

*Oral Questions***CANADA POST CORPORATION**

REMOVAL OF MAIL BOXES FROM TORONTO STREETS

Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister responsible for the post office. Right now the post office is in the process of taking 700 mailboxes off the streets of Toronto. How can the Minister square this reduction with his often-stated intention of improving service at the post office?

[*Translation*]

Hon. Michel Côté (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I have said on several occasions that Canada Post officials must administer their appropriations as efficiently as possible and constantly monitor deliveries to make sure they offer the best service at the lowest cost possible. This is their commitment. Corporate decisions are made and we intend to abide by them.

INQUIRY WHY GOVERNMENT DOES NOT GIVE PRIORITY TO
NEED FOR SERVICES

Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg North Centre): A supplementary, Mr. Speaker. What is the Minister's rationale for concluding that savings due to the smaller number of mailboxes will exceed the revenue loss resulting from more service delays? Is cost his only consideration? Why not consider the need to provide services?

Hon. Michel Côté (Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion): Mr. Speaker, I think I just answered this question as well. I am saying that Canada Post must try to provide the best service possible at the lowest cost. It constantly monitors services to achieve this goal.

* * *

HUMAN RIGHTS

APPOINTMENTS MADE BY GOVERNMENT

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister. Again it has to do with the matter of patronage on the part of the Conservative Government. Is the Deputy Prime Minister aware of the fact that one-third of the applicants selected among those who submitted *résumés* to our human rights committee indicated that one of the major reasons why they were chosen is that they belong to the Progressive Conservative Party? For instance, does he agree with Mrs. Marie-Thérèse Landry who stated in her summary: We had good years, Mr. Léon Balcer was Minister of Transport in the Diefenbaker Government. Is this the way applicants are selected—

[*English*]

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the appointments which the Hon. Member impugns are appointments to the Human Rights Tribunal where the

Government's role is to appoint members representing a cross-section of Canadian society. I do not know if any of them happen to have an allegiance to the PC Party, but surely if one-third of them did, that would not be too high. Even in the present polls, one-third of the Canadian public support us. By the time of the next election it will be two-thirds.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

APPOINTEE'S QUALIFICATIONS

Ms. Sheila Copps (Hamilton East): Mr. Speaker, it is not only we in the Opposition who disagree, it is human rights advocates across this country who realize it has been turned into a mockery.

Does the Minister believe that the qualifications listed, like those of Mr. S. Charles Facey—

Some Hon. Members: Order!

Ms. Copps: —who lists among the reasons for his appointment the fact that he contributed to the Robert Coates defence fund, does that make him a good government representative on the Human Rights Tribunal?

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, apparently the Hon. Member does not think that Conservatives have any human rights or any interest in human rights. She is completely wrong. Why does she impugn Goldie Hershon of Quebec, Maria Teresa Domaradzki of Quebec, Peter L. Bortolussi of Ontario, Jenny C. Wong of British Columbia—

Mr. Speaker: Order!

Mr. Crosbie: —and Ronald Lou-Poy of British Columbia with these attacks on their merits and qualifications to accept these posts which are voluntary and which will help the people of Canada? It is a dastardly attack on these good people.

Mr. Speaker: Order!

* * *

[*Translation*]

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PRESIDENT'S IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION

Mr. Gabriel Fontaine (Lévis): Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the Auditor General of Canada announced that \$57 million had disappeared into thin air. No one knows what it was used for. If this had happened in a public company whose shares are traded on the stock exchange, an investigation would have been ordered right away and the books seized. This is happening at a Crown corporation. Is the Secretary of State, who today is replacing the Minister of Communications, prepared to make a commitment to immediately suspend the President of the CBC and place the CBC Board of Directors under