

The Honourable Senators Angus, Bacon, Di Nino, Gauthier, Oliver, Spivak and Stollery.

Respectfully submitted,

JACQUES HÉBERT,
Chairman

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, when shall this report be taken into consideration?

Senator Hébert: Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 58(1)(g), I move that this report be adopted later this day.

The Hon. the Speaker: Is leave granted, honourable senators?

Some Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Hon. Marcel Prud'homme: Honourable senators, I have no objection, but provided, if this is feasible, one or more senators are able to comment on this report before it is adopted.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, there will certainly be an opportunity to comment later today, when the report is taken into consideration.

Honourable senators, is it your pleasure to adopt the motion?

Motion agreed to and report placed on the Orders of the Day for consideration later this day.

[English]

• (2030)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. B. Alasdair Graham (Deputy Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate, and notwithstanding rule 58(1)(h), I move:

That when the Senate adjourns today, it do stand adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 12, 1995 at 1:30 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Hon. the Speaker: Honourable senators, is leave granted?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

QUESTION PERIOD

CANADA POST CORPORATION

LEASE OF PREMISES IN SYDNEY, NOVA SCOTIA—
INTERVENTION OF MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS

Hon. J. Michael Forrestall: Honourable senators, my question is for the Leader of the Government. Some of us — even Nova Scotians, accustomed as we are to certain practices — are being left somewhat in awe at the speed with which Minister Dingwall seems to be getting around these days. Dealing with roads was obviously not enough for him, so now he has involved himself with the Canada Post Corporation.

Honourable senators, Minister Dingwall is, apparently, involved in a plan to scrap a lease which was signed with a Sydney business person last December for a new post office in Sydney, and to enter into a new lease with an individual who, to my knowledge, would be of somewhat better liking to Mr. Dingwall and Mr. Dingwall's party.

Given the continuing game of patronage pinball, can the leader give us some insight as to what justification her colleague may have given to cabinet colleagues for such a blatant political intervention and manipulation of otherwise arms-length contracts?

Hon. Joyce Fairbairn (Leader of the Government): Honourable senators, Senator Forrestall may be aware that the chief executive officer of Canada Post Corporation has released a statement to the media on the situation in Sydney. He was asked by the minister to review the situation. He did so and came to the conclusion that proper consultation had not taken place in the initial contract to which my friend refers.

Canada Post Corporation is in the process of negotiating a different arrangement. Also, the minister himself has asked for a third-party review of this whole incident. A review will be carried out by Price Waterhouse of the circumstances surrounding the signing of the original lease. The results are expected by next week.

Senator Forrestall: I have no difficulty with Price Waterhouse being assigned to this task, but I do have difficulty understanding these practices.

How long must we wait for this report? Will it be presented during the next few weeks when the Senate and the House of Commons are not sitting?