

*Inquiries of the Ministry***HEALTH AND WELFARE****PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS FOR MEDICAL CARE OF INDIANS**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe East): I wish to address a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. If the medical care plan is universally applied to the provinces, that will be the source of medical care services. Now my question is, will the federal government pay the premium for Indians in the provinces on premium health care services?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, may I take that question as notice.

INQUIRIES OF THE MINISTRY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, may I direct my question to the Prime Minister. In view of the interesting interpretation made by last night's C.B.C. news with respect to the Prime Minister's reference yesterday to the period between now and April 25, can he indicate to the house the significance of his using that date, April 25?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): The significance of using that date, Mr. Speaker, is that I must be very tired, because I meant April 23.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): Would the Prime Minister be prepared to take the house into his confidence and indicate whether his successor will take office prior to April 23, when parliament reassembles, or afterward?

Mr. Pearson: I will be glad to take the house into my confidence, Mr. Speaker. It will depend entirely on who the successor is.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh.

Mr. Pearson: One hon. member on this side who might be the successor might like to take over the day after the convention; another one might want two or three weeks to get ready.

Mr. Knowles: Some of them would never be ready.

Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of Agriculture. Following his recent [Mr. Pearson.]

advice to various farm organizations to unite and speak with one voice, has he since changed his mind because, as a member of the cabinet, he supports Bill C-186, which if passed would fragment unions rather than unite them.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The question is clearly argumentative.

Hon. J. J. Greene (Minister of Agriculture): Mr. Speaker, I don't agree with the premise of that question.

INDIAN AFFAIRS**REQUEST FOR RECONSTITUTION OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE**

On the orders of the day:

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of growing problems affecting our native Canadians and the long delay in dealing with them, would the minister in his capacity as house leader assure hon. members that the committee on Indian affairs will be reconstituted at an early date so these problems can be dealt with expeditiously?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): The question of the reconstitution of the committee is really one for the minister directly concerned with Indian affairs.

Mr. Dinsdale: Would the hon. gentleman discuss this matter with his colleague the minister of Indian affairs and make a specific announcement at the time he makes his statement with respect to the reduction in Indian health services?

Mr. MacEachen: I have already discussed the matter with him.

FINANCE**GOLD—INQUIRY AS TO SALES PROCEDURE**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. M. W. Martin (Timmins): I have a question for the Minister of Finance arising out of an answer he gave yesterday. Having regard to the growing concern and confusion in the gold mining industry, could the minister inform the house whether a tentative date has been fixed for a decision as to the disposal of gold purchased from Canadian gold producers?