

Government Orders

Mr. Speaker, this morning, I listened to Daryl Bean, the President of the Public Service Alliance, who said that he wanted mediation as the postal workers had a few weeks ago. Why the double standard, Mr. Speaker? It is shameful and unacceptable.

Earlier, I heard the hon. member for Burlington tell us that such strikes in essential public services should never happen. We all know that, but, Mr. Speaker, it is the government's fault that we are in the situation we find ourselves today and which has been dragging on—

Mr. Lapierre: It is provocation!

Mr. Rocheleau: It is government provocation. I see those lackeys opposite, those Tories who are just waiting for constitutional proposals. You are in one hell of a mess, but still you fail to realize that you are no longer relevant but you are taking away legitimate rights!

Mr. Speaker, on the subject of unemployment, why are there so many unemployed in Canada today? Because of this government, the very same government we owe this inflation to, Mr. Speaker. This zero percent salary increase is not a simple freeze. In fact, it amounts to a salary reduction because, with the GST, this government has created inflation and forced consumers to pay higher prices.

That is totally unacceptable, Mr. Speaker, and I hope that there will be yet more defections in the government ranks. I cannot understand why there have not been any more. How can one submit to and blindly serve a prime minister who has lost his marbles, become lackeys of a government without direction, a government that failed miserably in just about everything it has undertaken in the past seven years?

Today, Mr. Speaker, it is cracking the whip to force our civil servants—and not the best paid at that, but the poorest of them—to go back to work and so that they can bow to its every whim.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to add just one thing concerning the people of the Ottawa area, from both sides of the river. We represent in this place over 100,000 public service employees who have the right to work every day, but this government has no right abusing them and one of those days it will have to pay dearly for it.

[English]

Mr. Speaker: Hon. members have heard the motion. Will those members who object to the motion please rise in their places.

And more than 10 members having risen:

Mr. Speaker: Pursuant to Standing Order 53(4), the motion is deemed to have been withdrawn.

Motion withdrawn.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS

DESIGNATION OF SITTING DAYS

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of State and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons) moved:

That, notwithstanding any Standing Order and usual practices of the House, the Government House Leader may, before the normal hour of daily adjournment on Friday, September 20, 1991, at any time during daily proceedings, on a point of order, designate Saturday or Sunday, or both days as sitting days;

That, on Saturdays and Sundays, the daily program be identical to Friday as specified in Standing Order 30, except that the proceedings on Private Members' Business, Statements by Members and Question Period shall be suspended;

That the Legislative Committee dealing with a bill standing in the name of the President of the Treasury Board entitled "An Act respecting compensation in the public sector of Canada and to amend another Act in relation thereto", shall report back or be deemed to have reported back the said Bill no later than two sitting days after the referral at second reading of the said Bill:

That the provisions of Standing Orders 76(1) and 76(2) be suspended and that consideration at report stage of a Bill standing in the name of the President of the Treasury Board entitled "An Act respecting compensation in the public sector of Canada and to amend another Act in relation thereto", be undertaken the sitting day following the tabling of the Legislative Committee's report on the said Bill;

That, if no later than 7 p.m., the sitting day prior to the consideration at report stage of a Bill standing in the name of the President of the Treasury Board entitled "An Act respecting compensation in the public sector of Canada and to amend another Act in relation thereto", written notice is given of any motion to amend, delete, insert