

## NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

## ENCOURAGEMENT OF LAND OWNERSHIP ADVOCATED

**Mr. Dave Nickerson (Western Arctic):** Mr. Speaker, in the Northwest Territories there are some one and a third million square miles of land, over 99 per cent of which is owned and controlled by the Government of Canada. With a population of less than 50,000 one would assume that there would be enough land to go around. However, as a result of years of restrictive policy, this is not the case.

Territorial residents find it prohibitively difficult to obtain land for residential, commercial, recreational or agricultural purposes. Oft-times they are forced to leave the North in order to obtain real property, the right to which southern Canadians take for granted.

Although the federal authorities are not solely to blame for this deplorable situation, they must change the left-over policy of the previous Liberal Government.

A new land policy ought to encourage land ownership, not discourage it. It should facilitate land ownership, and not place impediment after impediment in the way of Canadians who want to own a small piece of their own country.

**Some Hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

\* \* \*

[Translation]

## CANADA POST CORPORATION

## DELIVERY OF LETTERS

**Mr. Marcel R. Tremblay (Québec East):** Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, April 25 last, my riding office staff mailed about 1,000 letters to addressees within Québec-Est. The letters were picked up at 4.30 p.m. the same day. The morning after, Friday, April 26, five of those letters were returned to the sender with the 9.30 a.m. mail delivery and, on Tuesday, April 30, 125 of those letters came back to me. In most cases, they mention "Left, no forwarding address" stamped on the envelopes. That does not make sense to me and, as an example, Transport Couture, a moving company, has been at the same address for many years and would surely not move without leaving a forwarding address.

Some of the letters came back exactly as they were mailed, that is without any indication. I cannot understand how this could happen, or that a letter sent to South Dakota ended up at the newspaper *Le Soleil*, a fact I can prove.

All taxpayers, individuals and businesses alike, and Governments must be able to rely on postal services. Mr. Speaker, why should so many efforts to communicate—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I regret to inform the Hon. Member that his time has expired.

S.O. 21

## AGRICULTURE

## OCCUPATION OF OFFICES IN PROTEST AGAINST DEPARTMENTAL GUIDELINES

**Mrs. Thérèse Killens (Saint-Michel-Ahuntsic):** Mr. Speaker, here is what one could read last week in Quebec City's newspaper *Le Soleil*:

Farmers chase public employees out of their office.

I quote:

On April 15, 1985, about twenty farmers led by the Agricultural Producers' Union president chased Sherbrooke's Farm Credit Corporation employees out of their office to protest against the new Government guidelines concerning the choice of notaries. They intend to keep the employees out until the Government rescinds the guidelines.

The APU farmers are furious and they have every right to protest against such shameful patronage on the part of the Conservatives.

**An Hon. Member:** Scandalous!

**Mrs. Killens:** On their behalf, I urge the Government to reconsider its decision and to treat Canadians with the respect they deserve. The Government ought to review its decision, drop its presidential approach, and stop interfering with the daily life of Canadians while pretending, Mr. Speaker, that it is seeking more favourable interest rates for the agricultural community.

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• (1415)

[English]

## CANADA POST CORPORATION

## OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED MAIL RATE INCREASES

**Mrs. Pauline Browes (Scarborough Centre):** Mr. Speaker, the proposed rate increase by Canada Post came as a blow to Canada's small business sector. In addition to raising the cost of domestic mail, Canada Post proposes to increase the cost of many business-related services. For example, second class advertising rates are to jump 4 cents, large volume rates will go up 4 cents per kilogram, and third class mail will increase between 2 and 3 cents.

If Mr. Warren truly wants to see a more competitive and customer driven Post Office, I suggest he is going about it the wrong way. Instead of placing the burden of past mismanagement on the backs of Canadians, Canada Post should sort out its own problems within the corporation. Mr. Warren should take strong and effective measures to increase productivity and cut costs. The proposed rate increases will hurt Canadians, and Canadians have been paying for the costly mistakes of the Post Office for far too long.