

*Airports*

You come into the Pearson Airport on what is now known as the Macdonald-Cartier freeway. Neither are names which anybody is going to use. That is what the federal Government would like us to call it. You come in from the west on the arterial road connection to Highway 401. The road diverges and you are given a choice of going to either terminal one or terminal two. We are talking about name changes and potential sign changes. Therefore, it might be worth pointing out to the Parliamentary Secretary that there are two big signposts. Those two big sign-boards are after the split. Once you make a decision which road to take, you are only then told which airlines fly from that terminal. If the Parliamentary Secretary is dealing with signs, as per the earlier request, he might also arrange for the sign which tells travellers where the airlines are to be placed before the bi-section of the two roads. That might help the travelling public.

**Mr. Pat Nowlan (Annapolis Valley-Hants):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to contribute a few thoughts to the interesting proposal of the Hon. Member for Hull (Mr. Isabelle) and congratulate him for bringing it forward. I agree with my colleague who just spoke. I am a Member from the deep east who has lived in this area vicariously and indirectly for the last 18 years. I think we are remiss in that we in this country have not come to some degree of maturity between the federal Government and the Governments of Ontario and Quebec to define the reality that there is a national capital district. We have the National Capital Commission. It has done many tremendous things since I have been here. It has really upgraded the quality of life on both sides of the river in this capital region. Some day, hopefully soon, Governments at Queen's Park and/or Quebec and here in Ottawa will grapple with the proposition advanced by the Hon. Member for Hull last week in trying to dedicate and define a national capital region.

Coming to the Bill, like others, I first heard that the proposed name was going to be Ottawa-Hull. That did not excite me very much. It is a much less objectionable title with the national capital region. I would gather that Hull is right in the heart of the Hon. Member's riding, although I am not sure of the boundaries across the river. When you refer to the national capital region, where is the airport of the Gatineau? I believe it is called the Gatineau Airport.

If you try to have a monopoly of the National Capital Commission with all the best purposes, there is another airport across the way which is attempting to develop traffic into the capital region. I do not know whether this Bill will confuse the issue in the distinction between the Ottawa airport and the Gatineau airport if we tried to put it under one name.

In terms of names of airports, I am all for the former policy, and I thought it was still the policy of the Department of Transport, that airports, as my colleague mentioned, carried the place name of the area, not names of people. I am all for history and for recognizing those who have contributed to life in Canada, be it political or economic, certainly in the political sphere.

We have the Lester B. Pearson Building, a tremendous edifice on Sussex Drive in Ottawa. That was a proper com-

memorative way to remember a man who contributed so much to this country's external affairs. He received the Nobel Peace Prize. That was fine.

I am not as charitable as my friend from St. John's East (Mr. McGrath). The re-naming out of the blue at a Liberal fund-raising dinner of the Toronto International Airport to the Pearson Airport in the dying days of a regime that does not have the confidence of the public by any poll of the last two years, is a sick partisan, political joke. Frankly, I think it would have embarrassed Mr. Pearson, who was a gentleman. I must say that I believe it was renamed for straight partisan purposes. My friend from St. John's East talked about a Diefenbaker airport in Ottawa. If you are going to name any airport after Mr. Pearson, name the one in the capital. If we are going to get into name changes why not name the Windsor airport Whelan airport?

Mr. Diefenbaker was from the west. As he is buried in the Saskatoon-Regina area, why not name an airport there the Diefenbaker airport? Mr. Laing a former member of the Government, who was here when I first came to this place, a very respected citizen from British Columbia, has been remembered with the Laing Bridge into Vancouver airport. In Nova Scotia we would have the Borden airport, named after a Prime Minister from that area.

**Mr. McGrath:** What about the Smallwood airport?

**Mr. Nowlan:** In St. John's we could have the Smallwood airport and the Meighen airport in Winnipeg. If, in the dying days of a Government which is searching for anything, you start renaming institutions, you do not fool the public.

I do not wish to take away from the thrust of the motion which was sincerely presented by the Hon. Member for Hull. I am not upset with a crazy name for this airport. That is not what bothers me about the Ottawa airport. For many years the road between downtown and the airport was a disgrace. It was finally improved in the last four or five years, I think before one of the visits of the Queen.

When you get to the airport, whatever its name, it is a thorny rose that does not have a good odour. I know that there is a grand rehabilitation program going on. When we go there weekend to weekend, we trip through the dug-up roads, the wooden barricades and then are led like cattle into the planes. If you come from the deep east and you are out of gate 22 or 26, you do not have covered areas to the planes. They think we are hearty types, used to the salt air and the windy gales of the Atlantic. They make sure that we have to walk half-way out on the apron. My poor wife's toes get wet when this happens. My hair gets curled from the Ottawa snow and rain. The fog closes in bigger, wider and deeper than any fog in the deep east. This is where changes should be made at the Ottawa airport.

Like most Members, I have travelled across this country. The baggage carousel in Ottawa is the slowest working animal of any carousel. It takes the same time to fly half way from Ottawa to Halifax as it takes to get your bag on the Ottawa carousel. Even in Toronto, with the grand terminal one and