

*Health Insurance*

That is another feature which is contrary to our provincial set up. In the province of British Columbia it is necessary to have been a resident of the province for one year before you become eligible for hospital insurance and I think when you examine the situation you will agree there is nothing seriously wrong with that provision.

Under all other insurance schemes I know of, either private or provincial, the premiums are payable in advance at which time the insured person is covered, but in British Columbia the premium is not paid until you have lived in the province for one year. During the time you are resident there you pay 2 per cent in the form of sales tax on the purchases you make and this represents your contribution to the health insurance fund. I believe that these points should be given further consideration. I am sure it will be the desire of the minister to cooperate fully in seeing that these difficulties are ironed out.

British Columbia was the first province to signify its willingness to accept the federal scheme in principle, but now that the bill has come forward and a careful study of it has been made it is found that it will be impossible under the system now in operation in British Columbia to comply with the regulations attached to the federal proposal as this would involve a complete change in our provincial system. I therefore suggest that the subamendment I have just read be presented for the consideration of the house and that these matters be given further serious consideration.

**Mr. Martin:** I can assure my hon. friend that the points he has mentioned with which I am familiar could be arranged in the regulations through negotiations that we will have with the province.

**Mr. McLeod:** Mr. Speaker, I want a vote on it just the same. The one vote will cover them all. It will not make any difference in the time consumed. We appreciate the words of the minister and I am sure that such will be done. We may as well cover it all in the one vote.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is the house ready for the question?

**Mr. Fleming:** Mr. Speaker, I wish to raise a point of order. I contend that this proposed amendment is not a proper amendment to the amendment that is now under debate. It could be introduced as a separate amendment after my amendment is disposed of but in my submission it is not a proper amendment to the amendment.

The amendment that is now under debate relates to a particular subject, namely, the

definition of "hospital" contained in the bill and the debate has proceeded very clearly within the confines of that subject, the inclusion of certain kinds of hospitals and the exclusion of other kinds; but the amendment introduced by the hon. member for Okanagan-Revelstoke (Mr. McLeod) proposes to take in three other subjects dealt with in the bill which have absolutely no relation whatever to the subject of the amendment I moved.

**Mr. Martin:** I think the hon. member for Okanagan-Revelstoke did not mean to do that. I appreciate what the hon. member for Eglinton is saying. We might deal with his amendment first. I do not think the hon. member for Okanagan-Revelstoke meant that we should not deal with them separately.

**Mr. Fleming:** Whatever his intention was he certainly introduced his amendment as an amendment to my amendment. Either the hon. member must withdraw his amendment or, in my submission, it should be ruled out of order, Mr. Speaker.

The three matters that he proposes to add to the specific reference contained in my amendment include clause 2(f) which is the definition of "in-patient services", a quite different subject matter from the hospital institutions that are excluded; the next matter is section 4 subsection (a) which relates to the basis of federal contributions under the whole scheme—

**Mr. Martin:** Mr. Speaker, may I intervene at this point. I have just spoken to the hon. member for Okanagan-Revelstoke and he agrees that the amendment of the hon. member for Eglinton should proceed first. The hon. gentleman will withdraw his amendment for the time being.

**Mr. Fleming:** If the hon. member for Okanagan-Revelstoke is withdrawing his amendment I do not need to say any more because section 8 deals with the regulations and is still further removed from the subject matter of my amendment.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** I have read the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Okanagan-Revelstoke. I understand that the hon. gentleman wishes to withdraw his amendment.

**An hon. Member:** He has not said so yet.

**Mr. McLeod:** Mr. Speaker, we wish to comply with the rules of the house. I was simply adding the contents of my amendment to the amendment moved by the hon. member for Eglinton. It was not my intention to destroy the hon. member's amendment and I was just adding to it. However if you rule