Business of the House

there are no women in that infantry group. The Hon. Member keeps her mouth so open that it is no wonder she cannot hear what I am saying.

CANADA POST CORPORATION

FINANCIAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY GOAL—REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT

Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister responsible for the Post Office. Will he acknowledge that his plan for the Post Office, which includes job cuts of some 8,700, privatization, and service cuts, puts the Post Office on a collision course with the postal unions? Will he not reconsider that plan and delay the date for financial self-sufficiency by next spring so that he can give some elbow room to the Post Office in order to negotiate a collective agreement and maintain service?

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member knows that the plan calls for an improvement of services. Eight thousand new postal outlets will be opened over the next few months.

Elements of the Hon. Member's comments are subject matter of negotiations before the table now. If he is interested in avoiding a strike, he would stop raising these issues in the House in that context, making it look as though the Post Office intends to cut back on employees. He knows that is not the case. He knows that the intent is to improve service in a fiscally responsible way.

He ought to let the negotiations carry on rather than try to foment the situation and thereby contribute to a possible

MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Cyril Keeper (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, the Minister appears to have denied that his own plan includes cuts of some 8,700 jobs at the Post Office. Does he not recognize that a plan for such deep cuts in employment at the Post Office will obviously be provocative in the present situation and that if he wants a negotiated settlement he must put service at the Post Office first and give the employees some job security? Will he not reconsider his plan in this light, to continue service in the Post Office for Canadians?

Hon. Harvie Andre (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, let me repeat that service is the first priority. I mentioned in the House on several occasions that this service will be independently audited and there will be reports made to Parliament on a quarterly basis.

The Member would like to leave the implication that there will be 8,000 people laid off, but he knows that is not the case. There are plans for lay-offs. There are plans for opening new postal outlets and privatizing some of the activities, but in a

way that treats the employees with the respect they deserve and will receive.

The Hon. Member seems to want a strike. That is why he keeps raising these issues in a way that implies that some ill is being done to the people affected.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, there have been discussions between the Parties with respect to the order of business for tomorrow. I think you will find unanimous consent for the following motion to be put to the House and passed unanimously. I move:

That notwithstanding any Standing Order of this House, on Tuesday, June 9, 1987, when the Order for the second reading and reference to a legislative committee of Bill C-50, an Act respecting the treatment of pension payments in determining certain unemployment insurance benefit entitlements and to amend the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1971, is called and is disposed of on that day, it shall stand referred to a Committee of the Whole;

That the House shall continue to sit, if necessary, beyond the ordinary hour of daily adjournment, to complete all stages of the Bill;

That not later than 10 o'clock p.m., on that day, the Speaker shall interrupt the proceedings, and put forthwith, without further debate or amendment, all questions necessary to complete the remaining stages of the Bill;

That should a recorded division be demanded on the motion for the third reading and passage stage of the Bill, it shall stand deferred until 3.15 o'clock p.m. on the following day;

That Private Members' Hour and proceedings on the Adjournment Motion pursuant to Standing Order 66 shall be suspended; and

Provided, that when the proceedings on the Bill pursuant to this Order have been completed, and if the House has gone beyond the ordinary hour of daily adjournment, the Speaker shall adjourn the House until the next sitting day.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): Does the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary have unanimous consent to move his motion?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I agree in general with the motion that has been proposed by the Hon. Deputy House Leader. However, I am confused about one point. If there should be a reasoned amendment on second reading, it seems to me we would have to dispose of that reasoned amendment by a vote before moving to Committee of the Whole, rather than waiting until the next day. I do not know whether that possibility has been considered.

If there is such an amendment on second reading, we would certainly facilitate the taking of such a vote almost immediately.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Speaker, you have my copy of the motion, but I think from listening to my hon. friend's question that the motion does not preclude the taking of a division on a reasoned amendment during the course of the day. The motion calls for all questions to be put at 10 p.m.