge \$27,000, senior provincial judges \$25,000, and other provincial judges—some of whom are not members of the Bar—up to \$24,000. It is also a matter of interest that by August 31, 1970, the Ontario government will pay Crown attorneys in Toronto up to \$29,011, and Crown attorneys outside Toronto up to \$27,916.

There is no question that these increases by the Ontario government are justified. My point is that the federal government must recognize that federally appointed judges have greater and more varied responsibilities