

location, where it provides several hundred jobs for people in the Montreal region and the riding of Chambly.

Obviously, Air Canada will keep on serving the public in both official languages, thus continuing to recognize the essential duality of the country which colours it flies.

The major operating and maintenance centers that were established throughout the years in Montreal, Mississauga and Winnipeg resulted from a decision based on sound business principles. They are cause for pride and form an integral part of the company's success, so they shall be maintained in operation.

As far as security is concerned, the 1985 Aeronautics Act gives the government full powers regarding passengers' security. This forms the basis of all our transportation policies.

Madam Speaker, for all those concerned with Air Canada being present regionally, nothing will be changed with public participation to state ownership, and along with regional carriers, Air Canada will maintain these passengers services.

Air Canada has always been keen on offering a good service to consumers at a good price. If the company keeps offering good services at a good price, it will attract consumers, making the operation profitable to investors.

Madam Speaker, the government's decision to give the public an opportunity to participate in the ownership of Air Canada is a pragmatic one, based on the realistic evaluation of the changes necessary to the company's prosperity in the future.

This decision is in keeping with the Government's vision of an economic renewal. Between 1984 and 1987, Canada's economic growth was the best of all OECD countries. More than 1.2 million jobs were created and unemployment is at its lowest level in seven years. This prosperity that Canada is enjoying is due to the vision, the initiative and the hard work of individuals and companies who know how to grasp the opportunities provided by our vast country.

The role of the Government is limited to encouraging entrepreneurship, to supporting it as required and to helping businesses compete in the difficult world economy.

Madam Speaker, despite the criticism and the loud cries from the Opposition, public participation in the ownership of Air Canada was favorably received throughout the country by Canadians, be they from the Consumers Association of Canada, Air Canada itself or the aviation industry in general. For the first time, Canadians will have the chance to own a share of Air Canada directly. The most eager and enthusiastic are the employees of Air Canada themselves. It is this kind of enthusiasm shown by the employees and the general public that will ensure Air Canada's strength and growth in future.

The spontaneous support for our initiative is based on two main reasons. First, the Bill meets the changing needs of the air transport industry. It provides the freedom and flexibility that will help Air Canada face the challenge of the future.

### *Air Canada*

Second, the Bill ensures that the transition of Air Canada from a Crown corporation to a private company will occur without sacrificing continuity. It will let Air Canada capitalize on the high standards it has set over its 51-year history.

Madam Speaker, I trust that my colleagues will join me to ensure passage of this Bill, so that Canadians can share in our future as soon as possible.

• (1710)

[English]

This very important piece of legislation must have the support of all Members of the House. It is supported strongly by all sectors of the air industry, especially the employees of Air Canada.

Therefore, to help Members of the House speak on the issue, I move:

That the House continue to sit beyond the ordinary hour of daily adjournment for the purpose of continuing consideration of second reading of Bill C-129, an Act to provide for the continuance of Air Canada under the Canada Business Corporations Act and for the issuance and sale of shares thereof to the public.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** The House has heard the terms of the motion moved by the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council. Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the motion?

**Some Hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Some Hon. Members:** No.

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** According to the provisions of Standing Order 9(4)(b), if 15 Members rise in their places to object, the motion is deemed to have been withdrawn. Shall the motion carry?

*And fewer than 15 Members having risen:*

**The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne):** There not being 15 Members rising in objection to the motion, according to the provisions of Standing Order 9(4)(b) the motion is deemed to be carried.

Motion agreed to.

**Mr. Manly:** Madam Speaker, it seems to me that Bill C-129 provides for a system that is neither fish, nor fowl, nor good red herring. It is neither one nor the other. On the one hand it deals with privatization, but only 45 per cent privatization. The Government is supposedly retaining a majority of shares, but it does not really have control because it indicated that it will vote in accordance with the minority. That puts the Canadian people in the position of effectively owning non-voting shares.

There are also guarantees that no individual can have more than 10 per cent of the shares, yet 10 per cent of the total is 22 per cent of 45 per cent so that a couple of people, each with 10