

Government Orders

I will say the name of the employee simply because the postal union has made this name public in the past. The letter is addressed to one L. Chu. Listen to this, Mr. Speaker.

The letter talks about this employee who is a real bad person according to management because he has a terrible attendance record. Listen to the facts. It says as follows: "For your information, in December of 1985, you booked off sick on one occasion for a total of one day. One reason that you missed this much work may be that you have overworked yourself.

In December of 1985, you worked 11 hours of overtime. Perhaps this year you should limit the amount of overtime that you work so that your health is not adversely affected".

The letter goes on like that with this kind of nonsense as if an employee who misses one day a month should be reprimanded. An employee who does 11 hours of overtime in a month is about the same as Parliament sitting an extra five minutes.

It is normal but this is the way they treat people. This is the way they treat people inside that corporation. I have cases and cases of such instances in a binder that I have here. I have literally three inches thick of horror stories and that does not even count the backlog of 110,000 grievances that we have right now before the corporation.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, I realize that some members across the way will say not all the complaints and grievances of the postal workers are well founded. That may be true. But 110,000 can't be all wrong! A substantial number of those cases are certainly true, are certainly genuine, and Mr. Speaker, they certainly have complaints and grievances that deserve to get a hearing.

[*English*]

Let me give a few instances. Last Friday I raised the case in this House of one Huguette Perrier of Dalkeith, Ontario, in my riding.

Mrs. Perrier was delivering the mail under a rural contract. She picks up the mail at the post office, sorts it out and delivers it on the concession. This person is 65 years old and a widow. She had been doing the job nine

years, since her husband died. Her husband was doing it before that for 15 years.

Between the husband and wife, they had been delivering the mail on that rural route for 24 years. Do you know what they did this year? They put out the job for tender and she lost it because of \$1,500.

[*Translation*]

Meanwhile, the government opposite gave the president of the Canada Post Corporation a salary increase of \$131,250! That is not his salary, just a salary increase, Mr. Speaker, adding up to a grand total of \$370,000, if I remember correctly.

[*English*]

I have another case. Unfortunately, I cannot name this next individual because I don't have her permission. But I have a person who works in a post office in my riding, a woman again, who phoned me. Most of them are women by the way, 83 per cent of the people who work in rural post offices in Canada are women and the government should remember that. It seldom does. This woman works in a post office and has worked there for some time. She was sick and needed surgery. She had an operation and obtained a medical certificate prior to leaving. When she came back she received a letter from her superior cancelling her sick leave retroactively from the date it was awarded and deducting from her pay cheque a reimbursement of the sick leave that she took.

I intervened on her behalf and had the nonsense cancelled. Of course they ceased to collect money from her and they gave her back that which they had already collected.

That is the way people are treated in that corporation. When these cases were happening in my constituency, I got wind of a manager at Canada Post who had seemingly nothing to do. This person was phoning post offices in my riding and asking postmasters to remove the picture of the Queen from the post office. That happened in Hawkesbury, L'Orignal and Vankleek Hill. Who asked for this? No one that we could ever determine. It was simply someone in management at the post office who had nothing better to do than to concoct a scheme for himself or herself to have the Queen's picture removed