

What I am trying to do is not oppose government policy because, really, there is not any. What I am trying to do is to try to help it create a solid policy for the distribution at that busy airport at Toronto.

It is not just me speaking. Transport Canada has mismanaged the nation's airports and has failed to plan for aviation deregulation.

An hon. member: Who says?

Mr. Keyes: Says who? Says the Auditor General, Ken Dye, on October 31, 1991. It was in all the papers. It is not just Keyes saying that they do not have it, it is the Auditor General who says: "They ain't got it." Let us get on with it and let us have another look at Pearson and Hamilton.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. members: Question.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion.

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Motion agreed to, bill read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Transport.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[*English*]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 38 is deemed to have been moved.

CANADA POST

Mr. Greg Thompson (Carleton—Charlotte): Mr. Speaker, I welcome this opportunity to continue with the question that I posed to the minister responsible for Canada Post on May 24 of last week.

The question that I asked the minister concerned the rental of a box at the Skydome that Canada Post took upon itself to rent or lease. I raised it at the time because I do not think it is the type of signal that Canadians want to see Canada Post sending out at this particular time.

I would like to know what the exact dollar figure is on the rental of that box. The minister, obviously, did not

give me the answer to that. However, I am led to believe that it was sub-leased from another corporation. The corporation from which Canada Post leased that box or sub-leased it paid in the vicinity of \$200,000. Whether it is \$200,000, \$100,000 or \$50,000, the point is that it is money that Canada Post should use for other purposes, such as reducing postal rates throughout Canada. It is just a symbol of the arrogance that Canada Post, from time to time, has displayed in this country.

I raise this because I have been in some of those communities in my riding that have felt the effects of the policies that Canada Post impose on some of smaller communities in Canada.

• (1800)

There are rural communities in my riding that no longer have the services they used to because Canada Post has taken it upon itself to remove those services. There are areas like Seal Cove, Grand Manan, Meductic, and Castalia, as well as many other places throughout my riding, that are suffering because of some of the arrogant policies of Canada Post.

While I am on my feet, I do want to give the minister some credit for what he has done. I know that he, himself, cannot be responsible for all the day to day activities of Canada Post, but I do want to give him some credit.

In 1984, we made a commitment to the people of Canada that Canada Post would cease to be a burden to the Canadian taxpayers. We as a government and the minister responsible have lived up to that commitment. We have taken a \$500 million deficit and turned it into a \$149 million surplus.

However, we have paid a price for that turnaround. Much of what we are doing, we are doing at the expense of rural Canadians. The problem, the mismanagement of Canada Post, is not at this rural level.

If the truth were known, I think most of it is at the corporate level. Rural Canada is certainly not solely responsible for some of the difficulties that Canada Post has got itself into in past years. Yet the small, usually poorer areas of Canada receive the brunt of every government policy.

I want to quote, before I finish, and I hope you, Mr. Speaker, give me the opportunity to finish on this note. There is a suggestion that the first class postal rate in this country is too high. That we are in fact subsidizing some