

difficult to move around in, particularly at a time when it is much cheaper to get a chartered flight from Mirabel to London or Paris than it is to take an aircraft from one coast of this country to the other. These are things we have to change. I just wanted to make those few comments in passing.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

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TWO-PRICE WHEAT ACT

MEASURE TO AMEND

The House resumed, from Friday, June 27, consideration of the motion of Mr. Pepin that Bill S-6, to amend the Two-Price Wheat Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

Mr. Bill McKnight (Kindersley-Lloydminster): Mr. Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to speak on Bill S-6. I and other members on this side of the House have waited a long time for the presentation of this bill, which will give us an opportunity to discuss something very important to the farmers of western Canada; that is, the price they receive for the production of grain. This bill originated in 1974, six years ago.

That is a considerable time to wait for additional discussion about the price of something as important as grain.

In looking at the clock, Mr. Speaker, I see that it is approaching five. May I now call it five o'clock?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the House that the questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: The hon. member for Madawaska-Victoria (Mr. Corbin)—Agriculture—Request for hearings on establishment of national potato marketing agency; the hon. member for Surrey-White Rock-North Delta (Mr. Friesen)—National Revenue—Effect of new customs regulations on small business; the hon. member for Burnaby (Mr. Robinson)—Administration of Justice—Charge of rape—Defence of consent—Amendment to Criminal Code.

Postal Service

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTIONS

[English]

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being five o'clock, the House will now proceed to the consideration of private members' business as listed on today's order paper, namely, notices of motions and public bills.

Item no. 8, in the name of the hon. member for Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe (Mr. Beatty); shall the item stand by unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

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● (1700)

POST OFFICE

ADVISABILITY OF RESTORING ADEQUATE LEVELS OF SERVICE

Mr. Sid Parker (Kootenay East-Revelstoke) moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, the government should consider the advisability of restoring adequate levels of postal service to new residential communities and to guarantee that there will be no further cutbacks in postal service.

He said: Mr. Speaker, in speaking to the motion I would like to reflect on some of the history of what has taken place within the postal department. For many years postal service in the country was provided by trains which operated 24 hours a day and seven days a week. As the trains rattled across the country postal workers were busy sorting out the mail and dropping it off in various communities. We have now adopted a new system of carrying the mail; airplanes deliver the mail to various communities. I have visited some of the post offices to see exactly what is taking place.

The reason I put forward this motion is that airplanes are bringing in large bundles of mail, for example, into the Vancouver distribution centre. This centre is unable to handle this mail and to carry out the function of sorting it. When there is an overload mail is bundled up and thrown into a truck which transports it back to the interior to smaller communities. The post offices in these smaller communities are usually understaffed and it is all they can do to carry out the work of servicing the community, let alone carry this extra burden. At one of the post offices I visited there were over 200 pounds of extra mail which had been sent for sorting, which is to be done after the postal workers have carried out their regular duties. This is something which is going on throughout the entire territory.

When something is lost in the post office, and this occurs quite frequently, an investigation is begun. The people are usually told that there is no insurance on their postal package, so there is no compensation available. The postal worker in many cases is held to blame for the poor service.

The introduction of my motion is to serve two purposes, both of which are contained therein. One purpose is to ensure that there are no further cutbacks in postal service; the other is to