

*Government Orders*

We have heard a great deal about this government's new-found pious interest in human rights in Third World countries. This government has now announced that it is concerned about racial tensions in Third World countries. This country has said that we have to lift these people up and why is it that the New Democrats would be opposed to this deal? That is one of the greatest lines being used by the government against us in our opposition. In actual fact Mexico is a major violator of human rights. It is the Prime Minister of this country who has stood up piously and said that we should not trade or give aid to those countries who violate human rights.

What are we doing with Mexico? We have even had to allow refugee status for an elected senator of Mexico to come into this country so that his life can be protected because he is a member of the opposition of that country.

Would it matter if it was the NDP? Is that the answer? It is the fundamental stupidity of people on the back benches of this government who do not understand that human rights apply to everybody. If one intends to define human rights on the basis of politics, then that is sheer stupidity.

**Mr. Arseneault:** A good NDPer.

**Mr. Barrett:** Even when I defended the human rights of others I never used a political definition. I know that that member only speaks from his own background of ignorance and not for the government I am sure.

**An hon. member:** He should withdraw it.

**Mr. Barrett:** No, let it be. I do not deny his opinion. It could be stupid or racist or anything else, but he does not speak for the government I hope. I hope he does not speak for the government in that remark. That is what I am saying.

**Mr. Clark (Brandon—Souris):** He is not a member of the government, Dave, for goodness' sake.

**Mr. Barrett:** Are you saying that is the government's position?

**Mr. Clark (Brandon—Souris):** No, I am saying he is not a member of the government.

**An hon. member:** He is a Liberal.

**Mr. Barrett:** He is a Liberal? That is even worse. I apologize to the Conservative Party. I hope that the leader of the Liberal Party takes that member into the back room and spans him intellectually for what he just said. Brush his teeth. Whatever you do with him, clean him up a bit because that was a stupid statement.

**Mr. Blaikie:** Wash his mouth out with soap.

**Mr. Barrett:** Here is a situation where we now have a Mexican senator seeking political refuge in this country. That is the country we are going to sign with?

Let us talk about the environment. I want to recall to the House the nice statements made by the minister. Oh, we are going to incorporate environmental law., Oh, yes, this is the first agreement that will have environmental protection in it. As a member of that committee, I wanted us to go to Matamoros, Mexico to see the results of the devastation from pollution. That can be ranked with a North American Chernobyl at Matamoros, Mexico. It is not radiation environmental damage, but certainly pollution from every form of chemical and toxic, poison waste being poured into open ditches in that city.

**Mr. Blaikie:** Free enterprise thrives there.

**Mr. Barrett:** Free enterprise. There are no rules or regulations. Leave Canada and leave the United States and go down to Mexico and allow this to happen.

• (1240)

The rate of birth defects in infants is 1 in 16 in that Brownsville, Texas and Matamoros area. Guess what? The residents of Brownsville, Texas have discovered that pollution knows no borders. The poisons, pesticides and chemical toxins that are being dumped into the soil and water in Matamoros, Mexico are coming right into Brownsville, Texas. What does the agreement have to say about that?

**An hon. member:** Nothing.

**Mr. Barrett:** Nothing. If the government is suggesting that there are parallel accords to deal with this problem, that was an initiative of the United States government and not the Canadian government. For goodness' sake, if it is really sincere about that then it should not allow the bill to go through this House without every member of this House seeing those parallel accords.