

table the document in question to clarify his answer and of course all members of the House, including myself, gave the minister permission. I should like to say, Mr. Speaker, that it is shocking that the President of the Privy Council has taken this attitude. It is very unfair.

[Translation]

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Third report of Standing Committee on Transport and Communications, in French and in English—Mr. Lessard (La Salle).

[Editor's Note: Text of foregoing report appears in today's Votes and Proceedings.]

[English]

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NEWSTART PROGRAM—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Mr. Paul Yewchuk (Athabasca): Mr. Speaker, I ask the unanimous consent of the House to make the following motion under Standing Order 43:

That the abandonment by the government of the Canada Newstart Program be referred to the Standing Committee on Regional Development for consideration and report, and

That the Standing Committee on Regional Development be convened for purposes of organization.

By way of brief explanation, Mr. Speaker, I would point out that the Standing Committee has not yet been organized although there have been several requests from hon. members interested in the many questions of regional development which urgently need examination. One of the most urgent problems to be considered is the apparent abandonment of the hopeful Newstart program, which is causing great consternation amongst the native and other people in all areas where the program has been in operation and in particular in the Lac-la-Biche area in Alberta. The Lac-la-Biche centre has been occupied by Métis and Indian people since last Saturday and some immediate response from the government and Parliament is necessary.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. members have heard the motion of the hon. member for Athabasca. Is there unanimous consent?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

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Questions

Some hon. Members: No.

Mr. Speaker: As there is not unanimous consent the motion cannot be put.

QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER PAPER

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

STUDIES OF PHARMACEUTICAL FIRMS' DRUG TESTS

Question No. 55—**Mrs. MacInnis:**

1. Is the Food and Drug Directorate of the Department of National Health and Welfare undertaking special studies to evaluate whether drug tests submitted to the Directorate by pharmaceutical firms are ineptly designed and deficient, as disclosed in some tests reported in the United States.

2. Is the government considering legislation which would take away the major responsibility for evaluating new drugs from the pharmaceutical manufacturers and give it to the federal government?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): 1. The Food and Drug Regulations require pharmaceutical manufacturers to submit details of all animal and clinical studies to the Food and Drug Directorate of the Department of National Health and Welfare before a new drug is marketed. This research data is carefully assessed and evaluated by officers in the Directorate. If the safety and effectiveness of the drug has not been clearly demonstrated, either by reason of deficient or poorly designed studies, the Notice of Compliance is withheld until properly designed studies have been conducted. In addition, officers of the Directorate frequently discuss proposed plans for both animal and clinical studies with manufacturers and with individual investigators.

2. The majority of new drugs that reach the market are the result of the research and development activities of the pharmaceutical industry. Existing legislation under the Food and Drugs Act ensures that a proper evaluation of the safety and efficacy of all new drugs is made before they reach the Canadian market.

IMMIGRATION APPLICATION, DR. A. A. SOLOOJEE

Question No. 58—**Mr. Nystrom:**

Did a Dr. A. A. Soloojee, a citizen of South Africa apply for immigration to Canada and, if so,