HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, December 9, 1975

The House met at 2 p.m.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[Translation]

AIR TRANSPORT

REQUEST FOR STUDY OF LANGUAGE DIRECTIVES FOR AIR-TO-GROUND COMMUNICATIONS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43, I request the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion concerning an urgent and important matter.

Since two employees of the Quebec air service have been suspended from duty because they dared speak French in a field where the federal government supports the use of the English language, since this suspension may seriously affect the whole air service in the province of Quebec and even disrupt it completely, given also the policy of the Quebec government which makes French the official language in Quebec, and since the federal government advocates bilingualism to the point of spending enormous sums of money for that purpose, I move, seconded by the hon member for Roberval (Mr. Gauthier):

That the House study immediately the matter of languages in relation to the Quebec air service in order to take efficient measures as soon as possible to prevent such incidents from happening again.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 43, the motion requires the unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Yes.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: There is not unanimous consent; therefore the motion cannot be put.

[English]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

ALLEGED MISUSE OF COMMITTEE SYSTEM—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Arnold Malone (Battle River): Mr. Speaker, I rise under the provisions of Standing Order 43 to move a motion of urgent and pressing necessity. The urgency exists in the fact that representative democracy has been severely challenged by some recent actions of this House. I refer to the deplorable and unscrupulous actions of a government minister in regard to Bill C-58, which was passed,

unwillingly, through committee stage last night. While in the original committee there was a significant measure of consensus, the government, for its own self-interest, found fit to remove two of its own members from the committee and to compel others to vote against their well-known and studied opinions, with the result that the committee system became a charade, a rubber stamp of a minister and not a group for analysis and persuasion.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Without permitting the hon. member to go further, I can tell him now that this is not a proper subject for a motion pursuant to Standing Order 43.

[Translation]

AIR TRANSPORT

PROPOSED DEBATE ON INTRODUCTION OF FRENCH INTO AIR-TO-GROUND COMMUNICATIONS—MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Serge Joyal (Maisonneuve-Rosemont): Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the terms of Standing Order 43, I request unanimous consent of the House to present a motion dealing with an important and urgent matter, as my hon. colleague from Rimouski pointed out.

As, on December 8, 1975, two controllers at the Montreal Central Air Traffic Control were suspended for having used the French language in their communications by telephone with the ground, while working in jobs designated as bilingual, and as the Official Languages Act of Canada gives French the same status as English in all departments, agencies and institutions of the Parliament and government of Canada, I move, seconded by the hon. member for Matane (Mr. De Bané):

That this House now adjourn its proceedings to allow a debate on the steps to be taken to make the use of French a fact, as soon as possible, in air traffic control operations in all airports located in the province of Quebec.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The House has heard the motion of the hon. member. Under the terms of Standing Order 43, the motion requires unanimous consent of the House. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Yes.

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: As there is not unanimous consent, the motion cannot be put.