

What is the alternative which the Opposition would have us pursue? When one contemplates winning elections, one has to contemplate taking responsible positions. Let us look at four alternatives. First, give the union everything it wants—and everybody knows that many of the problems we have now are as a result of excessive union demands which have been catered to. Second, shut down the Post Office and let the economy bear the cost, which is what the previous Government did in 1981. Third, you can allow the Post Office to operate with replacement workers. I hear the Opposition saying that that is not effective. Fourth, you can legislate an end to the strike. I hear the Opposition saying that we cannot do that either. What is the position of this Opposition which says it should be given the trust of government?

The legislation which my colleague the Minister of Labour (Mr. Cadieux) brought forward is fair and even-handed. The Government is referring the dispute to an independent third party. A fair system is to have an independent third party adjudicate our disputes when we cannot agree, be it our judges in court or arbitrators in labour situations. To suggest that it is more responsible to let economic warfare carry on is wrong.

Let me say in parenthesis that the accusation has been made that the Government is out to break the union. If you are out to break a union you let the strike run for weeks and months with replacement workers so that the pressure builds up on the workers who are no longer working who see that the replacement workers are delivering the mail as effectively or more effectively than they did. Strikers start to argue with the union leadership and demand an end to the strike. That is how you break unions, Madam Speaker. If that were our Government's objective, we would let the strike run.

Mr. Skelly: That is the next step.

Mr. Andre: Because the mail is getting through we would let the strike run until the union's rank and file turn on the leadership and kick them out. That is the way you break a union. That is not what we are trying to do here. We are trying to put an end to a very difficult situation.

In this morning's *Ottawa Citizen* on the front page there is a quote from Darrell Tingley, the National Vice-President with CUPW, who said "—it is turning into a war zone out there". I have an incident report, as the Post Office calls it, as at six a.m. this morning.

Ms. Copps: Caused by your Government's legislation.

Mr. Andre: There is the mouth from Hamilton again.

In Atlantic Canada on Friday a bomb threat was received at a Saint John's plant. A customer in Moncton who dropped off his mail had his car damaged while attempting to leave. In North Sydney, a bus driver and replacement worker were injured when rocks were thrown through a bus window. In Bathurst, Canada Post vehicles were damaged and a CUPW member was arrested for assaulting a management employee. In Dieppe, New Brunswick, tires of vehicles attempting to

enter the facility were slashed. On Saturday in Grand Falls, Newfoundland, replacement workers were assaulted by pickets. In Bathurst, rocks were thrown at trucks entering facility. In Sydney, windows were broken, locks on external doors were broken and broken bottles and nails were spread throughout the parking lot. On Sunday, a security guard had his car damaged in Kentville. In Fredericton, a picket was charged when she damaged a taxi entering the facility. A pop bottle was thrown through the window at the home of a private sector subpost office operator in Reserve Mines, Nova Scotia. On Monday, a female picket was caught between an incoming transport truck—

Ms. Copps: A point of order, Madam Speaker. A point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): I can assure the Hon. Member for Hamilton East (Ms. Copps) that the Speaker is not deaf. The Member has risen on a point of order. The Hon. Member for Hamilton East.

Ms. Copps: Madam Speaker, in reading out the occurrence list which includes a number of allegations of things that have happened in homes and private residences, could the Minister tell us whether there is still a law in this country that people are innocent until proven guilty? How is it—

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Order, please.

Mr. Skelly: Madam Speaker, on the same point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): On the same point of order, the Hon. Member for Comox—Powell River (Mr. Skelly).

Mr. Skelly: Madam Speaker, a number of those incidents have been promoted by the postal service and the security and intelligence group. The Minister should be renaming these incidents—

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Both Hon. Members, and each and everyone in this House, know that those are not points of order but points that can be raised in debate or during the question period which will follow the Minister's statement. The Hon. Minister has the floor.

Mr. Andre: On Monday, a female picket was caught between an incoming transport truck and a guard rail at the facility. The picket was taken to hospital with a possible broken leg. In Halifax, there was a fire at the main entrance of the postal facility. In Quebec, on Friday, in Sherbrooke, a bus carrying replacement workers had windows broken. On Saturday in St. Thérèse, two management supervisors were shoved while entering the facility.

In Rouyn, a replacement worker was followed by pickets after finishing her shift. Her car was stopped and she was harassed. On Sunday in Quebec City, a replacement worker was hit with a thrown brick. In Sherbrooke, 24 letter boxes were damaged. In Montreal, a street letter box was set on fire.