

Government Orders

If this government continues to operate Canada Post the way it is operating it the employees who do take an opportunity and a chance to purchase the shares in their corporation will regret it some time down the line.

• (1040)

Canada Post will continue to operate after this share offering, after this act is put in place and the share offering is made, without any employee involvement in policy decision making in any case.

This act will do nothing to enhance employer-labour relations or to provide better service for Canadians. Therefore one can only conclude that since the act will not do what the government says it will do, it will do something else, and that is simply the beginning of the end of the post office as a public corporation. It is the privatization of Canada Post.

Mr. Phillip Edmonston (Chambly): Madam Speaker, I would like to ask my hon. colleague one question but first I have a very short preamble.

I am not surprised by what is happening at Canada Post when we consider that the former president of Chrysler Canada was put into Canada Post and if we consider what he did to Chrysler Canada. I remember when working as a consumer advocate that during the tenure of this gentleman as president of Chrysler Canada we had some of the worst warranty claim experiences with Chrysler that we ever had over a ten-year period.

When we take a look at what this gentleman is doing as head of Canada Post, actually punishing Canadians because of misdirected mail, I can only come to the conclusion that this is only going to be an incentive for mistakes to be made. It is a disincentive for Canada Post to improve the way it directs mail.

In the final analysis Canadians will be paying for the mistakes of Canada Post. If Canadians want to direct misdirected mail to the right place and put it back into the system then they will have to pay. They will be penalized 43 cents. Where is the incentive?

My question to my colleague is: Where is the incentive for Canada Post to improve service to Canadians if it realizes that every time it makes a mistake with misdirected mail, and it is already making many millions of dollars in surplus right now, it is going to make the

passive receiver of that misdirected mail, that mistake, pay for Canada Post's mistake. Where is the justice in that? Where is the incentive for Canada Post to direct mail to the correct address in the first place?

Mr. Taylor: Madam Speaker, I appreciate the lack of time. What the hon. member for Chambly points out is a very important part of the future of Canada Post and its service to Canadians.

We have to find a way to ensure that the good work the employees of Canada Post are already doing, which is being hindered by technology and harassment in the work place and other things and is affecting the way in which mail is being delivered at the moment, continues.

I want to strongly support those employees who are working at Canada Post today. They are struggling against very difficult circumstances in the work place and a management that is doing its best to ensure that the work that is being done on the floor is not being respected because of the policy decisions that are being taken that in fact lead to the problems out there on the street and in the local mailboxes.

When we have good contracts and job security then the public will fully recognize the good work that is being done by the people who work for Canada Post.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?

Some hon. members: Question.

Madam Deputy Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Some hon. members: No.

Madam Deputy Speaker: All those in favour of the motion will please say yea.

Some hon. members: Yea.

Madam Deputy Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some hon. members: Nay.

Madam Deputy Speaker: In my opinion the nays have it.

And more than five members having risen:

Madam Deputy Speaker: Call in the members.