tabled such report in the House on Friday, February 20, we would ask the hon. member might well be debated with the other one. to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Agreed.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

"ORONSAY" TYPHOID INCIDENT-DR. COX-EMPLOYMENT, LEAVE AND PUBLICATION OF REPORT

Motion No. 401-Mr. Baldwin:

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of all correspondence and other documents between Dr. Cox, the Minister of National Health and Welfare and superiors of Dr. Cox in the Department of National Health and Welfare about the employment of Dr. Cox, the leave of Dr. Cox, and the preparation and publication of a report by Dr. Cox about the *Oronsay* typhoid incident.

Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of National Health and Welfare wishes to advise the hon. member that correspondence concerning employment and leave of employees, as well as the preparation of reports, is privileged information, and the minister is not prepared to table the documents requested. In view of the circumstances, the hon. member is requested to withdraw his motion.

Mr. Baldwin: Transfer for debate.

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

REPORT ON "ORONSAY" TYPHOID INCIDENT-CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN DEPARTMENT AND P & O REPRESENTATIVES

Motion No. 402-Mr. Baldwin:

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of all correspondence and other documents between the Minister of National Health and Welfare, officials of the Department of National Health and Welfare and representatives of P & O Shipping Line about the preparation and publication of a report on the Oronsay typhoid incident in Vancouver.

Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, the Minister of National Health and Weldraw his motion.

[Mr. Caccia.]

Mr. Baldwin: Mr. Speaker, this motion

Mr. Speaker: Transferred for debate.

ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

POST OFFICE

CONDITIONS IN DEPARTMENT-INEVITABILITY OF STRIKE-SUBSTITUTE POSTAL SERVICE

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Acting Prime Minister whether he intends to make any statement or comment, not necessarily during the question period, concerning the remarks of the Postmaster General that the unfortunate conditions in the Post Office Department as outlined by the Postmaster General are inevitable and cannot be dealt with at this time due to the delay in dealing with the matter by the Treasury Board and the cabinet. Does the Acting Prime Minister propose to make any comment on this or are we to assume that this is a correct statement of the facts?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, it had not been my intention to make a comment but I will consider the suggestion of the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Acting Prime Minister whether it is the view of the government that the second postal strike in two years appears to be inevitable, as was stated on May 19 in a labour news publication of the Minister of Labour?

Mr. Sharp: Well, Mr. Speaker, I do not share the pessimism of the Leader of the Opposition about the inevitability of a postal strike. I do hope this will not happen. The government is prepared to sit down to negotiate with the leaders of the unions to that end.

Mr. Stanfield: Mr. Speaker, I was not expressing any opinion other than that expressed in an official publication of the government, but I believe I could be forgiven for fare wishes to advise the hon. member that being a little pessimistic in view of the way he does not consider it to be in the public in which the government has been behaving. I interest to release this correspondence and is should like to ask the Acting Prime Minister therefore not prepared to table these docu- whether it is the policy of the government ments. The hon, member may wish to with- that those who try to provide a substitute postal service will be prosecuted.