

Proceedings on adjournment Motion

\$1.5 million a year? The hon. member for Burnaby-Seymour—

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please. I would ask the hon. member to kindly confine his remarks to the bill, not to the remarks made by the hon. member for Burnaby-Seymour.

Mr. Orlikow: I am just finishing. I think the record will indicate to anybody who wants to read it that the hon. member for Burnaby-Seymour refuses to answer that very simple question. Of course he will always defend interests such as *Time and Readers Digest*. Why not, they are Liberal organs?

Mr. Perrault: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I have answered the hon. member three times. There is now an attempt to gain political mileage on the part of the hon. member from Winnipeg North, and I do not think this is worthy of him as a member of the House of Commons.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Chairman, I had not intended to take part in this part of the debate, and I would not think of letting the hon. member for Burnaby-Seymour take me off on that particular track. The part of the bill that interests me concerns the post office. I am one of those who has had some experience over the years watching the operations of the post office, and I have always felt that the Postmaster General of Canada did not have much to do. However, looking back over those years, I can say now that the post office was run very well.

In my area, and I think the same is true in others, people are writing me daily telling me that the postal service has gone back 40 years. We do not live far from Toronto, which is our major business centre. Previously we were able to put mail on the train at night that would be in business offices in Toronto the following morning. Letters mailed from business offices in Toronto were distributed to every community in my area the next morning, usually by ten or eleven o'clock. If this mail missed the five o'clock collection out of Toronto it was delivered in the afternoon. This includes deliveries to the rural routes. Today, a letter may take five days to come from Toronto I have documented evidence that certain classes of mail—

The Deputy Chairman: Order, please. It being ten o'clock it is my duty to rise, report progress, and request leave to sit again at the next sitting of the house.

Progress reported.

[Mr. Orlikow.]

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

A motion to adjourn the house under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

POWER—URANIUM CITY—ELECTRICAL SERVICE SUPPLIED BY UTILITY COMPANY

Mr. A. C. Cadieu (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, I was prompted to raise a question the other day by requests I received from Uranium City and Eldorado, mostly from Uranium City. The question was:

• (10:00 p.m.)

—in view of the widespread dissatisfaction with the high cost and poor quality of the service offered residents of Uranium City by the private utility company presently supplying electricity to the area, can the Acting Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources say whether Eldorado Nuclear Limited, the Crown corporation primarily concerned with the development of the community, has considered taking over this service directly, itself, or alternatively, using its considerable local influence to get the service improved?

I have raised this matter, Mr. Speaker, because I received a petition signed by 386 persons in Uranium City, together with a copy of *Northland News* in which the situation is set out. The petition reads:

We, the people of Uranium City, strongly protest the high cost of our electrical power.

We do not understand why Northland Utilities has not revised and lowered power costs long ago.

We are very much aware of electrical appliance damage and lamp burnouts caused by the utility's wide voltage swings.

We are also apprehensive over the fact that the utility does not provide some form of stand-by plant as protection against line failure, such a failure in 40 below temperatures could result in catastrophe for our families, apart from damage to our homes and property.

Our opinion is that Northland Utilities power rates are ridiculously high,—

I was under the impression that the power lines were installed by a Crown corporation some time ago. Eldorado Nuclear Limited is the Crown corporation in question. How a privately owned company known as Northland Utility can be allowed to make a mark up of almost 100 per cent at the expense of people living in the area, escapes me. We know that those people are living far from large centres in a mining area. All the same, they cannot see why their electric power rates should be so high. *Northland News* of