

CANADA POST CORPORATION

EFFECT OF CHANGES ON SMALL-BUSINESSMEN

Mr. Bob Hicks (Scarborough East): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister responsible for the Post Office. I am sure all Hon. Members would agree that trying to get satisfaction from the Post Office these days is like trying to shovel popcorn against the wind. I have a letter from a fine businessman in Canada who received six days' notice that his boxes were being changed, even though they were only there six months, that the location was being changed and, most important, that his postal code was being changed. This necessitated a great deal of expense for many businessmen, to print new stationery and new policies. What on earth is the Post Office doing to help small-businessmen instead of trying to drive them out of business?

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I thank the Hon. Member for bringing this to our attention. He will readily recognize that the situation he has described to the House is not the normal practice. The Post Office advises us that it is very concerned that it remain helpful and not put blocks in the way of small business. I can assure the Hon. Member that the matter is being studied in some depth and I will report to him later.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Vancouver East, one question please.

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CANADIAN ARMED FORCES

RESULTS OF STRESS STUDY

Ms. Margaret Mitchell (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Defence. Will he inform the House what he intends to do in response to a study that was reported today on CBC which shows that young women in the Armed Forces are working under considerable stress? Will he also check into the need for family support services and child care on Armed Forces bases, and will he actively promote these programs?

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I thank the Hon. Member for her question because it is a very important subject. I am presently looking at the reports which were prepared and have been circulated within the Canadian Forces. We are studying their results and will be looking at what options are open to us.

An interesting element of the summary report is the statement that service males were three times more likely to state that they were bothered by their work environment, and service females reported less job stress than did service males.

Oral Questions

It is certainly not an excuse for not dealing with stress at any level, whether it is with males or females, but I think that perhaps the report on the CBC this morning did not point out that particular fact.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member for Laurier, one question.

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CANADA MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION

CLOVERDALE PARK HOUSING PROJECT—SALE TO PRIVATE DEVELOPER

Mr. David Berger (Laurier): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, I will direct my question to the Deputy Prime Minister who has already taken notice of a similar question. On Monday the Minister responsible for CMHC will be visiting Cloverdale Park in Montreal's West Island. Some 2,000 residents feel abandoned by the Government because it cancelled an annual subsidy, which allowed the sale of Cloverdale Park to a private developer.

Senior citizens, single mothers, and welfare recipients fear that they will be forced to leave their homes because of massive rent increases. Will the Government set aside the moneys that it is saving from the cancelled subsidy and help the residents of Cloverdale Park form a housing co-operative? They should not have to pay a price for the Government's mistake.

[Translation]

Mr. Claude Lanthier (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Public Works): Mr. Speaker, I am happy to reply to this question on behalf of the Minister. First, I must say that, for one question, it certainly contains a lot of false information. We shall be visiting the projects on Monday. I shall be there, as will the Minister. These are the Cloverdale projects and the Jardins LaSalle in the beautiful constituency of the same name. I am therefore doubly involved. I can tell the Hon. Member that this matter has been under consideration at the Department for six months. I can assure the House that, in accordance with the policy of our Government, the neediest people will be amply protected in this sale, at least for two years. However, I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that as concerns this contract of the previous Government, we are trying to right wrongs for which we are not to blame. I can assure the House that the Minister has the whole matter in hand and that everything will probably be settled within a month.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: I advise Hon. Members that this will be the last question. The Hon. Member for St. Catharines.