

Supply

Mr. Benjamin: No one said they cannot complain.

Mr. Greenaway: Well, you are making a big thing about it. It is just not right to drag this in here under the guise of freedom of speech. As this thing unfolds in the proper forum there will be all kinds of evidence from people other than my constituents that will corroborate the action taken so far by Air Canada.

I ask Hon. Members to think very carefully before they ever again bring a motion like this to the floor of the House. It has nothing to do with freedom of speech. It has something to do with the way people were being treated on board an airplane. We have all been exposed to the odd flight attendant who has treated us rather badly. It is not a very pleasant experience. These people were on their way to a convention. They did not want a drink when they got on the plane, they wanted to go to sleep. It is pretty sad—I do not think that Hon. Member has ever taken the “red eye special”. I suppose she probably rides her motorcycle wearing her leather suit back and forth across Canada.

Ms. Copps: I have taken the “red eye”.

Mr. McKenzie: Don't pay any attention to her.

Mr. Greenaway: No. My point is, once again, that these are good people. They went down to Vancouver to come across the country on the midnight plane. They took a lot of abuse from a flight attendant.

Mr. Benjamin: No problem.

Mr. Greenaway: They reported it. Now you are dragging in this red herring of freedom of speech.

Mr. Deans: There was no complaint about abuse.

Mr. Greenaway: This thing should never have gotten on to the floor of the House of Commons. The Hon. Member's judgment is very poor, to my mind.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: On a short question or comment, the Hon. Member for Hamilton Mountain (Mr. Deans).

Mr. Deans: Mr. Speaker, I do not know the women in question and I do not doubt for a moment that they are the finest in Canada. I am prepared to accept that.

Mr. Greenaway: They are.

Mr. Deans: No one has hinted or suggested otherwise.

Mr. Oberle: Why are you dragging their names into the House of Commons, then?

Mr. Deans: Oh, don't be ridiculous.

Mr. McKenzie: You are being ridiculous.

Mr. Deans: In the letter sent to the Minister but filed with the ministry there was no indication that the flight attendant subjected anyone to any abuse. It did not say anything about swearing or abuse. All it said was that she had expressed strong dissatisfaction with the Government of the day. That is all the letter said. She is entitled to do that, surely to God.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being six o'clock, it is my duty to inform the House that, pursuant to Standing Order 82(12), proceedings on the motion have expired.

[*Translation*]

Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 11 a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 3(1).

The House adjourned at 6 p.m.