

Adjournment Debate

Chicago, along with certain other measures I shall not mention here. But there was a very important one concerning aviation fuel which will be available duty free for international and transborder flights on August 6th.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I have to ask the same question. People in Argenteuil-Papineau are fed up with this but, Mr. Speaker, I am just as stubborn as certain officials who have recommended all sorts of far fetched solutions for the development of Canada's largest airport. In the meantime, the provincial Government is making fun of us. The PQ Government is happy that Mirabel is a fiasco, because they are helping with public funds certain groups that are committed to Mirabel's failure.

Mr. Speaker, once more I raise this issue, and I am convinced that my colleague from Parkdale-High Park (Mr. Flis), the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister, is also fed up with answering my questions. He certainly would be if in his own constituency he were to face the same tragedy as my constituents around Mirabel, the people north of Montreal who were promised something like the equivalent of the James Bay project as far as airports go. Federal officials, like former Minister de Belleval who was all for Mirabel, have now disappeared in the landscape. I am sure my colleague from Parkdale-High Park will agree with me that it is time for a decision to be made. People have been patient, they have believed and now, instead of fighting for the development of Mirabel, local Members of Parliament are forced as I am to fight for the *status quo*. Mr. Speaker, I am asking for an answer, and I hope that this time it will be a positive one.

[English]

Mr. Jesse P. Flis (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the Hon. Member for the aggressive manner in which he represents his constituents. I want to assure him that while the provincial Government may be making fun of his problem, the federal Government is not.

As he knows, last August when the Minister announced the roles for the airports in the Montreal area he also announced a series of specific measures to stimulate traffic at Mirabel. All the measures which were within the power of the Department of Transport to implement have been implemented. These include the open cargo transit rights for foreign non-U.S. carriers and the reduction of landing fees for international and transborder cargo for all cargo planes. They include the right to carriers serving both Mirabel and Toronto to carry connecting passengers between Mirabel and Toronto and the elimination of landing fees for positioning movements between Mirabel and Dorval. As well, there is the creation of a private sector task force called the Levasseur Committee to take a fresh look at Mirabel. Its report will be released soon. Discussions with the Quebec Government to improve bus services have been implemented and they are expected to result in improvements in the near future.

One measure not implemented so far, regrettably, is the one dealing with bonded fuel. This measure has turned out to be more difficult to implement than anticipated and involves the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources and the Departments of Finance and Revenue. Each of these departments has to determine the impact of this measure on its existing programs.

I want to reassure the Hon. Member that this is being done. In fact, as indicated by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Chrétien) in his answer, a meeting between Ministers was recently held and a resolution of this question is expected very soon.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Blaker): The motion to adjourn the House is now deemed to have been adopted. Accordingly, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 11 a.m.

At 6.18 p.m. the House adjourned, without question put, pursuant to Standing Order.