

ing the medical effects of the use of marijuana and, if so, when will he be in a position to inform the House of the findings?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Yes, Mr. Speaker. Money is available to various scientists in Canada for study and research having to do with the effects of marijuana on humans. Some experiments are going on, first, with a view to ascertaining its effect on animals, and the findings will then be related to the study affecting humans. I do not know precisely when the results will be made public.

I should like to point out that the commission inquiring into the non-medical use of drugs has money available to it for similar studies. As the hon. member may know, it is expected to make an interim report some time in January and a final report about a year and a half later.

### ECONOMIC COUNCIL

#### REDUCTION OF PERMANENT SECRETARIAT, EMPLOYMENT OF OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS

**Mr. Heath Macquarrie (Hillsborough):** I should like to direct a question to the President of the Treasury Board, Mr. Speaker. Has the Economic Council of Canada been asked to reduce its permanent secretariat and to refrain from entering into contracts with outside consultants?

**Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board):** The Economic Council, like other departments and agencies of the government, has been given a budget for the next fiscal year. In some instances this will result in a reduction of staff; in some instances it will result in changes in programs, and in other instances it will involve changes in the practice of hiring consultants. The determination of which of these courses of action is to be followed is left largely to the agency.

**Mr. Macquarrie:** May I ask whether this important body has made representations to the effect that its work might be inhibited and proscribed by these respective suggestions?

**Mr. Drury:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, such representations have been made and given consideration.

### Inquiries of the Ministry

#### SPORTS

##### TELEVISION OF FOOTBALL PLAY-OFFS

**Mr. Len Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo):** I have a question for the Secretary of State, Mr. Speaker. Thousands of Canadians who receive only television coverage provided by the CBC will be able to see only four or perhaps five of the eight Canadian Football League play-off games, which is a great injustice to them. Would the minister contact the management of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and urge that all eight games be carried on the full network?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member has made a representation. He has to assume he has the support of all hon. members and that this will be looked into by the appropriate minister.

#### PUBLIC BUILDINGS

##### NATIONAL DEFENCE COMPLEX—ASSURANCE RESPECTING ESCALATION OF COST

**Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington):** I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Public Works, Mr. Speaker. It has to do with the tender recently let to build a national defence complex at a cost of \$27 million. Can the minister assure the House that the final cost of this building will not escalate to \$135 million, or five times the estimate, as was the case with the National Arts Centre?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. The question as asked is argumentative.

##### HEIGHT OF STRUCTURES NEAR PEACE TOWER

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, my question is also for the Minister of Public Works and it is on the same subject, but I hope in order. In view of the announcement that a \$27 million national defence headquarters is to be built in centre town in place of the national defence tower at LeBreton flats, which was to have cost \$90 million and would have been higher than the Peace Tower, may I ask the Minister of Public Works whether he can assure the House that there are no plans for any buildings in the immediate proximity of this building that would be taller than the Peace Tower of this building?

**Hon. Arthur Laing (Minister of Public Works):** Yes, Mr. Speaker, I think that assurance can be given.