

*Routine Proceedings*

from the counter next to where he or she sells cigarettes, diapers, magazines and the other things that are sold in those community stores.

I thank the hon. member for asking me these questions. Personally, Mr. Speaker, I wish Canadians well right across the country in their bid to help save a Crown corporation, a national postal system from the destruction that this government through this report is wreaking upon us.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** There is still enough time for one more question or comment. The hon. member for Saanich—Gulf Islands, for a short question or comment.

**Ms. Lynn Hunter (Saanich—Gulf Islands):** Mr. Speaker, my colleague from The Battlefords—Meadow Lake has articulated very eloquently the frustration with the dismantling of Canada Post and its service to Canada.

My question is on the same subject but a different facet of it. That is the rural route contracts. In my constituency of Saanich—Gulf Islands, the people who have been contracted by Canada Post have phoned me and complained with some trepidation because they feel that their jobs are at risk by complaining. They are having to be the deliverers of large volumes of junk mail, which is a whole other problem that I am also getting a lot of mail with complaints from constituents on that, and they are not being given any further money for this. I would ask the member for The Battlefords—Meadow Lake, what has his minority report done to articulate or deal with this problem?

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** The member has one minute to answer the question.

**Mr. Taylor:** Mr. Speaker, my report does deal with rural couriers and I am more than happy to go through some of that with the member. Given the time constraint, I should point out one thing. What is happening to the rural route couriers is a direct result of the slow privatizing, the contracting out of services that has been going on within Canada Post. This will even be exaggerated more as Canada Post becomes more responsible to the private sector rather than the Canadian people.

Privatizing a corporation like this is akin to privatizing a public utility. When you are dealing with trying to earn profits, you are earning them from the funds that are spent on this essential type of service. Contracting out to

the rural couriers simply means that people are competing against each other to get a job. People in this country should not have to be competing against each other for employment.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** The time for questions or comments has expired. On debate, the hon. member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell.

**Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry—Prescott—Russell):** Mr. Speaker, late yesterday afternoon a rumour was circulating that a member of the New Democratic Party would move to concur with the government's report to shut down the Post Office.

As you will well understand, Mr. Speaker, I refused to believe that. I refused to believe yesterday that any member of this House of any party would move to concur in that report. I apologize. I was proven to be wrong. Someone did move to concur in the government's report to shut down the Post Office.

Under our rules, Standing Order 124 refers to a motion of concurrence. That is what was proposed to us this morning. Of course, the first thing that came to my mind was that perhaps I do not understand what concurrence means. Perhaps my limited knowledge of Canada's other official language is such that I did not fully appreciate this. So I went to *The Concise Oxford Dictionary* and looked at the definition of concurrence and concur and it says—

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** On a point of order, the hon. member for Kamloops.

**Mr. Riis:** Mr. Speaker, it is important that I raise this point of order. I think my hon. friend is being mischievous because the person who moved the motion indicated clearly that he opposed the intention of the report. It was the only way that we could get it on the floor of the House of Commons.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski):** The hon. member knows very well that that is not a point of order. It is debate. The hon. member for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell has the floor.

**Mr. Boudria:** As I was saying, before I was so rudely interrupted, according to *The Concise Oxford Dictionary* concur means:

Happen together, coincide; combine in its action; agree in opinion, express agreement.

“Concurrent” means: