

VETERANS AFFAIRS

INQUIRY AS TO INCREASES IN PENSIONS AND DISABILITY ALLOWANCES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. D. Alkenbrack (Prince Edward-Lennox): My question is for the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Now that the house has passed the supplementary estimates of his department, what further procedure is necessary in order to give effect to the promised 15 per cent raise in veteran's pensions?

Hon. Roger Teillet (Minister of Veterans Affairs): It is a matter of clearing up the supplementary estimates. Then they go to the other place for approval and royal assent.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I hope the hon. member will not pursue his question along those lines, because it would be clearly out of order to do so.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

STEPS TO DEAL WITH INFANT MORTALITY RATE AMONG INDIANS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Ed. Schreyer (Springfield): My question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the fact that the infant mortality rate among Canadian Indians and Eskimos is one of the highest in the world, I should like to ask the minister whether the government is contemplating any special program or course of action to deal with this problem.

Mr. Speaker: Order. The very important question raised by the hon. member is general and wide in scope. He is really asking for a statement which I suggest should be made on motions.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

REQUEST FOR RECONSTITUTION OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): I should like to direct a question to the Prime Minister. Bearing in mind previous difficulties in obtaining answers to indicate the intention of the Department of National Health and Welfare with respect to medical care of Indian people, will the Prime Minister take the course of introducing a motion to activate the Indian affairs committee of the house so that committee might look carefully into this question?

Inquiries of the Ministry

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): The Minister of National Health and Welfare has already said he hopes to make a statement on this matter within a day or so.

INQUIRY AS TO PRODUCTION OF DISCUSSION DOCUMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. It relates to questions asked in the house some days ago in connection with a series of meetings which have been scheduled to deal with preparations for amendments to the Indian Act, and a document which is being prepared with respect to it. The minister indicated that he was prepared to table this document. May I ask how close we are to that event?

Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): I had intended to table the discussion document today, but I changed my mind and thought I would send it to all members of parliament together with a list of locations where meetings are being held and particulars of who are being invited.

Mr. Howard: Is this being sent to hon. members today?

Mr. Laing: It will be in the mail tonight.

INQUIRIES OF THE MINISTRY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. H. W. Herridge (Kootenay West): I wish to direct a question to the Prime Minister. May I ask whether the heartwarming reference to the role of the monarchy made by the Minister of Justice in Victoria a few days ago represents government policy?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): We all, with a few exceptions, make heartwarming references to the monarchy, and I hope we shall continue to do so.

Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond): Would the Prime Minister follow the lead of the minister of consumer affairs and make a public expression of his views on the shabby treatment Vancouver is getting from the National Hockey League?

Mr. Speaker: Order.