

as the Government indicates, but more of a joint concern in which the federal Government must be involved.

There was not a federal environmental official in northwestern Ontario until three days after the spill. That was negligence on the part of the federal Government. The federal Government did not know how to handle it. The Minister of the Environment did not respond. The Minister of Transport made a shaky response and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans made some responses trying to bail out the present weak Minister. We cannot have that. The environment is too important a matter to have a weak Minister such as we have.

The Minister should take the position that she has a right to be involved in the spill. She should be telling the House today that they will act quickly in the future. In his remarks the Member for Simcoe North (Mr. Lewis) made the point that we should figure out where we are going from here. I agree with that. It is a positive attitude in terms of what will happen with future spills. However, we are not yet finished with this spill.

The Member for Skeena (Mr. Fulton) used a word which has been ruled unparliamentary. It starts with "b". He said why don't we put those "blank" in jail. I must admit that I was a little startled when he said that in Question Period. However, you should have seen the reaction in the country. The people said "right on!"

Mr. Lewis: What about due process?

Mr. Waddell: Due process, of course. However, there is no process for environmental polluters. I found out this weekend that there was an incident last winter in the Northwest Territories. The TPL company was building an oil pipeline from Norman Wells. They were looking at the wells with a camera which contains a radioactive element. It was not working so the worker hit it, and so on, and the thing came out on his hands. Later he had black hands but the company never reported it. They did not even have a licence to have radioactive material in the Northwest Territories. The Atomic Energy Control Board was slow to do anything about it. They cannot find the worker as he has gone back to Edmonton.

This is the kind of gross negligence, if not criminal negligence, that is going on in the country in environmental matters. This spill is a perfect example because it is spotlighted. Canadians could actually see what happened. I read the evidence out and it is irrefutable. We know the reaction of the Ontario Government, the way the company conducted itself and the way in which the federal Government conducted itself. We have not heard one Member say that if there is criminal negligence involved, these people will be charged and put in jail and we will never have such an accident again. The only thing we hear is that they are going to put the poor peace camp kids in jail.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Supply

Mr. Waddell: Members are laughing. I do not think it is particularly funny. I think this is a tragedy. While I am speaking today—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, order.

Mr. Waddell:—there are some young people who, instead of just getting drunk and things like that, are prepared to do things—

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order please.

[*Translation*]

Mrs. Maily: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The Hon. Member for Gatineau (Mrs. Maily) on a point a order.

Mrs. Maily: Mr. Speaker, I remember you reminding the Hon. Member he should not hark back to that subject. Apparently he has no understanding of the rule of relevance.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Replying to the Hon. Member, I have decided that for today whatever comparisons could be made between the Peace Camp and this Debate here would in fact be relevant. Speaking of comparisons, however, I would not want the debate to revolve around the Peace Camp, but if there were any comparisons, they would be allowed.

[*English*]

Mr. Keeper: Mr. Speaker, the Member is complaining about the actions of our Member. Does the Member know that she should not be questioning a ruling of the Chair?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: There is one minute left in the time of the Hon. Member for Vancouver-Kingsway (Mr. Waddell).

Mr. Waddell: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know that the Member is sensitive to the peace camp matter, and she will become more sensitive later.

In summation I would like to say that this is a motion condemning the Government for its work in the environment. We have had a spill which highlighted what is going on. People could see the negligence of the Ontario provincial Government. They saw the slowness with which this Government did anything and the lack of response by this particular Minister. They have seen the past weak action on acid rain when the Government toadied up to President Reagan and appointed an emissary. They have seen the cut-backs in parks, environmental studies and so on. In short, they have seen the beginning of a Government which is very weak in conservation. I could speak about how they have failed in energy conservation but have fallen in line with the oil companies. With regard to the environment they have been weak and are falling into the routine of doing nothing. I think that the Government stands condemned.

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, the great Russian writer, said that any village greybeard will tell mankind that 12 worms can only grow on one apple for so long. Canadians understand that we