

Oral Questions

ankle of the hon. member for Langelier as leader of the Quebec party.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Wagner: I for one, declare that I do not believe the rumour that whoever arrived at the cocktail party arrived by a Seagram's jet. I do not believe that.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Wagner: Now the Prime Minister is getting angry again. I am so sorry. I like the Prime Minister when he is smiling. What did occur, Mr. Speaker, is that eight Liberal MPs, avowed retentionists, changed their vote under pressure.

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Wagner: I am sure that this pressure did not include pressure by the hon. member for Outremont, because he is obviously above such cheap tactics.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Wagner: In any event, Mr. Speaker, that performance, added to the Prime Minister's verbal harangue in this House, succeeded in defeating the will of the majority of Canadians.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: Joe Clark had no effect on your party?

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

An hon. Member: What about Stanfield?

Mr. Wagner: In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would not only reiterate what I have just said, but add that I have nothing to retract from what I said, and I would even welcome wholeheartedly any motion by the hon. member for Outremont which would refer this matter to the committee on privileges and elections.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Wagner: I assure hon. members that the information submitted would require more than the presence of a doctor in the House to come to the aid of the Liberal backbenchers.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Wagner: However, Mr. Speaker, I shall let the matter rest in your hands. I am convinced that when an election comes—and it will not be too soon—those hon. members will receive the verdict in their ridings that they should obtain.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

An hon. Member: Try another one.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The proposed question of privilege has not been followed by a motion. It implicated one other member of the House who has now responded

[Mr. Wagner.]

with equal time. No motion is attached to the alleged question of privilege and therefore, no action is required of the Chair. As far as the Chair is concerned, the matter is closed.

Mr. Huntington: Mr. Speaker, on my supplementary to a carefully prepared question you called me out of order, apparently because I was referring to some specific minutes. The minutes I referred to contained actions that were very germane to the first question and, indeed, confirmed by answer given by the minister that the deal I was referring to was indeed strange. I am wondering if I might have a reason why I was cut off so quickly.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order in relation to an attempt at an answer a few minutes ago by the Minister of Transport. I cannot complain that he has not answered in full. All I can say is that this manner in which he endeavoured to pretend he was answering indicates an attitude on the part of this government to cover up, conceal, and not reveal. It is the finest example I know of during the present session of a government that is forever hiding the truth.

I am surprised that the Minister of Supply and Services has not risen to explain the unexplainable, namely, his conduct, admitted in the press, of having got in touch with Air Canada to obtain a pass for what he describes as his common law wife. I cannot insist on an answer, but this is indicative of the manner in which the minister pretended to answer today, and knowing I was going to rise he coincidentally disappeared from the House as fast as he could.

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, I would like, first, to say that I did not use the words suggested by the right hon. member when I spoke to Air Canada. The words I used were that I had a personal and very stable relationship. Secondly, I asked for a courtesy ticket, and it was issued with the provision that the ruling would be made according to the normal practices of Air Canada in respect of its own employees. The ruling was not made, and I decided to reimburse the company, which I did. That's it.

Mr. Diefenbaker: After the investigation started.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

● (1520)

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order arising out of answers given to me by the Minister of Transport in connection with the questions I raised regarding the air navigation order and its status. I regret that the minister is not in the House at this time, but I feel compelled to rise because I believe the minister may have inadvertently misled the House. If he did not mislead the House, then to say the least he did leave a number of questions unanswered and in fact confused this very sensitive issue more than it is confused right now.

The minister left the impression that the air navigation order, series 1, No. 1, which was dated June 30, was not published in the *Canada Gazette* because it requires an amendment based upon technical grounds and the details were in fact being worked out in consultation with all parties to the agreement. Section 8 of the memorandum of