

*Oral Questions*

regard as an accusation that her Department has already agreed—and these words are in the memo, they are not mine—to collaborate with the American industry in writing the regulations for a Canadian Bill? Is it not the ultimate humiliation for the Tory Government to get the American industry to help draft our Bill?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Communications):** Mr. Speaker, that is utter nonsense. I am finding more and more that that is all the Leader of the New Democratic Party is capable of—utter nonsense.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Miss MacDonald:** Mr. Speaker, he talks about collaboration. May I just say, because this is common knowledge, that I had one well publicized meeting with Mr. Valenti here in Ottawa some 14 months ago. At that time Mr. Valenti put forward a number of proposals. They included no legislation and no separate market for Canadian rights. He proposed that moneys be raised by putting a tax on Canadian film-goers at the box office. Those were the proposals that were put forward.

I have to tell you, Mr. Speaker, that none of them were acceptable, and none of them will be introduced.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

## MINISTER'S POSITION

**Hon. Edward Broadbent (Oshawa):** Mr. Speaker, we now know that the Minister has said she will produce legislation, and the American industry is being urged to pretend it is opposed to it to appease Canadian nationalist feelings. That is the whole thrust of the memo that the Minister is denying.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Broadbent:** I have a copy here in my hand of the original Bill that had the tough provisions that said that the Americans would be restricted, in a reasonable way, to the movies they financed, and to the movies on which they have a world copyright. Why will the Minister not say that her Bill will do that and that, for once, she will encourage real distribution, real access to Canadian markets, of Canadian produced films?

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Communications):** Mr. Speaker, I must tell the Hon. Member, who is relying on a memorandum from American sources, that I have seen that memorandum and it is wrong. He may not accept that, but I can tell him it is wrong.

I also want to assure him that the work that we have done on this Bill and on the regulations has been done in this city, in this country, and by Canadians.

## HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES

## PRESENCE OF FREON IN COOKING OIL

**Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East):** Mr. Speaker, it is a sad situation when the contents of the Bill are known by Americans before they are known by Members of the House of Commons.

In the absence of the Minister of National Health and Welfare, as well as of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, I would like to address my question to the Prime Minister.

The whole country knows that freon is destroying our environment by killing off the ozone layer. We have now learned that not only is it killing our environment, it also has the potential of killing young children, children who as schoolboys or schoolgirls thrill sniff cooking oil, freon-based Pam. Why is it that freon is illegal in hair sprays, it is illegal in aerosol deodorants, but it is still legal in cooking oil in Canada?

**Hon. Thomas Siddon (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans):** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of National Health and Welfare who is not in the House today, I point out that the Government, the Minister of the Environment and the Minister of National Health and Welfare, have given unprecedented attention to the problem of chlorofluorocarbons and the pervasive effect they are having on our atmosphere in all their forms. Canada has taken world leadership in establishing initiatives to deal with the proliferation of various chemicals based on chlorofluorocarbons, including freon. All its health effects are being examined thoroughly by the Government at this time.

## PAM—REQUEST FOR REMOVAL FROM SHELVES

**Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East):** Mr. Speaker, three young people in the Ottawa area alone have died in the last four months. I would like to ask the Prime Minister again, given that his Minister of National Health and Welfare is unprepared to act for the health and safety of Canadians, give the leadership and follow the example that was taken with hair sprays and deodorants, will he demand that freon-based Pam be immediately pulled from cooking shelves across Canada so no more young Canadian children have to die?

**Hon. Pierre H. Cadieux (Minister of Labour):** Mr. Speaker, I think we all agree that we regret when deaths occur whatever the circumstances. What has to be underlined here is that those deaths related to Pam use are related to Pam misuse. When products such as Pam are used as instructed they do not cause any hazard for the consumer.

**Ms. Copps:** Supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

**Some Hon. Members:** Sit down!

**Mr. Speaker:** The Hon. Member for Vancouver—Kingsway.