

## S.O. 21

contribution rates either lower than that or do not require contributions to be paid at all. Furthermore, although most large companies in Canada have paid ad hoc inflationary adjustments to their retired personnel, few, if any, require employees to make additional contributions to pay for these adjustments. These introductory remarks are made to try to put into perspective the present situation for Public Service pensioners in relation to Bill C-133.

The President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Gray) has moved a motion that recognition of the contributions made by retired public servants for the indexing of their pensions be given. He has said that only the portion of indexation benefits which is payable from the Consolidated Revenue Fund will be subject to the six and five restraint program.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker):** I am sorry to interrupt the Hon. Member but I believe we have reached the hour of one o'clock, and it being that time I do now leave the chair until two o'clock this afternoon.

At one o'clock the House took recess.

## AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

## STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[Translation]

## AIR TRANSPORT

AMALGAMATION OF QUEBEC AIR AND AIR CANADA—  
CONSEQUENCES FOR EASTERN QUEBEC

**Mr. André Maltais (Manicouagan):** Madam Speaker, I would like to mention an important debate now going on in eastern Quebec concerning the merger of Quebecair and Air Canada. I want to ask the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pepin) to take into account, within the context of these negotiations, the matter of rates and the organization of facilities in the area between Sept-Îles and Blanc-Sablon, including the—

[English]

**Mr. Ellis:** Madam Speaker, there is no translation and I understand enough French to know that my colleague is speaking about a subject in which I am particularly interested. I would like to hear his remarks, but there is no translation coming through.

**Madam Speaker:** Well, I guess we will have to wait.

[Translation]

Should the Hon. Member not continue? We shall see whether the interpretation system is working or not.

**Mr. Maltais:** I want to call the attention of the House to an issue which has great significance for my region and eastern Quebec, namely the merger of Quebecair and Air Canada. I

wish to emphasize the importance of this debate because air transport has always been linked with route equivalence, especially on the North Shore, in the Magdalen Islands and the Gaspé Peninsula. I believe that in the context of the negotiations now under way we should be careful not to negotiate only for routes or administrative matters and be only concerned with routes such as Montreal-Toronto and Montreal-Florida. I would like to ask the Minister of Transport to pay particular attention to the rates which apply on the Montreal-Sept-Îles routes. Moreover, I would like to point out that a return trip from Blanc-Sablon to Sept-Îles costs \$640. I would therefore like the minister to ask Air Canada to be very cautious during the negotiations. On the North Shore, we want Air Canada to have administrative control, the employees of Quebecair to keep their jobs and transport administration to take into account the facilities at the airports of Havre-Saint-Pierre, Chéverie, Natashquan and Blanc-Sablon and we also want something to be done about the local airports. Runways should be built in Baie-Johan-Beetz, Kegaska, Tête-à-la-Baleine and La Romaine. I think that the region of Canada designated as the middle and lower North Shore should be included in the negotiations and if I make these comments, madam Speaker, it is to remind the House that it costs \$800 to fly from Montreal to Paris and \$400 to go from Montreal to Vancouver. It is therefore abnormal for one region of the country to pay excessive rates and for the residents of such an area to be deprived of transportation. To conclude, I repeat that we want Air Canada to be in control and the minister to take his responsibilities.

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[English]

## COMMUNICATIONS

## PROPOSED PORNOGRAPHIC PROGRAMMING ON PAY TV

**Mr. Girve Fretz (Erie):** Madam Speaker, up until now, thankfully, the medium of television has been relatively free of pornographic material due to stringent regulation of public television. Now, however, with the advent of Pay TV, the possibility looms large that our air waves will soon be filled with "Playboy" as well as assorted explicit movies. At a time such as this one would expect the Minister of Communications (Mr. Fox) to stand up and defend the right of Canadians to clean and decent television programming. Instead, as mentioned in *The Citizen* of January 18, he will not take special action to stop First-Choice Pay TV from producing and showing soft core pornography to national audiences. However, he also states that he hopes many groups will apply pressure on the service by protesting its plans to program and produce skin-flicks.

When questioned in the House on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week on this very subject, the Minister was evasive and