5817

The figures I just quoted are indeed revealing and reflect the high cost of operating VIA Rail in Canada, considering that it is used by so few travellers.

In concluding, Mr. Speaker, I may say I am convinced that the schedule VIA Rail has been offered, the amounts the federal government is prepared to spend on VIA Rail in the next five years, ensures that VIA Rail will be able to provide Canadians with an acceptable and good quality service. However, Mr. Speaker, VIA Rail must be well managed, and it will have be managed like a company that operates in a competitive sector. VIA Rail will have to prove its mettle, and if it does, the Government of Canada will continue to support it.

[English]

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Paproski): I would like to take this opportunity to thank all hon. members for

Supply

finetuning their debate to 10 minutes. We noticed we were able to get a few extra speakers in today. If we do this quite regularly more members can take part in our debates and this is what Parliament is all about.

It being 3.50 p.m., it is my duty to inform the House that pursuant to Standing Order 81(17), proceedings on the motion have expired.

Pursuant to the Order made Tuesday, November 7, 1989, this House stands adjourned until Monday, November 20, 1989, at 11 a.m., pursuant to Standing Order 24(1).

Have a pleasant vacation.

The House adjourned at 3.51 p.m.