

they find? A snowbank one meter high—not to say three feet high—in front of the superbox. And the superbox will be frozen in January when the temperature is 15 below. This is a potential situation which my constituents will be faced with if the Government does not put an end to this policy of the Canada Post Corporation.

People in my constituency have a saying, Madam Speaker. They say—

Mr. Prud'homme: Tory times are hard times!

Mr. Boudria: The Hon. Member for Saint-Denis (Mr. Prud'homme) says: "Tory times are hard times." This is true. We also say that, but there is another saying in my region. People say that a Government which cannot deliver the mail does not deserve to be in power. If the Conservatives opposite are unable to deliver the mail to the constituents of Glengarry—Prescott—Russell, how can they claim the right to govern? How can they claim the ability to do anything else when they are not even able to take a letter from one place to another in this country?

These are all questions which have been asked to me. These are all questions to which the constituents of Glengarry—Prescott—Russell want some answers, Madam Speaker. It is very well for the Conservative Members to ridicule the Opposition for moving this motion today. They claim that this motion is not necessary. For my part, I can say that the residents of my constituency and of all other constituencies in Canada want to know whether or not this Government has the ability to deliver the mail.

[English]

The people of Canada want to know how they can trust this Government with anything else if it cannot even deliver the mail properly? How can it claim to be competent enough to run the country if it cannot run the Post Office? We still do not have the answer to that. We are certainly not getting answers from the typewritten, eight and a half by eleven triple-spaced speeches we heard from some Hon. Members on the government side. We will get the answers by having a debate and hearing what our constituents in every single riding across the country want. In closing, I invite Hon. Members of the Government to hold the Government to account. That is not just the duty of the Opposition. It is the responsibility of the Parliament of our country. It is time the 200 or so silent Tory back-benchers spoke up for the people who sent them here and told the Government: "We have had enough of this. Deliver the mail. That is what you were elected to do".

● (1720)

Mr. Malone: Madam Speaker, I have never heard so much unadulterated crap in all my life. I want to ask the Hon. Member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell (Mr. Boudria) how in the world he can stand in his place and talk about Conservative Members not bringing accountability to Government when he is a member of a political Party that, when in government just two-and-a-half short years ago, had a Post

Supply

Office debt nearing \$1 billion. His Party cared not a toot about whether or not the debt grew larger. It had no respect for the debt of the nation. It provided poorer service than we have now. Yet the Hon. Member can stand in his place and somehow pretend that nothing has changed, that there has been no change in direction, when the truth of the matter is that service will not change until we get the debt under control in a complete way. Service is certainly better now than it was when his Party was in place. How can the Hon. Member pretend to be giving a speech that in any way reflects historical fact when he displays a turning aside of the facts to suit his own purposes?

Mr. Boudria: Madam Speaker, if the Hon. Member does not like it, he can take it or leave it or lump it. I do not care. The people of Glengarry—Prescott—Russell sent me here to speak on their behalf, which is what I will do so long as I am here, whether the Hon. Member opposite likes it or not.

In so far as the quality of service is concerned, I do not think that there is anyone in my riding, nor in yours, Madam Speaker, or in any other riding, who thinks that the service of Canada Post has improved since the Tories took office. If there is such a person I would sure like to meet him.

Mr. Epp (Thunder Bay—Nipigon): Madam Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity to say a few words about the points raised by the Hon. Member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell (Mr. Boudria) regarding rural postal service in particular. On Friday I had the pleasure of travelling to several rural parts of my riding with my friend, the Hon. Member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Keeper), to talk to constituents about rural mail service. In one community of about 340 households, which is served presently by a small rural post office and by a rural route service, I discovered at a meeting of people gathered together with about three or four days' notice at 2.30 p.m. on a Friday afternoon that there were 42 people in the room ready to express their concerns about rural postal service. At a meeting that evening in Kakabeka Falls called with even less notice we found 75 people gathered together to ask questions and express their concerns about rural mail service.

The reality that faces these communities now is that the corporate plan which the Cabinet of the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) approved last month will have Canada Post closing these post offices at the first opportunity and taking rural mail delivery away from people to replace it with one kind or another of group box. People who are used to good mail service, although they have seen various declines in it over the last few years, now see postal service being removed from their driveways and from their homes. They see a Government which is prepared to make the Canada Post reduction of deficit argument which will increase their own costs of mail service. The total cost of communicating through Canada Post is at the very basis of the situation that people face. I find it outrageous that the Hon. Member for Crowfoot (Mr. Malone) and other rural representatives on the government side who were at committee on Thursday and who cut off discussion of a postal