

Public funds must be considered. Public ownership of Crown corporations places enormous demands on government resources to manage and financially support various enterprises, and it is taxpayers' money.

On a day to day basis accountability is not always focused as it should be. In addition, some Crown corporations cannot expect the infusion of the federal funds necessary to expand in the global economy.

If we use the example of Air Canada, it is difficult for the corporation to compete with private sector airlines without a great infusion of capital. If it does not get it from the private sector through investment, it will come out of the pockets of taxpayers.

Then the Minister dealt with management styles, as well as fairness and equity. Many Crown corporations compete directly with the private sector. In effect, some businesses have indicated, as was stated by the competitors of Air Canada and Eldorado, that they are competing against themselves. That is not fair and must be taken into consideration.

I think the evaluation process which must take place in connection with selling Crown corporations has been stated in an emphatic, positive, and straightforward manner by the Government.

Mr. Langdon: Madam Speaker, very briefly we have a national institution in the shape of Air Canada which was created to serve the vast transportation needs of a country which is unique in its size, unique in the diverse spread of its economic activities, and unique in its population.

It is very difficult to believe that a private sector operator will take on the difficult servicing of remote communities, the regular servicing of communities which need air service yet cannot provide the population base for such heavy servicing, such as the Hon. Member's own constituency of Sarnia—Lambton.

If the creation of a national institution made sense and was crucial in the past, if it could make money available in the past, not by taking it from government tax coffers but by the loans it was able to pay back to refurbish its fleet, why the sudden u-turn today? There is simply no national logic and certainly no logic suggested in that statement of a year ago.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): The period for questions and comments has now expired.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE DEBATED

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 66, to inform the House that the

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questions to be raised tonight at the time of adjournment are as follows: the Hon. Member for Scarborough West (Mr. Stackhouse)—Labour Relations—Federal minimum wage; the Hon. Member for York East (Mr. Redway)—Canada Elections Act—Funding of municipal New Democratic Party candidates in Toronto; the Hon. Member for Kenora—Rainy River (Mr. Parry)—Taxation—Northern deductions—Eligibility of communities.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

[English]

ELDORADO NUCLEAR LIMITED REORGANIZATION AND DIVESTITURE ACT

MEASURE TO ENACT

The House resumed consideration of the motion of Mrs. McDougall that Bill C-121, an Act to authorize the reorganization and divestiture of Eldorado Nuclear Limited and to amend certain Acts in consequence thereof, be read the second time and referred to a legislative committee, and the amendment of Mr. Benjamin (p. 14369).

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): Since we have resumed debate I should like to warn all Hon. Members to be very careful. Because of today's announcement it seems that we are getting more and more away from the subject matter of the Bill that is being discussed.

I would not want anyone to raise the question of relevancy, so I would advise Hon. Members to be careful.

Mr. Langdon: Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order to make a comment in respect of that last point. I certainly respect the Chair's concern in terms of the direction of the debate being kept within the confines of the motion before us. I express some concern, however, since the motion before us is to postpone consideration for six months rather than to adopt the Bill.

• (1600)

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Champagne): I do understand what the Hon. Member is trying to say. I understand that privatization in itself could be relevant. However, the Hon. Member was talking about the comfort and size of airplanes, and I have a problem with relevancy on that. I think everyone understands what I was trying to say. We shall continue with debate.

Mr. Mike Cassidy (Ottawa Centre): Madam Speaker, I appreciate your comments. It is going to be a little difficult but I assure you I will not raise questions about relevancy during the course of my remarks.

The motion before the House now deals with the Eldorado question in the light of the government policy of privatization. The motion proposed is to delay the privatization of Eldorado