

gentleman would try to raise fears among the travelling public by getting up in the House of Commons and giving these detailed examples of certain things that he alleges occurred, when the way to proceed would be to ask for them to be examined to see if they ever happened.

Mr. Blaikie: You never answered him.

Mr. Crosbie: I will answer the hon. gentleman as soon as I can get a chance to answer him. It is possible to get around any security system occasionally. No one in the world will claim that they have a perfect security system. It so happens that Canada has one of the best security systems in the world. However, we all know that there are occasions when someone might be careless or it might not be observed, or whatever. It is possible that there was one of those instances. If so, I would certainly see that action is taken against those who have offended.

The rules are in place. There are just two exceptions to baggage match on an international flight. When an employee who has loaded his bags on a plane discovers all the seats are filled, the plane is allowed to proceed in any event. The other case is where the same thing happens to someone who is waiting on a standby basis. These are the only two exceptions allowed.

Mr. Benjamin: I find it strange that the Minister does not know. I would like to know who is in charge.

AIRPORT SECURITY—REQUEST FOR GOVERNMENT CONTROL

Mr. Les Benjamin (Regina West): Mr. Speaker, Air Canada Flight 856 on October 24, Toronto to London—

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Benjamin:—flight released before security checks were completed.

Some Hon. Members: Sit down.

Mr. Speaker: I very much regret interrupting the Hon. Member for Regina West, but the questions are very detailed. The reason that our rules do require that detailed questions of this nature be put on the Order Paper is so that they can be dealt with in a detailed response. I must ask the Hon. Member to put his question, but I will have to rule him out of order if he insists on completing a series of detailed matters. I know that it is his intention, and certainly a laudable one, to point out that he has some information which may indicate that there have been lapses or otherwise. However, I ask him to put the question and stay within the rules.

Mr. Benjamin: Mr. Speaker, since the Minister was so anxious to blame it on the CBC, I was just trying to reverse the situation.

Will the Government agree to take over all airline and airport security, operate it by employees of his Department, regional, provincial, or Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and

not leave it to the whims of airlines which want to do it on the cheap and take shortcuts with airline safety and security? Will he take all this over and operate it himself? If not, he better have his resignation ready if anything happens.

● (1450)

Hon. John C. Crosbie (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that I offended the Hon. Member when I dared to utter a word of criticism about the sacred CBC. If I have offended, oh, Lord, please forgive me.

First, the hon. gentleman gives certain detailed cases and he says it is all my fault. I am supposed to be at 10 international airports and 50 domestic, checking every piece of baggage that goes in every plane in Canada. Then, after having criticized me heavily, he suggests that I take it all over.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Crosbie: We are not going to take it over, Mr. Speaker. We think we have a satisfactory system. The people who now do the security checks have been through special courses. I saw one at the airport the other day when I was boarding a plane. You could not get your thing through the little pipe business and, by golly, that was it, you were not allowed on. So I believe we have people there who can do the job.

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PUBLIC SERVICE

SALARY OF NURSES

Mr. David Daubney (Ottawa West): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Treasury Board who will know that nurses working for the federal Government are concerned about the impact of a recent decision of the Canadian Human Rights Commission which has resulted in nurses earning less than nursing assistants who work for them. I wonder if the Minister could indicate what steps he is prepared to take to resolve this inequity?

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister, President of the Privy Council and President of the Treasury Board): Yes, Mr. Speaker, we are certainly aware of this difficult problem that has been caused by the decision of the Canadian Human Rights Commission.

Ms. Copps: You didn't do anything when you met with them.

Mr. Mazankowski: Mr. Speaker, if the Hon. Member for Hamilton East wants to answer the question, perhaps I can sit down and let her do it. Either that, or extend the courtesy to allow us to answer. It is a very important question.

There have been a number of meetings on this issue between members of the Treasury Board and representatives of the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada. A fast-