

Inquiries of the Ministry

information I have just received and that should normally be released by the Minister of National Health and Welfare (Mr. Munro) who is absent at this time. In my capacity as Secretary of State, I should like to break the news by quoting the title of a film: "The Russians are coming... All games but the first will be played on schedule".

[English]

An hon. Member: If you stay in power the Russians will come.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

SUGGESTION THAT RADIO CANADA IS UNDER CONTROL OF SEPARATISTS

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, in view of the very frank and illuminating answers given to my questions yesterday by the Secretary of State, I would like to ask him whether it is the intention to verify the accuracy of the allegation that Mr. Alphonse Ouimet advised the former prime minister that Radio Canada was under the control of separatists, and that there was nothing the management of the corporation could do about it? Is it the intention of the Secretary of State to investigate the accuracy of this allegation?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): I am now in a position to tell the Leader of the Opposition that I have read the chapter dealing with the history of the C.B.C. but that I have not personally taken any decision as to whether or not an investigation should be conducted with respect to that allegation.

[English]

NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

RIGHTS OF LEASEHOLDERS IN NATIONAL PARKS—SUBMISSION OF DECISION TO APPELLATE COURT

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Now that the Exchequer Court has reaffirmed the legality of the leaseholds originally granted in western Canada national parks, what action does the minister contemplate to bring the recent administrative decrees on this matter into conformity with this ruling?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr.

[Mr. Pelletier.]

Speaker, it being a ruling of a court of first instance, the government has decided to appeal in order to have that ruling upheld or quashed.

[English]

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): As a supplementary question, will the minister assure the house that the civil rights of people in the western parks, whose leases were changed by duress and other means before the decision of the Exchequer Court was given, will be reinstated as they existed prior to that decision?

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Speaker, the government will reach a decision in connection with all the aspects of the problem once the Court of Appeal has ruled on the matter.

DRUGS

POSSIBLE RESTRICTION IN SALE OF PRESCRIPTIONS IN COMBINATION

Mr. Max Saltzman (Waterloo): Mr. Speaker, yesterday I directed a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare who indicated he would have an answer for me today. I see the minister is not in the house and I wonder whether he has delegated anyone else to answer my important question regarding certain drugs offered for sale on the Canadian market?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Fundy-Royal.

Mr. Saltzman: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I object to not receiving a reply. I asked an important question and I was assured that it would be answered today. The minister is not scheduled to be in the house tomorrow. Therefore an answer will not be available until next week. I think the government could have extended the courtesy of having another minister answer on behalf of the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, it is possible that the reply to that question has been made available to me. Unfortunately, as I was not acting yesterday on behalf of the minister, I do not know which question the hon. member has in mind. I may have received the reply, but I do not know which question is involved.

Mr. Saltzman: Mr. Speaker, I will be very pleased to repeat the question. It was about a decision by the food and drug administration of the United States to halt the sale of