

*Motions for Papers*

tion forms, photographs and letters leading to the issuance of passports to Yves Geoffroy and Carmen Parent. The motion has been on the order paper since February 24.

**Mr. Jerome:** Mr. Speaker, it is nice to have the hon. member back from a parliamentary course in London. We will look into the matter.

**An hon. Member:** He is the only one who failed.

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

**Mr. Speaker:** I hope that not all hon. members will want to rise about motions on the order paper. I see that three or four hon. members seek the recognition of the Chair. The hon. member for Swift Current-Maple Creek.

**Mr. McIntosh:** Mr. Speaker, I merely wish to repeat my inquiry regarding question No. 305, which the parliamentary secretary said he would look into.

**Mr. Jerome:** We looked into question No. 305, Your Honour, and expect to be prepared to answer it next week.

**Mr. Douglas:** Mr. Speaker, the other day I asked the parliamentary secretary about motion No. 42 which simply calls for the tabling of a single document. The motion has been on the order paper since March 15 and the parliamentary secretary said he would look into the matter. I wonder if he has any report to make.

**Mr. Jerome:** We will do it, Your Honour.

**Mr. Southam:** Mr. Speaker, I would ask the parliamentary secretary if he can tell me when question No. 240, standing in my name on the order paper since March 1, will be answered. It deals with a straightforward, uncontroversial question regarding the unit train experiment. When may I expect an answer?

**Mr. Jerome:** Mr. Speaker, I have made a note of the number and will comment next Wednesday.

**Mr. Korchinski:** Mr. Speaker, I refer again to questions 255 and 278, of March 2 and March 6. Has any progress been made on them?

• (1420)

**Mr. Jerome:** I have made a note of them.

**Mr. Broadbent:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question on the order paper, No. 425, asking for perfectly harmless information about financial assistance to some 95 corporations in Canada. Since we may have an election before long, I wonder whether steps can be taken so that I may get an answer soon?

**Mr. Jerome:** I will make a note of that, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shall the remaining motions stand?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

[Mr. Woolliams.]

## ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

## DRUGS

LE DAIN COMMISSION REPORT ON CANNABIS—GOVERNMENT POSITION ON RECOMMENDATION THAT SIMPLE POSSESSION NOT BE AN OFFENCE—REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare with regard to the report on cannabis that he tabled a few minutes ago. Specifically, what is the position of the government with regard to the recommendation of the commission that the prohibition against the simple possession of cannabis should be repealed?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, the government has, through me, just received the report from the commission this morning and we have not had a chance to consider it yet.

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

**Mr. Stanfield:** In view of the minister's great interest in this whole subject and the length of time during which these questions have been before the government and the people for consideration, when will the minister be making a statement in the House with regard to the government's position on these recommendations?

**Mr. Munro:** Mr. Speaker, I hope the government will have a chance to study the report and consider it very seriously. It has very serious implications in terms of a social problem in Canada of tremendous concern. As soon as we have gone through that process, I am sure an announcement will be made. I would not want to leave the impression, as suggested by the Leader of the Opposition, that a great deal has not been done by the government to combat this problem. That is far from the truth.

**Mr. Stanfield:** Mr. Speaker, I can only assume that the minister has a guilty conscience because I made no reference to that at all. When is the minister going to stop horsing around with regard to this report and make a statement on the government's position.

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

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway on a supplementary.

**Mr. Woolliams:** Mr. Speaker, listening to the Minister of—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I thought the hon. member for Vancouver-Kingsway was rising on a supplementary.

**Mrs. MacInnis:** It is not a supplementary, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North):** Mr. Speaker, I have been listening to the Minister of National Health and Welfare and the way he seems to vacillate. Will he now make a clearcut statement and advise the House whether he will be prepared, after studying the report, to make a