Airports

terminal two, if your bag gets there at all, you get it a heck of a lot quicker than you do with the Ottawa carousel.

I am glad that they are finally improving the edifice at the Ottawa airport, which we all use when travelling and to which visitors to the capital, unfortunately, are exposed.

Hand in hand with that must be an improvement in getting the baggage from the plane to where the passenger picks it up. It is unconscionable to have to wait 15 to 20 minutes for your bag. I do not know whether this is the symbolism or lethargy of government, or because we are in a government situation. I really do not know. I think it is high time that we shook up the system. That would do more to improve the status of the Ottawa airport than anything else.

As an addendum, I was at the Ottawa airport on Wednesday night, having been in my riding for a few days. I missed a couple of days in Parliament, which was most unfortunate. I wanted to use the washroom facilities. One is hidden so far away that you would almost need a seeing-eye dog to find it. If you do not look at the symbol, you might go in the wrong washroom and be accosted by some lady. There is a male washroom by the carousel and when I went in five men were standing there. There were five men because the first man did not have enough room to turn around to get out of there.

• (1640)

These great designers of airports have created these problems. I hope anything built in the future will be more functional than that little hole in the wall adjacent to the carousels at the Ottawa airport. The Hon. Member is aware of the problem, and is aware of the difficulty with providing services to the public. Just half facetiously I ask, if the name were to be the National Capital Commission Airport, then what would Members of the Government of Quebec think of that? Perhaps the present name is less offensive. If the name were to be the National Capital Airport, perhaps Mr. Parizeau and other members of the Pequiste Government would find it even more offensive when coming to Ottawa for federal-provincial conferences or to talk about federal agreements whereby they receive some tax dollars.

The Mirabel airport has not been mentioned in this debate. By no stretch of the imagination is it a Capital Commission airport and it is not as heavily used as the Ottawa airport. For passengers from Ottawa approaching it by Highway 17, there are many difficulties. I think there is one symbol to show where to make the left-hand turn. A lot of people leave Ottawa at four or five o'clock in the morning to catch a seven o'clock international flight from Mirabel. On two occasions friends of mine have gone into the heart of Montreal and have had to double back. On the way from Montreal to Mirabel the signs are well in evidence. Recently a taxi driver told me that when driving from Ottawa I should cut over by Port Hawkesbury and go down Highway 140 east where the symbols are in evidence.

I commend the Hon. Member for Hull (Mr. Isabelle) for stimulating debate on this subject. I think the Ottawa airport

is fine, the baggage carousel is horrible and the washrooms are almost as bad.

Mr. Jesse P. Flis (Parkdale-High Park): Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Hon. Member for Hull (Mr. Isabelle) for introducing this Private Member's Bill, which not only raises controversy about a proposed name change but points up some of the difficulties of getting to the airport, the processing of luggage and other things. It has been an exciting and worthwhile debate, and I should like to thank the Hon. Member for Mississauga North (Mr. Fisher), the Hon. Member for Annapolis Valley-Hants (Mr. Nowlan), the Hon. Member for Don Valley West (Mr. Bosley) and the Hon. Member for St. John's East (Mr. McGrath) for taking part. They added a little humour and brightened up our Friday and got us ready for the weekend.

The debate has shown how controversial it can be to change the name of an airport, or any building or institution. I was pleased that the Hon. Member for St. John's agreed with changing the name of Toronto International Airport to the Lester B. Pearson International Airport. I think that was a good move and altered the precedent of how our airports are named. He asked why we should not have a John Diefenbaker International Airport. Why not, Mr. Speaker? I agree whole-heartedly. If Canadians feel that that particular Prime Minister made such an outstanding contribution to this country and world politics that an airport should be named for thim, then why not?

Someone asked why we should only have one airport named for a Prime Minister. I recommend that the Hon. Member for Hull bring in another Private Member's Bill to suggest the name, the Pierre Elliott Trudeau International Airport. This would be an excellent move and would give recognition to the peace mission on which the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) has embarked. Usually the first place of entry in Canada of any diplomat, businessman, businesswoman, or tourist, is the nation's capital. It would be great if they were to see the name Pierre Elliott Trudeau when they arrive. All over the world people are talking about the importance of the peace mission he has undertaken, a mission supported by the three Parties in this Chamber. I am sure that if that name were recommended, all three Parties would support it.

Mr. Nowlan: No!

Mr. Flis: I am sure the Hon. Member for Hull would receive unanimous consent for such a Bill.

We saw how difficult it is to change a name when someone recommended that Daly Street in Ottawa be changed to Solidarity Street. There was great opposition from the grass roots. Daly Street has a certain Canadian heritage attached to it and if it were to be changed, that would be taken away. We must be very careful when proposing a name change. It is easier to give a name to a new building or institution.

In my riding of Parkdale-High Park, some local residents, an alderman and an MPP tried to change the name of the High Park Library to the Copernicus Library. It was an