

Government Organization

approximately 1,400 per cent. *Progress*, a Ukrainian weekly, has 10 copies per pound. The present rate is 1.5 cents per pound. The increase from 1.5 cents per pound to 10 x 2 cents per copy or 20 cents per pound, represents an increase of 1,200 per cent.

● (8:20 p.m.)

Anyone familiar with the ethnic press knows that it is dying. As children of immigrants grow up, attend Canadian schools and become fully Canadian in all ways, they read ethnic newspapers less and less and other papers more. Consequently, the ethnic press is facing great difficulties, no matter what group it serves. I doubt whether it can survive more than a generation or two. Instead of concentrating on the well being of one or two leading ethnic groups in this country, I think the government ought to show concern for all ethnic groups and for the survival of the ethnic press. The minister's action means that soon the ethnic press will be no more. I think we will all regret its passing and miss the contribution it has made over the years to the Canadian mosaic.

May I now deal with how postal increases will affect the labour press. I wish to refer to a paper and an organization with which I have had little personal contact. I know hon. members opposite think I am partisan, and I suppose I am. Be that as it may, in my opinion one of the best labour publications in this country is *Labour*, put out by the C.N.T.U., an almost exclusively Quebec based organization led for many years in a fine manner by our present Minister of Forestry and Rural Development. Being faced with increased postal costs of about \$70,000 a year, the leaders of that publication did something that I hope will not be permanent; they suspended publishing that monthly magazine. If any one person is responsible for the demise of that publication, that person is the Postmaster General. In the last election our party garnered a very small percentage of votes in Quebec, so I do not think anyone can accuse us of partisan political motives in bringing this matter to the attention of members of this committee and the Postmaster General.

The Chairman: Order, please. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member but his time has expired.

Mr. Orlikow: I had almost finished, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Is there unanimous consent for the hon. member to continue?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Orlikow: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Postage costs for the machinists magazine put out by the International Association of Machinists have risen from \$154 per week to \$921 per week. Costs of mailing *Canadian Labour* have risen by more than 300 per cent. The same thing may be said about publications put out by steel workers and auto workers. Labour unions faced with such increased costs can do one or two things. After all, they cannot increase dues without going before a convention and persuading union members of the need for increases. They can suspend publication, as the C.N.T.U. have with their magazine; they can cut back on their publication, as many Canadian unions will; or they can do what I suggest steel, auto and railway workers unions will do, namely, arrange to have their publications printed exclusively in the United States and mailed from the United States. The Canadian Post Office will deliver all those publications, will bear the entire cost of handling them and will not receive a penny for doing the job. The blame for this will rest on the minister. To say the least, the minister has done a great disservice to our hopes of fostering Canadian unity and nationalism.

Mr. Haidasz: Mr. Chairman, I wish to make a few remarks on Bill C-173 respecting the organization of the Government of Canada, and I shall refer specifically to part II which establishes a Department of Communications. I feel compelled to make a few general remarks about a matter which is of importance to the city of Toronto and to my constituency, Parkdale. The people of Toronto are anxiously awaiting the decision of the Postmaster General with regard to the main Post Office in downtown Toronto, an urgent matter because the metropolitan planning board wishes to redevelop the downtown core and that section especially fronting on Lake Ontario. It would help us greatly if the Postmaster General and his officials would say whether we are to have a post office terminal downtown and other subterminals in the surrounding burroughs.

I sympathize with my fellow citizens who have experienced a delay connected with the mailing of their letters and periodicals. Now, it takes approximately four or five days to receive a letter in Ottawa mailed in Toronto. I hope the Postmaster General will give this