

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Speaker: We really have to move on. The hon. member will recognize we are running short of time. Perhaps he might ask his supplementary quickly.

Mr. Muir: With all due deference, Mr. Speaker, I realize that. I have a further supplementary. Other members are allowed two or three supplementaries. May I ask the Prime Minister if he would express to Mr. Kent my best wishes in a difficult job?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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SOCIAL SECURITY**FAMILY INCOME SECURITY PLAN—SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS TO QUEBEC SINCE VICTORIA CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE**

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare in connection with the proposals that were placed before the House today. Have these proposals been submitted to Premier Bourassa of the province of Quebec and has he expressed his willingness, if they are implemented, to give his support to the Victoria charter?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, many of the proposals contained in my statement have been discussed not with the premier, of course, but with my counterpart in the province of Quebec, the hon. Mr. Castonguay. We have discussed them at some considerable length and I think Quebec is very happy with many of these features.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Since the Victoria meeting have these proposals been placed before any members of the government of the province of Quebec, the counterpart of the minister or any other minister, and have they been accepted in principle by that government?

Mr. Munro: Mr. Speaker, as I have already indicated, I do not believe they have been since Victoria because Quebec and the other provinces were well aware of them through the discussions I outlined in my statement a few minutes ago.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Is it clear then that there has been no discussion with the government or any ministers of the province of Quebec by this government or any of its ministers, placing before them in the last few days the proposals that are now before Parliament?

Mr. Munro: No, because they were already aware of them.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Vancouver East.

Mr. Diefenbaker: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Diefenbaker: —after the communication between the Prime Minister and the minister possibly we can get the facts.

[Mr. Muir.]

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair has recognized the hon. member for Vancouver East and perhaps he might be allowed to ask his question.

Mr. Diefenbaker: The cat is out of the bag.

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POST OFFICE**VANCOUVER—DECISION TO ELIMINATE SECOND DAILY DELIVERY TO BUSINESS FIRMS**

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Postmaster General. In view of the fact that first class postal rates are to be increased on July 1 and my supposition that the minister is not desirous of seeing increased unemployment, will the minister have reconsidered immediately the decision of the postmaster in Vancouver to cease the second daily delivery of mail to business firms in certain areas of Vancouver?

Hon. Jean-Pierre Côté (Postmaster General): Mr. Speaker, I think I answered that question about two months ago.

Mr. Winch: Mr. Speaker, it may have been answered two months ago, but in view of the fact that it has now been ordered to go into effect on July 5 I am asking the minister whether he will reconsider this decision now in the interests of the business people of Vancouver?

Mr. Côté (Longueuil): I will look at the question, Mr. Speaker, but my first reaction is no.

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[Translation]

FINANCE**DISPOSITION OF ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FOR FAMILY INCOME SECURITY PLAN**

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I wanted to direct a question to the Minister of Finance but in his absence I will put it to the right hon. Prime Minister.

The Minister of National Health and Welfare stated this morning that an additional amount of \$150 million would be made available to the new Family Income Security Plan. Will these \$150 million be added to the \$750 million deficit anticipated in the budget which was presented to us last week?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I think it would be wiser to put this question to the Minister of Finance; however, I will try to answer it. I understand that the budget of the Minister of Finance applies to the rest of the current year, while the additional \$150 million are going to apply to family allowances under the FISP which will take effect only when Parliament has amended the existing act, that is, next fall, I hope, or later during the winter. Therefore, it is likely that these \$150 million will be added to the amounts provided as expenses under the present act.