

and the issue of a white paper recently tabled by the Secretary of State (Miss LaMarsh) are evidence, in my view, of the intention of the Secretary of State and of the government, to go ahead always in the field of broadcasting, in order to achieve, to the greatest possible extent, the objectives set out by the present act on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and confirmed by the white paper, including, among others provision of complete and balanced information and entertaining and service to both official linguistic groups.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I can tell the hon. member for Sherbrooke that it is the most eager desire of the government, of the Department of the Secretary of State and of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to see to the establishment throughout Canada, of French language radio and television stations in order to serve and do justice to the French population across the land.

[English]

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT

STATEMENT RESPECTING THREATENED STRIKE

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of National Revenue and President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, with the unanimous consent of the house I would like to say just a few words with respect to something that is very worrisome to everyone in Canada today, namely, the threat of a postal strike.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): Is it agreed that the minister may make a statement on motions?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Benson: Mr. Speaker, I realize it is very unusual that I should rise at this time to say something, but I think the matter is of great interest to all members of the house and to all the people of Canada. I would like to say at this time that we are very optimistic with respect to a settlement of the postal dispute. Negotiations are going on from moment to moment, and I think members of the house should be the first people to know that the government is very optimistic that within a very short period of time this whole matter will be resolved and we will be making a settlement with the people involved. For this I would like to express the government of Canada's great appreciation to Mr. Justice Montpetit.

23033—629

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Speaker, all I wish to say is that we on this side of the house appreciate the information just given to us at this late hour.

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I assume that if the minister has a more definitive statement to make when we meet at 2.30 tomorrow he will make it to the house at that time.

Mr. Benson: Mr. Speaker, I will be most pleased to do so but I felt that members of the house should be the first people to be informed of the very optimistic attitude at present regarding these particular negotiations.

Mr. Allard: Mr. Speaker, if I may, I understand—

[Translation]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): Order. I think at this stage the hon. member for Sherbrooke (Mr. Allard) should not take the floor as all the parties represented at present in the house have had their turn.

Mr. Maurice Allard (Sherbrooke): Mr. Speaker, I believe you have not gone around all political groups, since we had not yet reached this corner of the house. I only wished to make a brief comment on that statement.

[English]

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the house under provisional standing order 39A deemed to have been moved.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—FAILURE OF MINISTER TO GIVE LEGAL OPINIONS

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): Mr. Speaker, first I wish to compliment the Minister of National Revenue for coming here and giving the house this information rather than giving it through a press release.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret): Order. I regret to interrupt the hon. member but I think he should speak on the topic he has put forward for debate at this time, namely, administration of justice—failure of minister to give legal opinions.

Mr. Herridge: Mr. Speaker, I thought I could say that properly, and I was feeling in a good mood at that point. This afternoon the Minister of National Revenue tabled a