

*House of Commons*

that Hamilton airport is the best alternative to Pearson International.

Therefore, in the absence of the Minister of Transport I would ask the Minister of State for Transport if he can explain what concrete measures the Ministry of Transport has in mind for Hamilton airport *vis-à-vis* Pearson International?

• (1500)

**Mr. Ross Belsher (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, yes, it is true that the minister has been to the Hamilton airport. He has also been to Pearson International Airport. Pearson is the busiest airport in the country.

The member must be reminded that the airline companies are not clamouring for facilities to land at Hamilton. There has to be a demand from the companies to fly into Hamilton. It is not a case of ordering the airline companies to go where we demand they go. The member must also bear that in mind.

**Mr. Speaker:** I would like to advise the House that during Question Period I received notice of a question of privilege from the hon. member for Kingston and the Islands. I am wondering if the hon. member and the House would agree that I hear the Prime Minister on a short matter and then return to the hon. member.

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

\* \* \*

[*Translation*]

## HOUSE OF COMMONS

### APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE AND CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

**Right Hon. Brian Mulroney (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I move:

That the Hon. Andrée Champagne, member for the electoral district of Saint-Hyacinthe—Bagot, be appointed Deputy Speaker of the House and Chairman of Committees of the Whole House.

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Gauthier:** Mr. Speaker, as Parliamentary House Leader of the Liberal caucus, I take great pleasure in supporting the appointment of the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe—Bagot as Chairman of Committees of the Whole House and Deputy Speaker of the House.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a word of thanks to my friend and colleague, the hon. member for Verchères. I hope the House will bear with me, because there are a few things I would like to say about my friend Marcel. For six years he has been a member and Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons. He has chaired a number of important committees of this House. He was president of the Canadian branch of the AIPLF, the *Association internationale des parlementaires de langue française*. To us, he was someone who managed to be impartial in practically every circumstance, at the same time displaying a unique ability for comradeship with his fellow members. He has made friends on all sides of the House.

To Marcel Danis, the hon. member for Verchères, I want to say thank you for the impressive services rendered to the Canadian people.

**Some hon. members:** Hear, hear.

[*English*]

**Mr. Iain Angus (Thunder Bay—Atikokan):** Mr. Speaker, I too wish to rise on behalf of my caucus to indicate our support of the motion.

I also want to say thank you to the outgoing Deputy Speaker whom I got to know in the last year or so in the special committee that I have been working on as well as prior to that in the House in the chair. He has done a remarkable job. We wish him well in his new endeavours.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Speaker:** Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt this motion?

**Some hon. members:** Agreed.

Motion agreed to.

[*English*]

**Mr. Mulroney:** Mr. Speaker, I had great hopes for the career of Marcel Danis, but after listening to the member for Ottawa—Vanier and his eulogistic references, I will have to think this over again.

I just want to tell my hon. friend and the member from the NDP that I share their high regard. On behalf of all government members, I thank them for their fine display of parliamentary leadership. I think it is very much appreciated by all.