

before that committee. He will set before that committee its long-term plans and objectives. He will set them there clearly for either criticism or approval of the Opposition. I hope it will be for constructive criticism if there is such, but, Madam Speaker, if it is, it will be the kind of co-operation the Hon. Leader of the Opposition is suggesting through the creation of yet a third committee of Parliament.

● (1425)

There are now two committees, Madam Speaker, and the long-term plans and objectives will be presented before the Finance Committee within a very short period of time. Let us hear then if the Opposition is united in its acceptance of Canadair, and if it is really sincere in its desire to co-operate with the management and with the Government in making this a long-term success.

#### CORPORATION'S BREAK EVEN POINT

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (York-Peel):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. With respect to Canadair, would the Prime Minister indicate to the House when he sees the present management getting Canadair to at least a break even point, bearing in mind that Joel Bell has indicated that the company is to lose another \$400 million in 1983 and 1984?

[Translation]

**Hon. Pierre Bussières (Minister of National Revenue):** Madam Speaker, I suggest the Hon. Member look at all the statements that were made by the Chairman of the Canada Development Investment Corporation. He should also look at those that clearly indicate there has been a definite improvement in the market for the Challenger-type plane, and that drastic measures have been taken by the Corporation to provide for stricter management of Canadair. Bearing this in mind, the financial situation at Canadair can be expected to improve.

[English]

#### MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (York-Peel):** Madam Speaker, my question is again directed to the Prime Minister. Through yesterday's announcement we were notified that vice-presidents of Canadair have been fired for mismanagement. Others among the executive have either been retired or, at least, demoted. Would the Prime Minister indicate which of the present or past Ministers is also responsible for this mismanagement? Specifically, will he tell us if the present President of the Treasury Board had a hand in this gross incompetency, and if the present Minister of Energy had a hand in the mismanagement? Where is their ministerial responsibility in this matter?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member talks about ministerial responsibil-

ity in the past. I would point out to him that in the not so distant past the responsibility was with the private sector. It was the private sector that was losing money. It was losing so much money that it wanted to—

**Mr. Stevens:** Canadair?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Yes, Madam Speaker. Canadair used to belong to the private sector. Let the Hon. Member catch up.

**Mr. Stevens:** They didn't lose a billion four.

**Mr. Trudeau:** Madam Speaker, they were losing money and that is why they wanted to dump the company. The Hon. Member shakes his head. It is very recent history, Madam Speaker. The Government stepped in to prevent all this technology from flowing out of Canada. The private sector was unable or unwilling to do it. The Government stepped in to rescue Canadair and to try to make it—

**Mr. Crosbie:** Who's going to rescue the Government?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Madam Speaker, now the Hon. Member for St. John's West is opening his loud mouth. He should have more respect—

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. The Hon. Member for St. John's West did not have the floor. I would urge the Prime Minister to answer the Hon. Member for York-Peel.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Trudeau:** That is the not so distant past, Madam Speaker. It was the private sector that was not able to keep this operating. It is this Government, the Liberal Government, that stepped in and tried to make it a going concern. It was losing money; we continued losing money.

The Hon. Member asked about the intermediate period. I believe that at that time Canadair did fall under the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Commerce of which, for part of the time, the present President of the Treasury Board was Minister. He is in fact the Minister who alerted the Government to the mismanagement and to the mistakes in the company. He is the Minister, or one of his successors was, who presided over the transfer of government assets into a management operation, the CDIC. That is the solution we have brought to this. We do not want it to be run by departmental officials who, willing as they are, do not have the expertise to deal with all of the businesses in which the Government is involved. We do not want it to be dealt with by a parliamentary committee as is suggested by the Leader of the Opposition. We want it to be dealt with by this government-owned, this management company called the CDIC, which is taking the steps which now, I understand, are having the approval of both sides of the House—

● (1430)

**Madam Speaker:** Order. Order, please. I am afraid I have to interrupt.