

Inquiries of the Ministry
PUBLIC BUILDINGS

VANCOUVER—REQUEST FOR CHANGE IN
SITE OF NEW BUILDING

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I desire to direct to the Minister of Public Works a most urgent question having to do with the city of Vancouver, but in his absence and because of the urgency of an answer being required by the city council of Vancouver, may I ask the acting minister whether he would take note of the question so an early reply may be given. Can the minister advise what consideration has been given or what decision has been reached relative to the request that the Department of Public Works make a change in the proposed site of a new federal structure to be erected in Vancouver?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I do not think that question qualifies for this period of time.

Mr. Winch: The Vancouver city council think it does, sir.

FINANCE

IMPLEMENTATION OF TARIFF CHANGES
FOLLOWING GENEVA CONFERENCE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Danforth (Kent (Ont.)): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Because it has been indicated that there may be a release of information in July regarding the tariff changes made at Geneva, and because of the importance of the matter, may I ask the minister whether legislation will be required before any of these changes are implemented?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, some of the tariff changes that have been negotiated will not require parliamentary approval because parliament has already authorized the government to make reductions in certain tariffs. Others will require legislation because they involve reclassifications. In other matters, for example, as the change in the anti-dumping laws, parliamentary action will be required. In any event, Mr. Speaker, the changes would not come into effect until parliament had been given ample opportunity to debate the matter.

[Mr. Winters.]

BIRTH CONTROL

INQUIRY AS TO AMENDMENT OF
CRIMINAL CODE

On the orders of the day:

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Considering that yet another great country, France, has decided to legalize birth control, might we not have a definite assurance from the Prime Minister that legislation will be introduced during this session to legalize birth control in Canada?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think I have already indicated that—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I wonder if that is not a repetition of a question which has been asked very recently.

Mrs. MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): It is a repetition of the answer, Mr. Speaker.

SUPPLY

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND
NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

Administration—

1. Departmental administration, \$2,209,800.

The Chairman: Order, please. House again in committee of supply, estimates of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1968. Vote No. 1 is to be found on page 200 of the blue book of estimates and details are listed on page 203. Shall vote 1 carry?

Mr. Dinsdale: Mr. Chairman, does the minister intend to make a statement to open the discussion this morning? I think it would be helpful if the minister could make a brief statement which would act as a frame of reference for our discussions today. It might even help to confine the subject and expedite proceedings in the committee. Otherwise many members, as a result of recent committee activity, I know would be inclined to range far afield.

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Chairman, I should like to make a brief comment on the work of the department, and I intend to keep it brief because I propose to deal with only three or four aspects of the department which are of the greatest importance.