

move to help her. If that isn't a deserving case, I don't know what is. So I enlist the assistance of all Members of the House of Commons to come to the aid of Bertha Robar and insist that the Canada Pension Commission seek changes in the law that will allow such a person to be helped, notwithstanding that she signed over her rights as a young lady in 1920. If we can't solve a case like that, we can't solve any cases.

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### AIR CANADA

#### ISSUANCE OF FREE FLIGHT PASSES

**Mr. John R. Rodriguez (Nickel Belt):** Mr. Speaker, Air Canada's ticket agents are currently walking picket lines as the airline is attempting to replace full-time workers with part-time help.

The airline is claiming that it must destroy people's lives as a cost cutting measure, yet at the same time that Air Canada is crying poor it is giving out free first class airline passes to any part of the world where Air Canada flies, to failed Liberal hacks and flacks and party bag persons appointed by the previous Liberal Government.

This Government has reached new heights in patronage and it has given new meaning to severance pay arrangements when free air flights are also included when these hacks are booted out. The Government has failed to clip the wings of the high flyers on the Air Canada board of directors, and has instead chosen not to ruffle a few feathers. I urge the Government to suspend the free passes, and instead give these hacks free "Rat Pack" T shirts.

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

[Translation]

### THE ECONOMY

#### WAYS FOR GOVERNMENT TO REALIZE ECONOMIES

**Hon. Donald J. Johnston (Saint-Henri-Westmount):** Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Deputy Prime Minister refused to reveal the recommendations made by his task forces. In fact, he himself invited me to submit our own ideas and suggestions on how the Government could save money. Well we have lots, Mr. Speaker, and it will be a pleasure to submit them.

[English]

Since he has invited these suggestions, why does the Deputy Prime Minister not arrest the haemorrhage of hard earned taxpayers' dollars in Ministers' offices; \$3 million to \$4 million on the Chiefs of Staffs which have been put in place; \$2 million to \$3 million on the Prime Minister's office; millions of dollars in patronage, and millions and millions on ministerial

jet and Challenger air travel. These aircraft are plying the skies not only of Canada but of the entire world.

**Some Hon. Members:** Question.

**Mr. Johnston:** Today there is an expensive investigation by the RCMP into a leaked secret documents which the Deputy Prime Minister himself could not recognize yesterday as even existing. If the Government spends this kind of money on non-existent documents, what will it spend on real documents?

Will the Deputy Prime Minister use his legal and moral authority to arrest this haemorrhage, to rein in his colleagues, and stop this shameful squandering of millions and millions of taxpayers' dollars?

**Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence):** Mr. Speaker, indeed we do intend to replace with moral judgment that area which was left in a total vacuum by the previous administration.

The \$3 million to \$4 million that he mentioned with respect to ministerial staffs—I can recall the Member for Winnipeg-Fort Garry having reached that amount almost entirely by himself in one Minister's office.

With respect to the use of jet aircraft, that which had been totally out of control is being brought under control. At least it will be our sincere endeavour not to have the same situation arise as did under the previous administration when three Ministers arrived in three separate aircraft, within one hour of each other, in the city of Winnipeg.

With regard to the matter of routine inquiries that are made with respect to documents, the Hon. Member, who is a former Minister, knows that that process is routine. When he speaks of a specific document, I still have been unable to decipher the mish-mash that was passed to me yesterday, the quality of the reproduction of which—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Could questions and answers now become shorter, please?

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### GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES

#### AIR TRAVEL BY MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS

**Hon. Donald J. Johnston (Saint-Henri-Westmount):** Mr. Speaker, the skies were never as dark with JetStars and Challengers as they are today.

**Some Hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Johnston:** Even grounding le courant d'air national, the Minister of Communications, would save taxpayers hundred of thousands of dollars.

Perhaps the Deputy Prime Minister will not ask the Minister of Communications to explain that waste—