

S.O. 21

We live in times of increasing numbers of lawsuits. It is necessary for the federal and provincial Governments to make financial allowances for compensation for increased medical legal litigation when deciding on adjustments to fee schedules under our medicare system and on the over-all health care budgets.

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CANADA POST CORPORATION

POST OFFICE BOX RENTAL FEES

Mr. Mel Gass (Malpeque): Madam Speaker, today I would like to address a problem brought to my attention by my constituents, which is the increase in cost of services offered by Canada Post. The cost to use a post office box has increased over 150 per cent in some cases. One constituent of mine in the town of Kensington has reported that a post office box, which he paid \$15 for in 1982, now costs \$33.92. This is an increase of over 100 per cent. Another constituent has informed me that in 1981 his post office box cost \$5, in 1982 the same box cost \$6, and in 1983 the cost is estimated at \$16.96, again an increase of over 150 per cent.

In view of these examples of the rising cost of services provided by Canada Post, could the Minister responsible explain how these figures square with the Government's six and five program? I urge that the Minister check into these rising costs to see if the situation can be corrected or reversed.

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● (1410)

HOUSE OF COMMONS

QUOTATION FROM 1956 "HANSARD"

Mr. Ian Deans (Hamilton Mountain): Madam Speaker, *Hansard* records that it was Monday, June 4, 1956, when the Leader of the Official Opposition said, as reported at page 4644:

The freedom that we have here to shape and guide legislation, no matter on which side of the house we may sit, is part of the very freedom which we cherish here in this country of ours.

The prior Thursday a Member had moved a motion found proper to the Chair. Mr. Drew, in his remarks, reminded the Members that the House:

—had become seized of the issue raised in that motion . . . It was in the hands of the hon. members of this house—

Under those circumstances I submit it was not the Speaker's right to withdraw this matter from the house . . . It could only have been withdrawn properly by a decision of the house itself—

Madam Speaker: Order, please. I am afraid that statement is reflecting on a decision by the Speaker, and I cannot allow it.

Mr. Deans: I am quoting from *Hansard*.

Madam Speaker: The Hon. Member for South West Nova.

Mr. Deans: On a point of order—

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FOREIGN INVESTMENT REVIEW AGENCY

STATEMENT BY PREMIER OF NOVA SCOTIA

Miss Coline Campbell (South West Nova): Madam Speaker, on Saturday of last week the Premier of Nova Scotia, John Buchanan, told a party gathering that the Foreign Investment Review Agency was blocking investment in his Province by Japanese businessmen. Mr. Buchanan is not telling the truth and is using FIRA as a scapegoat for the failure of his own Government to attract new investment to Nova Scotia.

The facts are that no Japanese applications to invest in Nova Scotia have been disallowed by FIRA over the past two years. In all of Canada, 40 proposals by Japanese interests to invest in Canada have been allowed, and only one has been disallowed. The Japanese Ambassador to Canada, Kiyohisa Mikanagi, has stated that FIRA's review procedures are no longer a barrier, if they ever were, to Japanese investment in Canada. Similar statements have been made by the U.S. Ambassador to Canada, Paul Robinson.

It is understandable that the Premier of Nova Scotia should be distressed about the lack of investment in his Province. Perhaps if he looked to the deficiencies in his own policies instead of trying to blame others like the federal Government and the Japanese, in this case, wrongfully, the problem will correct itself.

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INDUSTRY

MAISLIN TRANSPORT LTD.—CONSEQUENCES OF BANKRUPTCY

Mr. J. R. Ellis (Prince Edward-Hastings): Madam Speaker, my statement is in reference to the Maislin Company bail out and, now, bankruptcy. I would like to say that this is the most blatant, disgusting give-away of taxpayers' dollars ever, but given the record of the Government and the fact that only \$34 million is involved, I suppose it ranks pretty low on any list of revolting excesses by those clowns.

The then Minister of Industry, Trade and Consumer waffled, sidestepped, and in other ways refused to deal with the matter in a forthright way. Knowing the problem, the Government then authorized, at an incredible salary, the hiring of a new manager who had just bankrupted another trucking company in the United States.

Even over the objection of the Canadian Trucking Association, the Government, with great glee, tossed over \$30 million of taxpayers' money to its personal friends. That cost people in my riding over \$100,000. Now the Government will ensure that ordinary creditors, many of them small businesses, will get absolutely nothing; workers will get 50 cents on the dollar