

*Government Orders*

corporation are getting this false information and based on this false information they want to close this outlet.

As Mr. Dzulynsky says: "The irony is that our sales increased since the franchises in the area were set up. It seems to us that the people find our location convenient. Does a study of expected traffic patterns count for more than actual proven traffic?"

The consultant discovered that the traffic patterns are wrong and that there cannot be a franchise there. With the traffic patterns along Bloor Street there is no stopping light at that corner. We do not want stopping lights at that corner. Why would the traffic going from Etobicoke to Toronto stop there to use that postal outlet? That postal outlet was put there 35 years ago to serve the people living in the community within walking distance of this post office. This great management of this government, this great corporation, based on false criteria, is closing another outlet in my riding of Parkdale—High Park.

It can be seen why I am so angry. Mr. Dzulynsky, providing the service, feels he has been unfairly treated. I have letters upon letters from constituents who feel they have been unfairly treated.

I have 1,000 names of people who came to use the post office within one week. Within one week, 1,000 people came to use that post office and they are closing it when in the Prime Minister's riding they could not even find 400 people to use the post office. They went out of their way to try to save all the post offices in the Prime Minister's riding, but in my riding of Parkdale—High Park when thousands of people are using the outlets, no. Maybe they are closing it because I am a Liberal.

We just cannot run the country this way any more. It is time to stand up and call a spade a spade. My fear again is the hidden agenda in this innocent little bill, Bill C-73. I do not think we can support this bill when the government comes in with hidden agendas.

I appeal to the minister to get out of his fancy offices here in Ottawa and come to Parkdale—High Park. Come to 100 High Park. Walk with the people to this post office. If that one is closed, he can walk and carry the parcels to Crossways, as has been recommended, and see how far he gets.

Thank you for allowing me to put my concerns and anger on record. This government just has no heart and the corporation has no soul.

**Hon. Ralph Ferguson (Lambton—Middlesex):** Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak on Bill C-73, an act to amend the Canada Post Corporation Act. We noticed that section 27 of the Canada Post Corporation Act is repealed in this bill and that it is amended by adding thereto immediately before section 28 the following sections:

• (1710)

27.1 The Corporation has an authorized capital consisting of an unlimited number of shares of such classes as the Board may, with the approval of the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Minister, the Minister of Finance and the Treasury Board, prescribe by by-law.

Section 27.1 points out:

(4) No shares of the Corporation may be held or beneficially owned by any person, other than

(a) Her Majesty in right of Canada or a trustee for Her Majesty in right of Canada; or

(b) an employee of the Corporation or a trustee for an employee of the Corporation.

(5) Not more than 10 per cent of the issued and outstanding shares of the Corporation may be held or beneficially owned by the employees of the Corporation.

I have one question right off the bat. Are these the rank and file employees working on the sorting floors doing the actual work or are they the executives or the supervisory people who over the last several years have so badly misled the Canadian people?

Scores of post offices were closed not only in my own riding but right across Canada. Since the adoption of this corporate plan in 1986 over 1,200 post offices have been shut down under the so-called natural opportunity policy. Under this policy all 5,221 post offices are scheduled to close over a 10-year period. Individual post offices are shut down when the natural opportunity of retirement, resignation or death of a postmaster occurs.

It is interesting that in six cases of post offices around the Prime Minister's riding when the postmaster retired instead of using the natural opportunity, new postmasters were hired. The post offices remained open in five out of six cases. In the sixth case they could not get anybody to apply.

Having closed these post offices and then by the same token offering to sell shares to employees seems to be redundant and sounds very suspicious.

I want to point out that I go back a long way in my association with the mail couriers in the rural ridings. In fact, before I started public school I remember riding around the mail route with my grandfather in the horse