Supply-Transport

Canadian Pacific Airlines and then was turned over to Pacific Western Airlines. One of the main sources of revenue was a mail contract. Unfortunately, this mail contract was terminated. I do not remember the exact date of its termination, but it was some time in 1960. As this route was not a money producing route with the loss of this mail contract, the company was faced with a rather large deficit. The company was obliged to withdraw from the service or to suspend the service. However, as in this area the service was considered to be essential and as no other air line was ready to carry on that service, the air transport board decided to give this subsidy of \$25,000 a month. This subsidy is going to be paid until the air transport board makes its report on the prairie milk run route. This report should be made within a couple of months. As you know, Mr. Chairman, the air transport board has made a complete survey of all the regional carrier operations all across Canada starting with the eastern provinces. The last hearings were held a few weeks ago in the prairie provinces. Until this report on the prairie run is received, it is the intention to carry on paying the \$25,000 a month to Pacific Western Airlines.

Mr. Pickersgill: I suppose it would be considered a vicious attack to suggest that there was any connection whatsoever between the subsidy and the fact that this air line serves Prince Albert. I therefore would not think of drawing attention to that fact. But speaking seriously may I say this. As Your Honour is well aware, the question of the milk run in western Canada to which the minister refers and with which, as he pointed out, this matter is directly connected, is one on which I know my friend the hon. member for Laurier has a few observations he wishes to make. However, unfortunately because of an indisposition—

Mr. Churchill: Is he politicking?

Mr. Pickersgill: No, he is not politicking. I wish he were but in fact he is not. Owing to an indisposition he was unable to be here today, but I hope he will be here tomorrow. I know he has one or two observations he wanted to make on this matter. As it appears to be ten o'clock, Mr. Chairman, perhaps we could pause at this point.

Item stands.

Resolutions adopted in committee of supply this day reported and concurred in.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Pickersgill: Perhaps the house leader could tell us whether we shall be going on with these estimates tomorrow. I can hardly forbear to remark that but for the intervention of his friends we might have finished them today.

Mr. Pallett: The hon. member just admitted he is waiting for the hon. member for Laurier.

Mr. Churchill: I must thank the house for the amount of business it accomplished today; it was very encouraging indeed. It might have been done much earlier had there been more co-operation on the opposite side. There are six items left in the present supplementary estimates which we will conclude, I hope, tomorrow, followed by the necessary appropriation act. Then we will carry on with the final supplementary estimates which have been distributed.

Mr. Pickersgill: Has the minister any suggestions about next week?

Mr. Churchill: Just that we get more business done in the house than we did this week.

It being two minutes after ten o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.