

Inquiries of the Ministry

the Minister of National Health and Welfare dealing with our national sport, hockey. In view of the fact that the Orillia Terriers were defeated in the final game for the Allan Cup emblematic of the amateur senior hockey championship of Canada, and that the final series was played in the United States and won by a United States team for the first time in the 62 years of the cup's history, will the minister give consideration under the physical fitness program to assisting in the provision of adequate coaching?

Mr. Speaker: I am not sure whether or not hon. members would want the minister to reply to this important question. I am not sure how urgent it is. It may be another 62 years before the question comes up again, but perhaps the minister might be allowed to reply.

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I would be pleased to bring the hon. member's observation to the attention of Hockey Canada to see what can be done about the matter.

HEALTH AND WELFARE**CYCLAMATE BAN—SAFETY OF SUBSTITUTE SWEETENERS**

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): While I am on my feet, Mr. Speaker, I should like to answer an earlier question of the hon. member for Simcoe North concerning cyclamates. I would advise that no new artificial sweeteners have been cleared for use in Canada under the Food and Drug Act since the decision was made to phase out the use of cyclamates in foods in October, 1969. Saccharin, which was already listed among the acceptable food additives in the regulations under the Food and Drug Act, is being used in some instances in dietetic food products. In others, manufacturers have been able to reformulate their products by employing sorbitol and/or naturally occurring flavouring materials. Long-term feeding tests to confirm the safety of saccharin for use as an artificial sweetener are now under way in the laboratories of the Food and Drug Directorate of my department.

B.C. HOSPITAL INSURANCE SERVICES—ALLEGED MISMANAGEMENT OF FEDERAL CONTRIBUTIONS—REQUEST FOR INQUIRY

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Speaker. In [Mr. Rynard.]

view of the critical hospital care situation in British Columbia and in view of serious charges of mismanagement of federal contributions to the British Columbia Hospital Insurance Services levelled against the government of British Columbia by the British Columbia Hospital Employees Union, will the minister appoint a federal commission or committee to inquire into the hospital situation in British Columbia?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): I shall be pleased to take the matter under consideration, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

CONSUMER AFFAIRS**PUBLICITY RESPECTING RECOURSE AGAINST FINANCE COMPANIES**

Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

Could he tell the House whether he intends to carry out a publicity campaign for the purpose of informing Canadian consumers of their rights in the matter of remedy at law against finance companies who go too far?

[English]

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member knows, there is legislation before the House, now referred to the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee, dealing with amendments to the Bills of Exchange Act which will fundamentally change and improve the rights of consumers in regard to time payment contracts. Following passage of that bill we plan to use our information services to make sure that consumers are made aware of their newly acquired rights.

CRIMINAL CODE**INQUIRY AS TO AMENDMENTS RESPECTING SEIZURE OF AIRCRAFT**

Hon. J. A. MacLean (Malpeque): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Justice. Is it his intention to introduce amendments to the Criminal Code in the near future which would make the seizure of aircraft and the carrying aboard of explosives or weapons specific crimes?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, yesterday I had a meeting with