

HEALTH AND WELFARE

REPRESENTATIONS RESPECTING CIGARETTE
ADVERTISING AND SMOKING EDUCATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe East): My question is addressed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Will the minister inform the house what he proposes to do in consequence of the warning issued by Dr. De la Rue, the noted chest surgeon, with regard to cigarette smoking and the doctor's recommendations as to advertising and other restrictions?

Mr. Speaker: Order. I am wondering whether this question is not one which relates to general policy. I have some doubt whether it should be asked at this time.

Mr. Barry Mather (New Westminster): I have a question for either the Minister of National Health and Welfare or the Registrar General. Following the grave statements made yesterday both in the United States and in Canada by leading cancer authorities calling on the one hand for an end to cigarette advertising and on the other for the control of cigarette contents, will the minister not now consider adding legislation to the education effort which has so far been undertaken to protect, particularly, younger Canadians from cigarette diseases?

Mr. Speaker: It seems to me that the question asked by the hon. member for New Westminster is closely related to the one just asked by the hon. member for Simcoe East, and for the same reason I suggest it cannot be asked now.

Mr. Mather: Ten o'clock, Mr. Speaker.

MEDICARE—REPORTED STATEMENT BY
N.B. PREMIER

On the orders of the day:

Hon. E. D. Fulton (Kamloops): I do not wish to appear importunate but I wonder whether the Prime Minister is now in a position to answer the question about medicare which I asked him two days ago.

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): I have been unable to find any evidence to support the suggestion by the hon. gentleman that such a statement was made. If he could give me more detail, for example the date when the statement was made, I would be able to follow this up, but at present I have no information to indicate that such a statement was made by the premier of New Brunswick.

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Inquiries of the Ministry
NATIONAL DEFENCE

POSSIBLE CLOSING OF ARMED FORCES BASES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. David MacDonald (Prince): I have a question for the Minister of National Defence. In the light of the disturbing news report in this morning's Charlottetown *Guardian* suggesting imminent closure of the air base at Summerside, will the minister assure the people of Prince Edward Island and members of this house that no action is being taken and no plans are being considered with regard to the closing of the Canadian forces base on Prince Edward Island?

Hon. Léo Cadieux (Minister of National Defence): I think I should repeat what I have said earlier, that a study of all bases has been going on for many months and that no decision to close any base has been taken.

Mr. MacDonald (Prince): Can the minister also assure us that no substantial reduction has been made or is being considered with regard to those employed at the Summerside air base?

Mr. Cadieux (Terrebonne): I can say that the department has in fact developed and improved the base over the past few years.

Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon): In connection with the minister's statement a few moments ago that no decision had been taken to close any base, will the hon. gentleman now assure us that the decision to close the Canadian forces base at Whitehorse has in fact been reversed by the department?

Mr. Cadieux (Terrebonne): I would point out to the hon. member that the decision with regard to the Whitehorse base was taken in 1965.

Mr. L. R. Sherman (Winnipeg South): Can the minister assure the house that there has been a reversal of the decision with respect to the Rivers base in Manitoba?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I see what we are getting into, and I should like to recognize the hon. member for Northumberland.

Mr. E. Nasserden (Rosthern): I have a supplementary question for the Minister of National Defence. What is the purpose of the numerous transfers of senior personnel now taking place between various bases across Canada?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.