

Proceedings on adjournment Motion

review of non-profit publications six or seven weeks ago. On January 29, the *Ottawa Citizen* in an article had this to say:

Among the hardest hit are the independent Canadian union papers which have lost second class mailing privileges and have been assured by a Post Office official that they have no chance of regaining them. Here are some samples of the postal cost increases these papers face, as of April 1:

From \$1,057 per annum to \$29,696 per annum—
From \$9,024 to \$84,756—
From \$18,000 to \$72,000—

This list goes on. I feel that this situation was outlined by another one of these non-profit publications put out by the Association of Canadian Welfare Councils. I urge the minister to take a second look at the situation. The Canadian Welfare Council says:

If Canada were to suddenly be without such regular periodicals as *Canadian Geographic*, *Community Planning Review*, *Canadian Consumer*, *The Canadian Author and Bookman*, *The Observer*, *The Canadian Nurse*, and a host of other journals published by professional, ethnic or cultural groups across the country, it would be as though half the lights in a house had suddenly been put out.

As one who has long urged and complimented the minister on his energy and common sense in increasing rates in respect of private mail, I urge him again to take another look at what is happening. Perhaps he will then reconsider the application of such legislation to non-profit papers in Canada. This was perhaps less than well thought out legislation. I hope he will take a second look, just as he has announced today he is doing in respect of the postal workers' conditions. He should have an impartial second look at this situation.

Hon. Eric W. Kierans (Postmaster General):

Mr. Speaker, we have dealt with this question extensively during the debate on postal rates and the postal bill itself. We have attempted to answer the questions as fairly and as objectively as possible during various question periods in the last four or five months. I

feel I am almost repeating myself when I attempt to answer the submissions put forward by the hon. member.

• (10:20 p.m.)

We are faced with a situation in which we are handling 17 newspaper or journal publications for 1½ cents. There is no possible way in which the government could recover other than the smallest fraction of its costs in this regard. When a non-profit organization sets itself up in business, it expects to pay the people who work for it. It expects to pay for its paper, ink, printing, legal fees, auditing fees and all the other costs that go into the operations. Why should it not expect to pay the postage rate? Why should it expect to get stamps free or at a cut rate? The exaggeration that has gone on in this area is virtually impossible to believe. For example, a great deal of to-do has been made about the fantastic increases faced by the *Queen's Quarterly*, a journal that many of us agree is a definite asset to the quality of Canadian life. It is said that publication cannot bear the increases. Subscribers to the *Queen's Quarterly* will have to pay exactly four cents more a year.

I have dealt with the non-profit publications and editors of the unions and have been able to point out that in most cases, for example, the United Automobile Workers, the increase in postal rates would mean an increased charge to their members of 35 cents a year. A farm and country newspaper, which is indicative and a real example of all the farm newspapers, which has a nominal subscription rate of \$1.50 but which in effect charges 98 per cent of its subscribers only 25 cents a year, will now have to charge 35 cents a year.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard): Order, please.

Motion agreed to and the house adjourned at 10.24 p.m.