

contract. I am doing this to try to indicate that, as Postmaster General, I intend to deal in very good faith with the people who work in the Post Office.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Fraser: Mr. Speaker, this concludes my remarks, and I thank hon. members. I should like to move that the motion now before the House be amended to go through all stages of second reading and third reading at this time.

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Outremont): Mr. Speaker, I would not want to delay the work of the House this afternoon. I only want to ask a question of the minister, if I may be allowed to do so at this stage.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Is the minister willing to answer a question asked by the hon. member for Outremont (Mr. Lalonde)?

Mr. Fraser: Of course I will answer the hon. member, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Lalonde: Mr. Speaker, I noted with great interest the commitment of the minister to keep the Post Office together as an integrated whole, and in particular his clear and categorical statement that there would be no question of selling off the profitable aspects of the Post office and keeping only the unprofitable and bad aspects of it, if you wish.

Can we count on the same positive attitude on his part vis-à-vis cabinet and his colleagues, when they are going to discuss the question of Petro-Canada—

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Out of order.

Mr. Lalonde:—and be sure that Petro-Canada will remain as an integrated whole, and that the same philosophy will be applied by the minister to Petro-Canada as the one he is stressing so strongly for the Post Office?

Mr. Fraser: Mr. Speaker, I am sure the hon. member does not expect me to get into a debate on Petro-Canada. We have before us a bill. It is a serious bill and I should like to get it through the House as quickly as possible.

Mr. Knowles: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a friendly point of order. I think it is very clear that the motion before us can hardly be amended as the Postmaster General suggested. But if he is, in effect, requesting the consent of the House that, following second reading, we go into committee of the whole and then on to third reading today, for our part we are prepared to give that consent.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. Is the hon. member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Rodriguez) rising on the same point of order?

Mr. Rodriguez: No, Mr. Speaker, a separate point.

Postal Rates

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I think I should recognize him and settle the question of procedure afterwards.

Mr. Rodriguez: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the minister if he would permit a question. I certainly appreciated the very strong statements and strong commitments he made to this House and the people of Canada and to the workers in the Post Office. I want to ask him one question although he did not deal with the other one I asked him.

Can he give the House the assurance that those in the top management of the Post Office who have really been an aggravation to good, healthy industrial relationships in the Post Office—the evidence of which we have presented to the minister and to the department—and I name two of them, Mr. Corkery and Mr. Paré, can be eased out of those positions as quickly as possible? I ask that in all seriousness.

Mr. Fraser: Mr. Speaker, I recognize that the hon. member for Nickel Belt asks the question in all seriousness. I have to say that I have no intention at the moment of removing either of those gentlemen. So far as the relationship between management and union is concerned, as long as I am Postmaster General I will work for improvement and the bargaining will be in good faith.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, please. To come back to the request of the minister and the remarks of the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), I believe the minister is requesting leave for the bill to be proceeded with through all stages today and thus is asking the unanimous consent of the House to first, modify the motion which is in front of us so that it can be referred to committee of the whole and at the same time, by the same consent, permit the House to go through all stages in the completion of the consideration of this bill. Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I had better read the motion to the House as changed.

Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Mazankowski, moves:

That Bill C-11, an act respecting certain postal rates, be now read a second time and referred to Committee of the Whole.

Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the said motion?

Motion as amended, agreed to, bill read the second time and the House went into committee thereon, Mr. Laniel in the chair.

The Chairman: Shall clause 1 carry?

On clause 1—

Mr. Peters: Mr. Chairman, I should like to know from the Postmaster General if he intends to do anything about the problem that has been created by the inability of the Post Office to meet the needs of the general public and the business community, resulting in the establishment of all these courier services travelling up and down our highways. I refer particularly to the fact that government departments use those couri-