

Senator Frith pointed out that the corporate structure will be somewhat different from that of many corporations. It is precisely for this reason that I suggest there is no hidden agenda here; because the corporate structure will be somewhat different, it does not make for a corporation which could be easily privatized.

If there were ever a move to privatize the post office — and I know of no such move — that would have to be the subject of particular legislation which would allow us to debate the matter from A to Z. It is clearly evident from the type of structure this bill will create that there is no privatization motive behind it.

The details of the plan will be worked out with employees so that the highest level of satisfaction can be achieved with a view to improving labour-management relations, which has shown dramatic improvement, as has the service, with a 98 per cent on-time delivery record.

The introduction of business practices into the post office has done much to improve service. Anomalies may have been created by some of these practices which we all applaud. If this is so, in the climate of improved labour-management relations, I am confident — and hope other honourable senators share my confidence — these stand a better chance of being corrected.

I look forward, as does Senator Frith and other honourable senators who will be at the committee, to hearing witnesses with a direct interest in this bill. However, I suggest to some extent we should spend our time concentrating on the bill itself and not on possible, theoretical and unlikely — if not impossible — repercussions of introducing an employee share savings plan. We are hoping employees will participate —

Senator Frith: The committee's job can be to decide what is theoretical and what is not.

Senator Meighen: It will be up to each of us to decide. We must then decide who falls into the category of an eligible witness.

A very widely held corporation could be considered effective control, but I suggest to honourable senators that it is generally not so and that numerous Canadian corporations have voting and non-voting stock. I do not pass any judgment on that. I merely say it exists.

As Senator Frith has correctly pointed out, this stock will be non-voting, but since we are dealing with sharing profits and not sharing management, it is not inappropriate that the stock, which only amounts to 10 per cent, be non-voting. Senator Frith, however, may want to get into that. It is important that this stock gives employees a greater sense of

appurtenance, a greater share of the prosperity of their corporation. It is my view that this bill before us will accomplish that.

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tempore*: It is moved by the Honourable Senator Meighen, seconded by the Honourable Senator Rossiter, that this bill be read the second time. Is it your pleasure, honourable senators, to adopt the motion?

Some Hon. Senators: Yes.

Some Hon. Senators: No.

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tempore*: Will those honourable senators in favour on the motion please say "yea"?

Some Hon. Senators: Yea.

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tempore*: Will those honourable senators opposed to the motion please say "nay"?

Some Hon. Senators: Nay.

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tempore*: In my opinion, the "yeas" have it.

Senator Molgat: On division.

Motion agreed to and bill read second time, on division.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tempore*: Honourable senators, when shall this bill be read the third time?

On motion of Senator Meighen, bill referred to the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS OF PUBLIC OFFICE HOLDERS

APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE

Hon. John Lynch-Staunton (Deputy Leader of the Government), pursuant to notice of March 31, 1993, moved:

THAT the Senate do unite with the House of Commons in the appointment of a Special Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Commons for the committee stage consideration of Bill C-116, An Act to provide for greater certainty in the reconciliation of the personal interests and duties of office of public office holders to establish a Conflict of Interests Commission, to amend the Parliament of Canada Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts;