

senators, yesterday the Honourable Leader of the Opposition asked me whether the President of France, when he was here some days ago, had alerted the Canadian government to the possible issuance of licences in the disputed area around St. Pierre and Miquelon.

Yesterday I stated that I had no reason to believe that that was the case. I have since confirmed that the President did not discuss this matter in advance with the Canadian ministers during his stay here.

## TRANSPORT

### WINNIPEG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT—PUBLIC PARKING

**Hon. Joseph-Philippe Guay:** Honourable senators, I have a question for the Leader of the Government in the Senate and I hope that he will be able to get an answer for me from the Minister of Transport.

At the Winnipeg International Airport there were approximately 100 parking spots available for citizens to park their cars whilst picking up or dropping off passengers. This parking area was directly opposite the main door to the airport, with easy access to Air Canada and CP—which has now been renamed “Canadian”. For 25 cents, citizens could park their cars for 15 minutes, and if you wanted to leave your car for half an hour it cost 50 cents. This was very convenient.

However, recently five rental-car companies, including Budget, Hertz, Tilden, Avis and Thrifty, have been allowed to park their cars in that lot, and they take up 50 of those parking spots. Now, when citizens, for whatever reason, must park at the airport, they have to park a considerable distance away from the airport. I am sure that these 50 spots could be better utilized by the public in general.

Therefore, my questions are: First, I would like to know why this situation has developed. My second question is: How much do those car rental companies pay for those spaces, since I am sure the revenue from the public parking in that area would be just as great?

Honourable senators, this is rather an urgent matter not only for myself but for the public in general. Last weekend there was a real schemozzle at the airport, because people could not find a place to park. Surely these rental car companies could park their rental cars a little farther afield, since they usually have jockeys who go and pick up the cars to bring to their customers at the airport, especially since their use of this parking area is causing great inconvenience to the public in general.

**Hon. Lowell Murray (Leader of the Government and Minister of State for Federal-Provincial Relations):** Honourable senators, I shall convey my friend's representations to my colleague, the Minister of Transport, and see what information I can obtain for the honourable senator.

## ADJOURNMENT

Leave having been given to revert to Notices of Motions:

**Hon. Orville H. Phillips:** Honourable senators, with leave of the Senate and notwithstanding rule 45(1)(g), I move:

That when the Senate adjourns today, it do stand adjourned until Tuesday next, June 16, 1987, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Motion agreed to.

## PATENT ACT

### BILL TO AMEND—SECOND READING—ORDER STANDS

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator Cogger, seconded by the Honourable Senator David, for the second reading of the Bill C-22, An Act to amend the Patent Act and to provide for certain matters in relation thereto.—(*Honourable Senator Doody*).

**Hon. Orville H. Phillips:** Honourable senators, if any senator wishes to speak to this matter, Senator Doody will yield.

**Hon. Royce Frith (Deputy Leader of the Opposition):** I believe that most of us are awaiting the report of the committee.

Order stands.

## THE CONSTITUTION

### MOTION TO REFER FIRST MINISTERS' ACCORD AND AGREED TEXTS TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE—DEBATE CONTINUED

On the Order:

Resuming the debate on the motion of the Honourable Senator MacEachen, P.C., seconded by the Honourable Senator Frith:

That the Meech Lake Constitutional Accord and texts subsequently agreed to be referred to a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of hearing witnesses and making a report.—(*Honourable Senator MacEachen, P.C.*).

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Leader of the Opposition):** Honourable senators—

**The Hon. the Speaker pro tempore:** Honourable senators, I must inform the Senate that if Senator MacEachen speaks now, his speech will have the effect of closing the debate on the motion.

### MOTION IN AMENDMENT

**Hon. Finlay MacDonald:** Honourable senators, I accept the fact that there are possibly some senators who have not embraced the accord with the same enthusiasm as I have. I would have thought that the position of those senators—who might, for whatever reason, be opposing or suggesting amendments to the accord—would be appreciably enhanced were public hearings to be conducted through a joint committee of