

*Proceedings on Adjournment Motion*

we can follow here. The problem of pollution for the commercial fishermen of our big lakes needs no elaboration. We cherish our heritage of outdoor life and recreation. But who enjoys fishing in water he cannot bear to smell? These are the hidden costs which government must weigh and act upon. I could speak of agriculture. Since agriculture by its very nature uses more ground water than other sectors, ground water pollution is our biggest concern here. What does it cost in terms of lost production? I do not know, but I know there are costs involved. I could elaborate. I am going through my pages rapidly.

**Mr. Perrault:** Just ask for extra time. Your boys will support you here.

**Mr. Comeau:** Who is that hon. member, Mr. Speaker, I won't mention him.

**Mr. Perrault:** Don't be muzzled by your leader.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. It being ten o'clock, it is my duty pursuant to Section 11 of Standing order 58 to advise the house that the consideration of the motion is deemed to have expired.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

**Mr. Bell:** Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether anyone on the government side of the house could give the order of business, so that we might terminate the week in an orderly and sensible manner.

**Mr. Olson:** Mr. Speaker, whether or not the week will be terminated in an orderly and sensible way will depend on whether or not the opposition acts in a responsible way. Very reasonable suggestions have been made to the opposition members.

In case hon. members are interested, on Thursday we will call item 84, Bill C-202 in respect of incentives for the development of productive employment opportunities. This will be followed by item No. 90, Bill C-207 in respect of the Atlantic Transportation Assistance Act.

• (10:00 p.m.)

**PROCEEDINGS ON  
ADJOURNMENT MOTION**

A motion to adjourn the house under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

[Mr. Comeau.]

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT—COURTENAY, B.C.  
LETTER CARRIER SERVICE

**Mr. Thomas S. Barnett (Comox-Alberni):** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I do not see the President of the Treasury Board here. I should like to know whether there is anybody authorized to speak on his behalf before I continue.

**Mr. Forest:** Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Barnett:** Mr. Speaker, I asked the President of The Treasury Board (Mr. Drury) when the government intends to lift the freeze so the Postmaster General (Mr. Kierans) can get on with the business of establishing a letter carrier service in the city of Courtenay. This question to the President of the Treasury Board arose from an earlier question I had addressed to the Postmaster General and which became the subject matter of one of these late evening discussions between the Minister of Communications and myself. On May 16 I was informed by the minister in his reply that on March 1, 1968, a well known economy drive was launched by the government of the day and a freeze was instituted in virtually all of the departments in an attempt to limit spending and reduce the burden of the taxpayers who, incidentally, are the electors of hon. members opposite as well as of members on this side of the house.

The minister went on to say that as a result, Courtenay is one of 24 communities where letter carrier service is justified under our criteria, but where for lack of funds the government could not introduce it until such time as the freeze was lifted.

I submitted my question to the President of the Treasury Board and claimed that it clearly arose from the answer given me by the Minister of Communications. Incidentally, the reply he gave indicated that this question goes far beyond the question of letter carrier service in the one community of Courtenay, which is in my own constituency. In my submission, there is clear evidence of discrimination against the citizens of Courtenay as well as the citizens of the other 23 communities which the Minister of Communications indicated are involved. The answer given to me by the minister revealed that the solution of the problem lies outside the jurisdiction of his department.

This so called freeze is on all fours with something that was known under the regime