

concern of many Canadians about the environment, a concern which seems to escape hon. gentlemen opposite.

The minister talks of economic growth and environmental control at the same time; yet a very different attitude has been taken by the government toward the James Bay project and the pipelines which are to run down the Mackenzie Valley. The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development said he would be glad to accept applications to construct pipelines in that valley before the environmental studies had been completed. Again, this is evidence of a double standard.

The minister spoke of two or three things he hopes to do. One of them is the sponsoring of a conference on the conservation of the living resources of the sea in Vancouver in February of next year. I submit that the government should be moving in this direction right now, without waiting for a conference, by extending the provisions of the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act to cover the Pacific and Atlantic coasts. Even beyond that, I suggest that the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act, which this Parliament passed two or three years ago but which the government has not seen fit to proclaim, be implemented.

• (1120)

Further, it is proposed that big tankers be confined to routes which avoid ecologically sensitive areas—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I have to remind all hon. members, particularly the hon. member for Skeena who now has the floor, that under the Standing Order comments made at this time are to be brief. The Standing Order specifically provides that comments are to be brief. Hon. members are required not to make comments of a nature that would provoke debate; they should be limited specifically and clearly to the statement made by the minister. I am particularly referring to the requirement that comments be brief. When a three-minute statement is made by the minister and ten-minute comments are made by members representing parties in opposition, I think that is perhaps not respecting the spirit of the Standing Order. I hope the hon. member for Skeena and other hon. members will keep that in mind.

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** I quite agree, Mr. Speaker, and I apologize to you and to the House for having gone a little beyond the prescription of the rule. But so much is inaccurate in what is contained in the statement that it necessitated that sort of commentary.

[Translation]

**Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford):** Mr. Speaker, first of all I wanted to congratulate the hon. minister for having supplied us this time with a good French text of his statement.

I also congratulate the hon. minister on the colour of the tie he is wearing this morning, which will certainly contribute to improve the environment in the House of Commons.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. minister has informed us of the position Canada is to adopt at the United Nations Conference on the Environment in Stockholm next week.

### *Grain Sales to China*

Actually, in the second paragraph, he says:  
—no nation should pollute the environment or its neighbour or contaminate the world's ocean or the atmosphere.

We are 100 per cent in agreement with this principle but on the other hand it should also be applied in Canada. We should, in fact, be able to say that no one should pollute his neighbour's environment or knowingly contaminate the atmosphere.

If this principle is valid on the international scene, it should first of all be applied in our own country, because we cannot require that other nations, do what we do not do in our country.

The hon. minister would definitely have more authority at the Stockholm conference if he could say this principle has been applied in Canada for a long time.

Mr. Speaker, the minister also stated, at page 2 of his statement, and I quote:

—We must not kill fish, destroy vegetation or wipe out wildlife.

Once again, these are good wishes, and we congratulate the minister for that. However, we should have preferred hearing him announce a new measure not only to prevent the killing of fish but to protect the environment.

We know quite well that the minister is aware of all the problems of pollution but that lack of funds cripple the efforts we could make to fight them.

In fact, improving the environment would cost billions of dollars, funds which the government lacks.

For many, many years, we have been denouncing the worst pollution there is in Canada, namely the financial pollution which prevents the minister from carrying out his projects. By way of a conclusion, may I say that finance has corrupted the economic atmosphere in Canada and, therefore—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please.

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[English]

### GRAIN

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF ADDITIONAL SALE OF WHEAT TO PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

**Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice):** Mr. Speaker, I wanted at the earliest possible moment to bring some information of interest to the House. I say that because I was only able to put draft copies of an announcement into the hands of hon. members opposite.

The House has shown its interest recently in the use of hopper cars for the movement of grain, and also in the matter of the movement of grain out of the west coast. I am happy to inform the House that this morning the Canadian Wheat Board is announcing another sale of wheat to China in the amount of up to 58.8 million bushels.

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

**Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, this indicates an acceleration rather than a delay in shipments of wheat to China, and beginning in July there will be an accelerated movement