

If it is an essential service, should it be allowed to close down at any time and not only inconvenience but almost drive to the point of bankruptcy a lot of businesses and almost drive to the point of having to go to the food banks perhaps our senior citizens? I am one who believes that when we are dealing with an essential service the time has come to make sure that the mail does go through, and the mail does go through at all times. If that means that we have to remove the right to lock out, remove the right to strike, then that is what we are going to have to do.

It is not as if this is something that is unique, that is earth shaking, that does not apply in other cases, Mr. Speaker. You and I know that there are other essential services that do not have the right to strike and do not have the right to lock out. I think for one of many if not all of our police departments. They go through this process without the right to strike and without the right of management to lock them out. What they do of course is have a process of binding arbitration in which there is a decision made. Someone or some body of people sit down and listen to all the concerns on both sides and come to a decision which is binding on everybody. There is not a labour shutdown. There is in fact a decision made by a board of arbitration.

That is the way that it happens with police departments, fire departments, and other essential services right across our country. That is the way in my view that it should happen here.

There is a premium to pay for compulsory arbitration. We have seen time and time again that an arbitrator usually rewards the employees at a higher rate under compulsory arbitration than they do if it is a negotiated settlement. But that is a price that has to be paid by the public for the convenience of having a police department that is there all the time, a fire department that is there all the time, and in this case I believe the price that has to be paid for a post office that is there all the time. I hope that the House in its wisdom will see fit to pass this bill and send it to committee so that we can enact it and make sure that it is part—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): It being 5.45 o'clock p.m., pursuant to order made Tuesday, April 2, 1992, it is my duty to interrupt the proceedings.

Government Orders

[*Translation*]

Therefore the time provided for the consideration of Private Members' Business has now expired. Pursuant to Standing Order 96(1), the item is dropped from the Order Paper.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[*English*]

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL FISCAL ARRANGEMENTS AND FEDERAL POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION AND HEALTH CONTRIBUTIONS ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Mazankowski that Bill C-60, an act to amend the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements and Federal Post-Secondary Education and Health Contributions Act, be read the third time and passed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): It is my duty to put forthwith all questions necessary to dispose of Bill C-60 at third reading. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Some hon. members: No.

Some hon. members: On division.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Carried on division. Motion agreed to, bill read the third time and passed.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is there unanimous consent to declare that it is six o'clock p.m. to begin the debate on the adjournment motion?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Champagne (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I believe that the parliamentary secretaries have not yet arrived for the late show, so it might be a good idea to suspend the sitting until six o'clock.

SITTING SUSPENDED

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Therefore I suspend the sitting until six o'clock.

The sitting of the House was suspended at 5.47 p.m.