

the hon. member are internal working papers prepared for ministers by departmental officials and as such as considered to be privileged documents. In view of this information I hope the hon. member will consider withdrawing his motion.

**Mr. Saltsman:** Mr. Speaker, I think I should like to have this transferred for debate. The minister's point is not very compelling.

**Mr. Speaker:** Transferred for debate.

#### PHARMACEUTICALS AND DRUGS—REMOVAL OF SALES TAX

Motion No. 176—**Mr. Saltsman:**

That an Order of the House do issue for copies of any reports, reviews or studies of the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs regarding the removal of the federal sales tax on pharmaceuticals and drugs.

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, the reports, reviews or studies referred to by the hon. member in this motion consist of working sheets and memoranda composed for internal use in the department. As such they are privileged documents. In view of this I would ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

**Mr. Saltsman:** Transfer for debate, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Transferred for debate.

#### REPORT ON WATER

Motion No. 182—**Mr. Harding:**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the interdepartmental committee report on water referred to by the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources as reported in *Hansard*, November 4, 1969 on page 468.

**Mr. R. J. Orange (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources):** Mr. Speaker, with reference to the hon. member's motion I have to advise that no such report is available as the interdepartmental committee on water has not yet completed its study of this matter of water pollution through the input of phosphates. As the minister stated in the House of Commons on November 4, he is to receive the ICW recommendations as to appropriate federal government action in this regard and to submit them to cabinet for its consideration. I would therefore ask the hon. member to withdraw his motion.

#### *Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Harding:** Mr. Speaker, I will withdraw the motion at this time and submit it later when the report is available.

**Mr. Speaker:** The motion is dropped.

Order discharged and motion withdrawn.

#### FISH AND GAME LAWS IN RELATION TO INDIANS

Motion No. 243—**Mr. Howard (Skeena):**

That an Order of the House do issue for a copy of the report of the interdepartmental committee, the establishment of which was announced on March 29, 1965, which studied the question of fish and game laws as they relate to Native Indians.

**Mr. Russell C. Honey (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** Mr. Speaker, the minister stated, as recorded in *Hansard* for November 6, 1968, in reply to an identical motion by the hon. member that the report deals with privileged papers and cannot be tabled in the House. I would therefore ask the hon. member to withdraw the motion.

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, that request and the position that the government took earlier about its coloured slides simply show how two-faced and hypocritical the government is about giving information.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is the motion to be withdrawn or transferred for debate?

**Mr. Howard (Skeena):** No, Mr. Speaker, it is not dropped. I want it transferred for debate.

**Mr. Speaker:** Transferred for debate.

### ORAL QUESTION PERIOD

#### THE CANADIAN ECONOMY

##### INFLATION—EXPECTED HIGHER PRICES IN 1970—INQUIRY AS TO ACTION

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I am delighted that we have the Minister of Finance here in person and not merely on a slide—

**Mr. Benson:** In living colour!

**Mr. Stanfield:** —although I might get just as much information out of a slide. I would like to ask him a question that the Acting Prime Minister could not answer yesterday. In view of the report by the Purchasing Management Association of Canada which reveals