Oral Questions BROADCASTING

SALE OF RADIO STATION, CKSB, WINNIPEG, TO CBC—CBC POLICY ON MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State regarding the sale of radio station CKSB. In view of the petition that has been received by the minister and his cabinet colleagues with regard to the sale of CKSB, and in view of the recent multiculturalism program outlined by the minister in charge of that department in Edmonton recently, could the minister indicate to the House what changes the CBC is considering in its policy regarding the use of CBC facilities relative to multicultural broadcasting?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, as I have suggested before on this matter if members of the House, particularly members of the Broadcasting Committee, want to pursue this matter with the CBC they should do so while the estimates of the corporation are before the committee. It seems to me that this is the most intelligent way to get at the problem in depth.

SALE OF RADIO STATION CKSB, WINNIPEG, TO CBC— ACTION TO SET ASIDE CANADIAN RADIO-TELEVISION COMMISSION DECISION

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, now that the minister has had a chance to review the petition and because there is a good deal of urgency in setting aside the CRTC decision, the deadline being Monday next, can the minister indicate whether he plans to take any action prior to the expiry of the period during which he can launch an objection to the decision?

Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State): I have not taken a speed reading course and I have not finished reading the petition yet. I will reserve judgment until I have, but I doubt very much that any action will be taken between now and Monday.

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

ENTITLEMENT TO DRUGS—DIRECTIVE LIMITING PROVISION

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. I should like to ask him whether a directive has been issued by his department indicating that the department will no longer assume responsibility for the cost of drugs taken by treaty Indians after June 1 other than by those who are resident on reserves or indigents? Why was this change in policy necessary, and what provisions have been made to identify those Indians who qualify so as to avoid any hardships?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I believe the hon. member is referring to a situation in Saskatchewan. I heard about this situation only yesterday afternoon and I have asked for a [Mr. Speaker.]

full report. I will be glad to inform the hon. member later, some time next week.

SUGGESTED TRANSFER OF MEDICAL SERVICES FROM HEALTH AND WELFARE TO INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Has he received any representations to have the medical services section transferred back to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development so that he can assume the responsibility for health services as provided for Indians under existing treaties?

[Translation]

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Mr. Speaker, I am aware of this problem, but with regard to the hon. member's suggestion, I believe that the area of the Indians' health is very well administered by my colleague, the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

[English]

Mr. Korchinski: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. How can the minister make that statement when the minister is abdicating his responsibility?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Meadow Lake.

Mr. Elias Nesdoly (Meadow Lake): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question to the question asked by the hon. member for Mackenzie. Is the Minister of National Health and Welfare aware of the medicine chest clause in treaty No. 6 and the several court rulings in this regard?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I doubt that a question asked in those terms is in order. The hon. member might like to rephrase the question.

INCOME TAX

LIVESTOCK INVENTORY PROVISIONS IN LAST BUDGET— RETROACTIVITY TO JANUARY 1, 1972, IN LIGHT OF TERMINATION OF BASIC HERD PROVISIONS IN 1971

Mr. Bill Jarvis (Perth-Wilmot): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Finance may I direct my question to the Minister of National Revenue. Will the livestock inventory provisions in the last budget be made retroactive to January 1, 1972 and, if not, what steps will the minister or the cabinet take to cure the one-year tax hiatus between the termination of the basic herd provisions in 1971 and the commencement of the inventory provisions in the recent budget?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of National Revenue): Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to consult the Minister of Finance on that and advise the hon. member.