

*Oral Questions*

**Mr. Cullen:** Since this decision by the Board requires either amendment or ratification by the cabinet, can the minister tell us how soon the companies may expect cabinet action on the report?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** At a very early date, we would hope.

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## SPORTS

## ACTION TO FORCE WORLD HOCKEY ASSOCIATION TO DONATE MONEY FOR PROMOTION OF AMATEUR HOCKEY IN CANADA

**Mr. Otto Jelinek (High Park-Humber Valley):** My question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Speaker. In view of the minister's recent and sudden interest in professional sport, and keeping in mind the fact that the National Hockey League donates over \$1 million a year to the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association as well as to clubs responsible for the promotion of amateur hockey in this country, as a result of its universal draft system, can the minister advise the House whether he is prepared to force the World Hockey Association to do likewise?

[Translation]

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I am happy to tell the hon. member that an agreement has been signed between the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association and the World Hockey League, as one was signed between the National Hockey League and the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association. Those agreements will provide for the payment, to the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association, of comparable compensation in both cases. This is the result of the pressures I exerted upon and the representations I made to both leagues last year.

[English]

## WORLD HOCKEY ASSOCIATION—AGE OF PLAYERS DRAFTED

**Mr. Otto Jelinek:** Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to hear these views expressed. Since the minister apparently has secret ways of ousting the World Football League team from Toronto, can he assure the House that he will take similar measures to make the World Hockey Association limit its draft age to 20-year-olds, as does the NHL, so as not to jeopardize amateur junior hockey in this country any further?

[Translation]

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to welcome the hon. member to the House after his extended absence. I can assure him that the arrangements made with the World Hockey League are similar to those already made with the National Hockey League but that they meet with the approval of the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association.

[English]

**Mr. Jelinek:** I rise on a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker. I am happy that the Minister of National Health and

[Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale).]

Welfare has welcomed me back to the House although I was here more than ten days ago—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Jelinek:** May I add that because of the fact I had an opportunity to visit Munich, Germany, at my own expense—

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Jelinek:**—where I was able to study the results of the aftermath of the Olympics which were held there two years ago, especially Olympic housing and other problems arising from the construction of the Olympic Stadium and other facilities, I can represent this party on Olympic matters better than some of the people on that side of the House.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

## SIGNING OF CANADIAN LACROSSE PLAYERS BY AMERICAN INTERESTS

**Mr. Reg Stackhouse (Scarborough East):** Mr. Speaker, this question, too, is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the minister's determination to exclude the World Football League from Canada in spite of the agreement by Metro Toronto to permit the Toronto Norsemen to play in the CNE stadium, and in view of reports that American interests have signed more than 50 Canadian lacrosse players to play in the United States, is the minister considering any intervention in this area and, if so, what specific action does he plan to take?

[Translation]

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member took the trouble to read my statement on that, he would realize that the situation is completely different. I have no intention to take measures regarding lacrosse. He would also realize that the present developments have the complete support of the Canadian Amateur Lacrosse Association. I suggest he read the statement made on this by the representatives of the association.

[English]

**Mr. Stackhouse:** Since this matter is of considerable concern to Canadians, would the minister be prepared to make a statement on motions regarding the government's policy toward what seems to be the policing of Canadian sport?

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

[Translation]

**Mr. Lalonde:** Mr. Speaker, I will soon have the pleasure of tabling a bill in this House that will enable to government to take a position on this matter. I will then also have the pleasure of listening to all the points of view of this opposition members.