

## Reader's comments

# Consider reason for striking, says reader

Dear Editor:

Now that the inside postal workers have been

legislated back to work it is perhaps time to consider the cause of their being on

strike in the first place. Canada Post ran expensive full page adver-

tisements in newspapers across Canada, blowing its own horn full blast in a

vain attempt to gull the public with the reassuring phrase: "Our commitment to better service for you." This was clearly composed by some desk-bound senior bureaucrat with little knowledge of real postal problems. Probably most of those at the working level could have exposed it as bordering on the ridiculous; but sound advice from the lower orders is rarely welcomed in the ivory towers where high salaries are paid to the ignorant and the incompetent. But the postal union had no such easy access to almost unlimited taxpayer funds to get its message across.

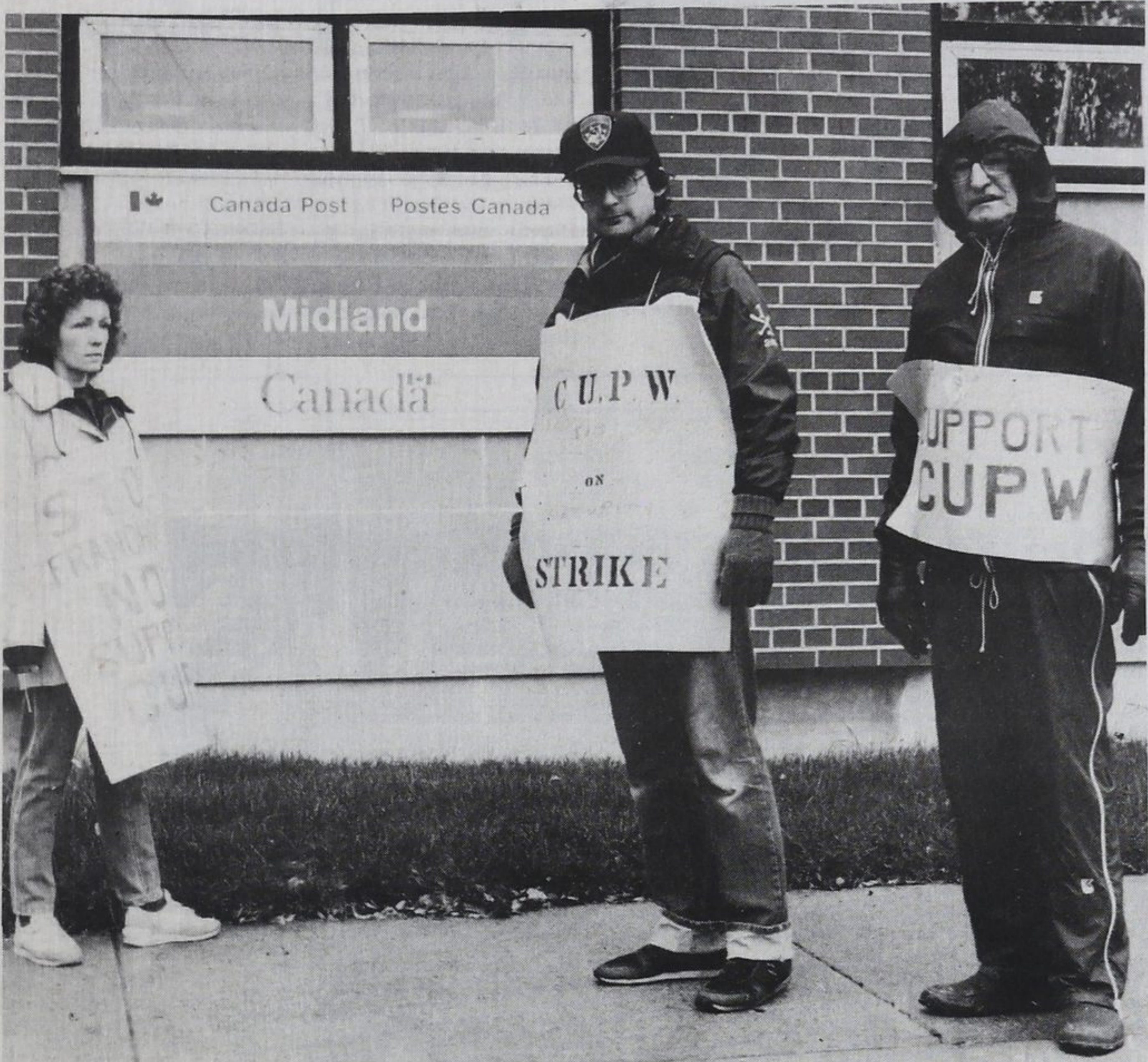
The chief complaint of the postal workers was directed at the highly

touted franchise outlets, which are supposed to be the answer for postal woes. These proposed locations in grocery stores, etc., would have to be manned by those with only the vaguest grasp of the complexities of mailing rates within Canada. To the U.S.A. and international mail, which even those with years of experience can find confusing at times. Try sending a 109 gram package of printed papers to Mozambique, registered and special delivery!

All the "immediate actions" described in the ad are highly suspect, but consider the fourth: "Duty payable foreign mail, which will be delivered prior to paying customs

charges." I predict probably 90 per cent of recipients would disagree with the amounts of duty assessed, and perhaps a similar number would not send a covering cheque until several demands had been made; many of them would simply never remit. "Local resident sent to jail for refusing to pay duty on small gift sent by overseas relative!" The resulting chaos would be nothing less than mind-boggling! "I suggest that the official who dreamed up this postal nightmare about commitment should be put out to pasture before he/she commits further bungling blunders."

Sincerely,  
Stanley R. Redman



## Cold bargaining

Postal workers were back on the job yesterday after the federal government legislated them back to work.

Here three of the Midland posties picket in the opening days of the strike.

## Memorial was 'soul-touching'

Dear Editor:

Just a year ago now, Francis Sandy, the Native Indian Pastor for Christian Island United Church, passed away - a much revered and respected fellow islander.

Francis had served well for a number of years, his home, his church, and his community and indeed in many other areas beyond Christian Island.

A training and retreat centre was established in The Five Oaks Training Complex, in honor of Francis. It has been termed The Francis Sandy Training Centre for Native People.

On Sunday, October 4, 1987, an anniversary memorial service was held at Christian Island United Church at 11 a.m. worship hour. It was conducted by David Plain, an Indian Native from southern Ontario. David was appointed recently to the Christian Island charge along with his wife and three children. Several people assisted in the memorial service, including David's wife, Helen, who read us poems, entitled God Understands, and The Gentle Gardener. Nicholas King gave the 23rd Psalm in the Native language, it being one of Francis' favorite scriptures. Francis' wife, Ethel read a beautiful tribute to her husband, composed by her. The sermon and festi-

monial was given by Ken A. Cowan of St. Paul's United Church, Midland. In the afternoon a monument unveiling service was held at the graveside fol-

lowed by a fellowship hour at the home of Ethel Sandy.

It was a lovely Sunday, very fitting and soul touching, in remembrance

of a great Christian person and friend.

Ken A. Cowan  
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