

effort will be made to get the cabinet moving on this issue instead of stalling the way it has done all this time. Some day something will have to be done. Some day it will be done. Most of us in the house for the late show period tonight believe the time for that action is now.

Mr. J. E. Walker (Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the substantive argument being put forward by the hon. member is entirely different to the question that appeared in *Hansard*. It was really for that reason, when I looked that question over, that I was hesitant in replying on behalf of the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) because of the implication that in replying I am by-passing the normal procedures of ministerial responsibility. However, because there is no substantive content to the question that appears on page 8102 of *Hansard* and that was posed by the wily, not devious, member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), I will say that cabinet consideration of this subject is, in the Prime Minister's own words, "proceeding according to plan." As the hon. member well knows, cabinet meetings are secret and until decisions are reached and announced not even the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre can be made privy to them.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): And you get extra pay for an answer like that.

[Translation]

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT—REQUEST FOR
REDUCTION IN RATE ON "MONTREAL"
MAGAZINE

Mr. Bernard Dumont (Frontenac): Mr. Speaker, I had also asked last May 8 a question which may be found at page 8471 of *Hansard*, and I quote:

Following the increase in its postal charges from \$23,000 to \$55,000, the magazine *Montréal*, will disappear—

I was asking the Minister of Communications if he intended to grant a reduction in postal rates to that magazine which made Canada known throughout the world.

When that magazine was started in May 1964 the mayor of Montreal said, and I quote:

I am delighted to introduce you to the first edition of this new monthly magazine which will be circulated throughout the world. At the same time, I want to extend to you warm greetings from Canada's metropolis.

Montréal '64, published by the City of Montreal, is designed essentially for strangers to Canada's biggest city. Its purpose is twofold: To underline our desire for international co-operation and to show the true personality of Montreal.

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Through its location and the place it occupies in the financial and economic life of Canada, Montreal is the very symbol of Canada's spirit, its will and determination to be a pace-setter.

That was said in May 1964. Now, four years later, *Montréal '68* disappears. In 1964, you had the beginning of an era of progress; in 1968, you have the disappearance of a publication which did a lot to enhance Canada's image in the whole world. I might add that it seems impossible to me now to save that magazine. In that respect, I should like to quote these words:

The bell has tolled. The prestigious magazine *Montréal*, published at first every month and afterwards every six or eight weeks by the city of Montreal for nearly five years, will no longer reach its 517,000 choice readers scattered in 148 countries in the world.

It is folding up.

Why?

In the past, the shipping costs for that luxury magazine were \$6,000 per month. They were to reach \$28,000 in November last and \$55,000 as of April 1, 1969... however, the magazine has not been published since the major rate increase.

310,655 copies were sent to the United States—

The publication was sent to Great Britain, France, Canada, including Quebec, North America, Central America, somewhat all over the world.

The minister recently claimed that to save those papers having difficulties, they should merely be given grants, and he was referring to papers such as *Le Devoir* and *L'Évangéline*.

Here is a list of cultural publications, including *Montréal* magazine, and some newspapers that are bound to disappear namely: *La Feuille d'Érable*, of Plessisville, *La Voix de l'Est*, of Granby, *Le Progrès de Thetford-Mines*, *La Tribune*, of Thetford-Mines, *Le Peuple*, of Montmagny, *La Terre de Cheznous*, *Le Courrier de Montmagny*, *La Tribune de Lévis*, *l'Étoile du Lac*, *La Voix du Sud*, *La Frontière*, *L'Écho du Saint-Maurice*, *La Vallée de la Chaudière*, *L'Éclairer*, *Le Progrès de la Beauce*, *l'Enseignement*, *Liberté et Patriote*. Many English publications, the names of which I have not here, are also bound to disappear.

These magazines and newspapers will disappear because the minister said that the Post Office Department must pay its way. The government of a just society can build an Arts Centre costing \$46 million, when the initial cost was to be \$9 million, but for the