

strike. We know that these organizations work together; when one strikes, the rest of them picket. We then hear the New Democratic Party saying that somebody is breaking the picket line, and you have a strike because the New Democratic Party speaks for labour.

I will emphasize my position. I believe in essential industries. I know there are Liberal members and other members in other parties who agree with me that we have reached the position in Canada today where the idea and concept of a strike in essential industries means violence. I am not speaking of pugilistic violence, but of violence toward the economy.

Surely in 1966, in a nation fighting for its life in the competitive world, we should be able to set up some kind of a body to ensure that planes continue to fly. We should be able to establish a tribunal which would make a judgment fair to both labour and management. Out of this decision, both parties would get an equitable share of the national income and of national productivity in the form of income. It is time we came to grips with this problem. If I am accused of being reactionary, I will ask: Is it reactionary to believe that strikes in essential industries must end? I say my view is progressive. We had to put an end to the strikes of the railways. We should come to grips with strikes which involve the essential industries in Canada, and we must say they must end. Strikes are not good either for labour or for management; they are not good for the economy of the country.

Let us go back to some of the questions I asked in the house. I have been asking them every day since November 17 on which day I asked the following question:

Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question with reference to the statement of the Minister of Transport. I wonder whether he could clarify one point for me. In the case where C.P.A. does not have landing rights for which it has applied such as applies in Calgary, is it the intention of the Air Transport Board to allow C.P.A. with the approval of the minister to operate in those areas where at present there is no service whatsoever owing to the present strike?

The minister answered me in the following way:

Mr. Speaker, if I got the purport of the hon. gentleman's question correctly, and I think I did, my understanding would be that if Canadian Pacific Airlines have any existing licence which would permit them to serve these places, under the terms of the document I read they would be able to do so.

C.P.A. have been asking for years for the right to compete with Air Canada. I know that when Air Canada was first established as

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a crown corporation we had to give it protection, but just try and get reservations in the tourist season out of the city of Calgary or out of Vancouver. You cannot do it.

You will be told you have to wait 20 or 30 days, and you almost have to resort to a discourteous conversation to get on the waiting list. If such is the situation today, why did the government not try to give a competitive organization the right to operate long before the strike occurred? This is a necessity in a country with a population of 20 million, and we must remember that Air Canada was born in a country of only 8 million. These are the questions I put to the government which only sits around, waits and wishes. Their policy is to wait and wish. They only read articles out of the third annual review on prices, productivity and employment.

On November 17 I asked the following question:

I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the question put by the leader of the New Democratic Party I should like to ask the Minister of Labour the present position and condition in reference to the Air Canada strike. Has a mediator been appointed; are the government going to appoint a federal mediator, or are they just going to allow this matter to lie dormant, in spite of the emergency?

The Prime Minister said there is no emergency. I would like him to say that on the hustings now, at the time of a strike. In answer to my question the Minister of Labour said the following:

Mr. Speaker, my information is that the members of the bargaining committee for the employees of Air Canada have been communicating with their local groups with a view to ascertaining their views. As I said yesterday, if either of the parties were to approach the government the matter will be given prompt consideration.

Those parties have since approached the government but nothing has been done. In answer to questions from the right hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Diefenbaker) and from the hon. member for Ontario (Mr. Starr), the government has admitted that the negotiations have broken down. The parties only met for two hours. They might meet tomorrow, after two hours of negotiating time, while the country suffers.

On November 18 the same situation continued and we received the same answers. On November 21 I asked the following question as recorded on page 10114 of *Hansard*:

Mr. Speaker, my question is related to the previous question. I should like to ask the Minister of Labour whether he has any information to report in respect to the Air Canada strike, and whether