

*Adjournment Debate*

Motion agreed to, Bill read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Transport.

**Mr. Cooper:** Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Considering the lateness of the hour and the fact that we have now completed this debate, I think that if you put the question to the House, the House would agree to call it six o'clock and proceed with new legislation tomorrow morning.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** The House has heard the suggestion made by the Parliamentary Secretary. Is there such unanimous consent?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** Then it is six o'clock.

**Mr. Gauthier:** Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. When we do these things unanimously, we sometimes forget the consequences, the consequence of this being that there are Members of the House who have an adjournment debate at six o'clock. Perhaps we could stand the House for a few minutes to give those Members, who I am sure are watching television, a chance to get here and speak on the adjournment debate.

**Ms. Mitchell:** Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I would like Hon. Members to know that the two people from our side are here and are prepared to speak if that is the desire of the House.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** Are the Parliamentary Secretaries on the Government side present?

**Mr. Cooper:** Yes, Madam Speaker.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** I would be prepared to change the order, should the Hon. Member who is not here not be present when his name is called.

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## PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 38 deemed to have been moved.

### ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE—BUS HIJACKING—TIMING OF INFORMATION

**Mr. John Brewin (Victoria):** Madam Speaker, on April 10, I raised the issue of the bus hostage-taking which had occurred the previous Friday. To put it succinctly, I asked the Solicitor General (Mr. Blais) how they managed to lose the bus for two hours. The Minister, in effect, answered that he did not know, he would ask the Commissioner of the RCMP to find out.

The facts that have emerged, such as we can tell at this stage, suggest a high level of confusion among a number of police forces. According to the reports, the Ports Canada police learned about the hostage taking from a passenger on the bus itself at around 11.45 that morning, and it was at about 1.45 p.m. that the bus showed up on Parliament Hill and reported its presence. The RCMP here in Ottawa had apparently not even heard of the incident. They moved quickly along with the security staff on the Hill. As we know, the incident was from that time on effectively handled. However, there were two missing hours about which questions have arisen, and I certainly accept the assurance of the Minister that a thorough internal investigation will be undertaken. I will look forward, as will all Hon. Members, to hearing from the Minister the results of that inquiry. I would look to the Parliamentary Secretary to assure us that the report will be presented to the House and made public in due course.

By the way, I am not sure whether or not this is the first opportunity we have given the new Parliamentary Secretary to strut his stuff. I certainly congratulate him on his appointment and look forward with some trepidation to working with him. The trepidation is based not on his charming personality but on the fact that he holds views, at least as previously expressed, with which I have often found myself in profound disagreement. We will sort all that out, I hope, in the next few years.

Underlying the question of what happened from the time Ports Canada police found out about this is the issue of co-ordination between the various police forces. Ports Canada police is one of 46 federal agencies empowered by legislation to have police powers and to act as a police force.

A few years ago, the Secretariat of the Solicitor General undertook a study, the Federal Law Enforcement Under Review, or FLEUR for short. It reported in 1986, though the report was initially never made public. It reported that there was absolute chaos within these various federal agencies. There was poor management or no management at all. There was no