

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

way suggested by the hon. member for Essex East. Of course if the hon. member disagrees with the view I take I will be glad to hear him.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** I thank you, Mr. Speaker. However, we differ so rarely that I would not press the matter. Of course I was not asking the Minister of Finance to tell us what is going to be in his budget. I was simply giving him notice. The minister is preoccupied these days and may not have seen what Premier Frost said. I asked the minister whether in the preparation of his speech, which must be engaging his attention very much at this time, he was going to take into account the very deep desire that the premier of Ontario has that justice be recognized by the federal government. I suggest that is not asking for budget details. I am sure my dear friend would welcome—

**Mr. Speaker:** I am sorry, but I cannot agree that the further refinement to the question which the hon. member has made, alters it.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** On reflection, Mr. Speaker, I agree with you.

**INDIAN AFFAIRS****VANCOUVER—STATEMENT ON DEATH OF  
INDIAN WOMAN**

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. J. W. Monteith (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, last week the hon. member for Vancouver Centre asked me to comment on the reported death of Mrs. Eva Ada Harry while being transported from the Vancouver General hospital to my department's Indian hospital at Sardis, British Columbia. In reply to the question, and to one asked by the hon. member for Gatineau yesterday, I would report as follows.

Mrs. Harry was received in the out-patient department of the Vancouver General hospital on March 9. After it had been diagnosed that she was suffering from tuberculosis, my department's local Indian and northern health services office was asked to arrange treatment, and in the meantime she was taken care of in the infectious diseases section of the hospital.

A vehicle from the Indian hospital at Sardis called for Mrs. Harry at 3.20 p.m. on March 11, removing her on a stretcher. It then called at Shaughnessy hospital for another patient, at which time the driver noticed that Mrs. Harry seemed to have taken a turn for the worse. He returned quickly by way of the Indian and northern health services clinic to the Vancouver General hospital, where death was confirmed a little more than an hour after he had originally called for her.

[Mr. Speaker.]

A coroner's inquest held last week found death to be due to a natural cause. The jury recommended that an ambulance similar to those used in Vancouver should be used in such cases, and that an attendant with first aid qualifications should be with the patient.

It must be remembered that my department requires a type of vehicle which can travel through difficult road conditions, and the vehicle used in this case is particularly well suited for such purposes. It could best be described as a station wagon body on a light truck frame, and is widely used by other agencies facing similar transportation problems where ambulance service has to be provided. For example, I believe the Department of Veterans Affairs and the provincial division of tuberculosis control use similar types, and that the specifications invariably include ambulance-quality springs.

I regret that such an incident should have taken place, and particularly that no qualified attendant was present on this trip. It is the custom of Indian and northern health services to have a first aid man or even a qualified professional officer accompany a patient on a transfer when it has been indicated that the patient's condition warrants such a precaution. In this case as, in all others, however, transfer was made on the basis of a diagnosis by the hospital staff, and there was no indication that the patient's condition would deteriorate so rapidly.

**ARTS, LETTERS AND SCIENCES****NATIONAL GALLERY—REQUEST FOR FRENCH COPIES  
OF EXHIBITION FOLDER**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Alexis Caron (Hull):** I wish to address a question to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. This morning I received from the national art gallery of Canada a folder prepared in connection with the inaugural exhibition which closes on April 5. This has been printed in English only. Can the minister tell us if copies are available in French?

**Hon. Ellen L. Fairclough (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration):** I really do not know. I will inquire.

**HOUSE OF COMMONS****PARLIAMENTARY RESTAURANT—ALBERTA RED  
LABEL BEEF FOR DINNER**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. E. W. Brunsdon (Medicine Hat):** I wish to address a question to the Minister of Agriculture. The minister is aware that at long last there is in Ottawa today some choice beef, red label beef from Alberta. My question is this. In addition to those we have invited,