

responsible to assure us that the discrimination against the Cape Breton miners would cease. I would point to *Hansard* to verify that the minister accepts the statement that discrimination has been practised. I ask the Prime Minister whether when choosing a replacement for Mr. Fullerton he will assure that whoever takes over as chairman of the Devco board will stop the discrimination carried on against Cape Breton miners, as indicated by the minister yesterday.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Orlikow).

Mr. MacInnis: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order arising from the answer I got from the minister yesterday. I would call the attention of the Prime Minister, and his just society, to answers given to me by the minister. In answering my question about discrimination, the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion said:

Mr. Speaker, there is no discrimination at all in respect of these plans.

A further question brought this answer from the minister:

These are isolated cases.

This is a definite indication that the minister recognizes there is discrimination against the Cape Breton miners, and I would ask the Prime Minister and his just society to do something about it.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member is now making a representation, and he has to assume that it will be taken into consideration.

DRUGS

ALLEGED INEFFECTIVENESS OF PRESCRIPTION PRODUCT

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Given the similarity of drug production in Canada and the United States, could the minister indicate to the house whether his department is investigating the results of the study released yesterday, prepared for the United States Food and Drug Directorate, which showed that large numbers of prescription drugs were ineffective; and if so, would he make a statement on motions regarding what action his department will be taking?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member will agree that his question is acceptable

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only in the sense that he is asking whether the minister will make a statement on motions. To that extent the question is in order.

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): I shall be glad to consider making a statement.

LABOUR RELATIONS

B.C. TELEPHONE STRIKE—POSSIBILITY OF MINISTERIAL INTERVENTION

Mr. Ray Perrault (Burnaby-Seymour): My question is for the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour, Mr. Speaker. Is the Parliamentary Secretary in a position to inform the house whether in view of the increasingly serious nature of the telephone strike in British Columbia any action by the Minister of Labour is anticipated in the next 24 hours to assist both sides to reach an agreement?

Mr. Jim McNulty (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Labour): There has been no official request for federal intervention, but I can assure both parties in this dispute that if such a request is forthcoming we are ready to render assistance at any time. The house may not be surprised to learn that the Minister of Labour, who is in the west on official business at the present time, may be in informal contact with either or both of the parties.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

INQUIRY AS TO SUMMER EMPLOYMENT FOR STUDENTS

Mr. David Lewis (York South): I have a question to address to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, Mr. Speaker. It arises out of a statement the minister made in this house on March 25 in which he said his department was considering a government program this summer to assist students, not merely to obtain jobs but also to obtain jobs which would have a socially meaningful content. I should like to ask the minister whether such a program has been initiated and, if so, how many students are now involved in it?

Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): As I recollect, I was referring to a long term consideration presently under way with respect to a possible program of this nature in a future year. It is not proposed to introduce a program of this kind during the present year, but it is one of the alternatives now under consideration.