

*Inquiries of the Ministry***COMBINES**

DRUGS—INQUIRY AS TO REPORT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether I might direct a question to the Minister of Justice and ask him when we might have before us a report of the restrictive trade practices commission regarding the activities of certain pharmaceutical houses.

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member will amplify to me the reference he has made, I will be glad to deal further with his inquiry.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Speaker, may I ask—

Mr. Pearson: Mr. Speaker, may I ask the Prime Minister when the government expects to receive—

Mr. Speaker: Order. Is the hon. member's question a true supplementary?

Mr. Howard: Yes, indeed; not a bootlegged one. In fact, Mr. Speaker, it is a reply to the question posed to me by the Minister of Justice, to identify the report. It is the report of the restrictive trade practices commission into the pricing policies—and I use their words—of certain pharmaceutical houses with respect to, notably antibiotics and tranquilizers.

Mr. Fleming (Eglinton): Mr. Speaker, I am informed that the restrictive trade practices commission has made considerable progress toward completion of its complicated task in this case, but I have as yet received no indication as to when the report will be made. The hon. member will realize, of course, that this work has necessarily been pursued concurrently with that in other inquiries, including for example those with respect to which four reports were tabled at the beginning of this session.

PENITENTIARIES

DORCHESTER, N.B.—REPORTED UNSATISFACTORY SITUATION

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Donald M. Fleming (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, may I refer to a question the hon. member for Skeena asked last Friday, September 28, concerning the Dorchester penitentiary.

My response to his question, which is found at page 18 of *Hansard*, is that inspections of this institution in recent months by the commissioner of penitentiaries and other members of the staff of the penitentiaries service

[Mr. Speaker.]

have not indicated any inmate unrest of a serious nature. A very recent report from the warden confirms that the general situation at Dorchester penitentiary is satisfactory. That statement, of course, must be interpreted having regard to a general condition of overcrowding that obtains in all the maximum security institutions.

Concerning the need for additional security officers, I may say that four new appointments to the staff were authorized on September 28, bringing the total custodial establishment to 110.

TRANSPORT

NEWFOUNDLAND—REDUCTION OF SERVICE DURING WINTER MONTHS

On the orders of the day:

Hon. Leon Balcer (Minister of Transport): On Friday last the hon. member for Burin-Burgeo asked a question concerning train service in Newfoundland. In reply to his inquiry, I have checked my files and find that up to now no representations have been received in my office in this connection from chambers of commerce or other groups.

In the meantime I have been in touch with the management of the Canadian National Railways and am advised that the reduction during the winter months is simply an adjustment designed to bring the service provided in line with the demand for it during that period, and is similar to action being taken in various parts of the country.

NATURAL RESOURCES

LAND AND WATER USE PROGRAM—REPORTED STATEMENT BY MINISTER

On the orders of the day:

Mr. D. M. Fisher (Port Arthur): I should like to ask the Minister of Agriculture if he would care to comment on a story by Walter Gray in today's *Globe and Mail* that much to his chagrin the government's legislative program did not include a national land and water use program.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is surely aware that the orders of the day are not a period during which members may demonstrate that they are up on their daily newspapers. In addition, I doubt whether this actually comes within the ministerial responsibility of the Minister of Agriculture.