

an offer in this area, is it the Government's policy that Canada Post will negotiate on the issue of franchising? Where, when, and how will that occur?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister responsible for the Post Office, I think that he made it fairly clear to the House yesterday as reported in *Hansard* at page 9550 where he stated, "Mr. Dunstan . . ." on behalf of Canada Post, "has made a commitment to negotiate, along the lines suggested by Mr. Foisey, . . ." the conciliator, "to ensure that no employees would be adversely affected by this decision, which is most properly a management decision".

Of course, the federal Government is hopeful that Canada Post and CUPW can return to the bargaining table to negotiate a settlement, and that is obviously the preferred course of action.

GOVERNMENT POLICY

Mr. Rod Murphy (Churchill): Why is it the position of the federal Government that we should take jobs which are basically filled by women who are earning a good salary, and make sure that those jobs go to women, probably on a part-time basis, who will be earning the minimum wage? Why is that a good policy for this country?

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member's question is somewhat slanted.

An Hon. Member: Just a little bit.

Mr. Crosbie: As usual.

Mr. Mazankowski: There is a conciliator's report which we believe could form the basis for a negotiated settlement. Yesterday the Minister responsible for the Post Office indicated that the Post Office is ready and willing to sit down and work—

Mr. Murphy: How about women's salaries?

Mr. Mazankowski: —and negotiate a settlement. That is the preferred course of action.

[*Translation*]

STRIKE BY INSIDE WORKERS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Jean-Guy Guilbault (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Labour.

I had the feeling during the interview shown yesterday evening on Canadian television with the heads of the Canada Post Corporation and the union that they were playing cat and mouse instead of trying to come to an agreement and settling the postal strike.

Oral Questions

Can the Minister assure the Canadian population that the Government is doing everything in its power to settle this strike as quickly as possible to minimize the cost to the Canadian economy?

Hon. Pierre H. Cadieux (Minister of Labour): I believe that we all agree that the best collective agreement is one that is negotiated by both parties at the bargaining table. This is why I encourage both parties to return to the bargaining table.

Having said that, I can advise both parties that the Government will not tolerate a disruptive work stoppage at the Canada Post Corporation.

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[*English*]

NATIONAL PAROLE BOARD

SUPERVISION OF PAROLEES IN METROPOLITAN TORONTO

Mr. John Nunziata (York South—Weston): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister. It concerns the serious and potentially explosive situation with parole supervision in Metropolitan Toronto.

In a memorandum from the senior board member of the National Parole Board to Mr. O. Ingstrup, the Chairman of the National Parole Board, he stated:

It is becoming very apparent that major problems exist in the area of supervision in Toronto and vicinity. We continue—to see evidence of very shoddy work and to see signs of impending major problems.

Mr. Speaker, for more than a year the Solicitor General has been aware of this very serious problem. I would like to ask why the Conservative Government has not committed the necessary resources to ensure proper and adequate supervision for parolees in Metropolitan Toronto?

Hon. Ray Hnatyshyn (Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada): On behalf of the Solicitor General, who is out of Ottawa today on official business, I am informed with respect to the allegations made by the Hon. Member that indeed there has been action taken with respect to improving the capacity of the Parole Board in the Toronto area. There has been a significant increase in the personnel operating out of the district of York in Toronto. The situation is well in hand.

The Solicitor General has responded quickly and effectively with respect to the workload that is facing the board in this part of the country.

REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF SITUATION

Mr. John Nunziata (York South—Weston): Well, Mr. Speaker, that does not appear to be the case. The senior member of the National Parole Board had some very serious concerns with regard to parole supervision.