

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

present postal union demands which all members on the opposite side will undoubtedly endorse, in one of three ways. This can be done by charging the people whose mail is carried by workers in the Post Office, by improving productivity and efficiency or by increasing the taxes of the general public.

We believe in a combination of the first two. We do not believe that \$500,000 should be given in the form of a subsidy to the business community of this country who are 80 per cent users of the service. We believe they can afford to pay for the services they demand. We have given evidence of our intention to improve productivity and efficiency. We do not believe in making pick-ups in mail boxes where there are no letters, or in making runs that are duplicating or irrelevant. We do not believe in maintaining post offices after the population has moved away, nor do we believe in employing 450 people to distribute and carry the mail in Montreal when 250 people can do the job.

Mr. Speaker, I simply want to say this. If we follow what the hon. member seems to suggest and provide this service at less than its cost, where shall the money come from? Shall it come from the pensions we are trying to increase for the aged? Shall it come from programs to increase housing and cure pollution? Shall it come from education? Shall it be taken away from the apparently legitimate demands of the provinces and municipalities? I am trying to point out that the members of the Tory Party exceed in their demands, although one would not expect it, the demands of the two parties to their left. But that party is distinguished from the two parties to the left because the members of that party never say where the money is to come from.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order, please. I am sorry to interrupt the minister, but his time has expired.

AIR CANADA—POSSIBLE TRANSFER OF
EASTERN HEADQUARTERS FROM
HALIFAX TO MONTREAL

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, after the high-blown prose of the rhetorical reunion of the two dear friends who have just spoken, my remarks I fear will appear to be pedestrian. Nonetheless I shall persevere. My remarks have their genesis in the question asked on April 29, as recorded at page 6413 of *Hansard*, by the hon. member for Cape Breton-East Richmond (Mr. MacInnis). He asked the Min-

ister of Transport (Mr. Jamieson) whether Air Canada had made him aware that it is considering the moving of its eastern headquarters from Halifax to Montreal. The minister replied that he had not had any such advice from Air Canada. The hon. member then asked the minister the following question:

The minister has not been informed of a number of things Air Canada is doing, but is he aware that this company which operated with six vice-presidents... now has 19 vice-presidents and there are three more to come.

There was no response to that question. My colleague, the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East (Mr. Forrestall), asked whether the minister would inform himself about the situation and advise the House at an early opportunity, and the minister replied that he would be glad to do so. The exchange was continued today. Before I relate that in brief, may I say that there was a statement made by the public relations officer of Air Canada, Mr. John Rankin, in Halifax to the effect that the present sales department and operational department will be replaced by a passenger service department. This step, by the way, is to be taken in all Air Canada centres, so I say to the fellows from the west that it will strike the west as well as the east. This is to be under one manager. In the Atlantic region the managers would report through the Halifax manager, as a sort of super-manager, to the head office in Montreal.

• (10:20 p.m.)

My colleague, the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East raised last Thursday's question again in the House today, directed to the Minister of Transport. The minister indicated that a full report on reorganization would be given to the House when received. I complained that the specific question that had been raised by my colleague had received only a general answer and, as I recall, I asked, "Does that mean that the decision of Air Canada is the obliteration of a regional office in favour of centralization somewhere else?" The minister replied that this was exactly what he had asked of Air Canada and he had been told there was a complex reorganization under way; it was not something that could be answered within the framework of a normal verbal answer in the House. Thus our appearance tonight; the standard route was followed.

In any event, the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East and myself are informed that in a recent bulletin issued by Air Canada something called the Eastern Voyageur