

Air Canada

We wondered, as the Deputy Prime Minister introduced in the House a Bill to abolish Air Canada as a Crown corporation, whether it was not the beginning of the end for Canada. We must recognize that in the case of Air Canada, we will have to make up deficits from time to time and pay more in order to provide service to all Canadian men and women because, whether they live in Hamilton, Paulatuk, Red Deer, Cold Lake or anywhere else, they should be entitled to the same services provided by a Crown corporation. Once Air Canada has been privatized under this legislation, why should it fly to Tuktoyaktuk or Inuvik? Why should it fly to the Northwest Territories or the Yukon if it is not profitable?

Mr. Speaker, I feel I have no choice but to ask the Deputy Prime Minister, who is a reasonable man, to accept the rationale I have put forward tonight. I have no alternative but to move the following amendment. Therefore, I move:

That the motion be amended by striking out all the words following the word "that" and substituting the following therefore:

Bill C-129, An Act to provide for the continuance of Air Canada under the Canada Business Corporations Act and for the issuance and sale of shares thereof to the public, be not now read a second time, but be read a second time six months hence".

Mr. Speaker, it is reasonable amendment and I know that the Government will accept this motion, seconded by the Hon. Member for Ottawa Vanier (Mr. Gauthier).

● (1840)

[English]

Mr. Speaker: The House has heard the terms of the amendment.

Some Hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Speaker: Continuing debate.

Some Hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Speaker: Is the House ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: Question.

Mr. Speaker: Shall I dispense with reading the motion?

Some Hon. Members: Dispense.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to adopt the amendment?

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: All those in favour will please say yea.

Some Hon. Members: Yea.

Mr. Speaker: All those opposed will please say nay.

Some Hon. Members: Nay.

And more than five Members having risen:

Mr. Speaker: Call in the Members.

During the ringing of the bells.

Mr. Speaker: Under the appropriate rule, the Whip of the Official Opposition has requested that the vote take place at 7.30 p.m.

Mr. Gauthier: Mr. Speaker, I think my request to you under Section 13(4)(a) was that you defer the vote until six o'clock tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker: The vote is so deferred.

It being past six o'clock p.m., this House stands adjourned until tomorrow at eleven o'clock a.m. pursuant to Standing Order 3(1).

The House adjourned at 6.50 p.m.