

LAYING OF CHARGES IN OFFENCES INVOLVING
USE OF L.S.D.

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Justice a question of national importance which affects the youth of our nation, particularly those who have been visiting national parks in Canada. There has been a considerable amount of trafficking in a new chemical which contains l.s.d. and dozens of young people over the holiday were on various "trips", involving lawlessness in Banff and other places in Canada. Can the minister now assure us that the new act is in force, so that this chemical will be covered, enabling the police to lay charges against those traffickers and thereby protect the youth of our nation?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, there are provisions in the amendments to the Narcotics Control Act and the Food and Drugs Act to which royal assent was given last Friday which will provide law enforcement authorities with some effective control over the distribution and use of l.s.d.

Mr. Woolliams: I should like to ask a supplementary question because the information I have is that more than 100 youths were affected in Banff. Will the minister take it upon himself, through his department, to carry out an investigation in Banff to make certain that this new chemical which contains large amounts of l.s.d. is covered by the new law in order that the youth will be protected?

Mr. Turner: I am looking to my colleague the Minister of National Health and Welfare for confirmation of what I have said. The new substance which has been drawn to the attention of the hon. member for Calgary North containing l.s.d. was the cause of some concern both to the Department of National Health and Welfare and to the Department of Justice for some time. It is covered. I would imagine that the administration of justice on a daily basis in these two national parks would now best be left to the Attorney General of Alberta.

[Later:]

Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. When I was replying to the hon. member for Calgary North I may have misled him in my final reference to the provincial attorney-general. The hon. member knows that prosecutions under the Narcotic Control Act and the Food and Drugs Act are undertaken by the federal Attorney-General.

Inquiries of the Ministry
PUBLIC SERVICEMEDICARE—DISCONTINUANCE OF EMPLOYER
CONTRIBUTION IN PROVINCES
IMPLEMENTING PLAN

Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the President of the Treasury Board whether he can advise the house that a decision was taken and has been implemented by the government to discontinue its employer's contribution to the cost of basic health programs under G.S.M.I.P. in the case of members of the public service of Canada residing in any province which is implementing the federal medicare plan on a compulsory annual fee basis, such as in Alberta?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, that is a quite complicated question and I will take it as notice.

RESEARCH

REQUEST FOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF
SCIENCE POLICY

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, in view of the discussions the President of the Treasury Board has had recently with the examiners from O.E.C.D. who pointed out the lack of research and development in Canada and indicated that multi-national control of much of Canadian industry is responsible for it, and in view of the statement made by the Science Council regarding its dissatisfaction with our science and research development program, will the minister make a statement to the house about government policy in the field of science before the house rises for summer recess?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, I am not sure there will be an occasion within the time limit to do this. I will point out that three of the assumptions made by the hon. gentleman appear to be wrong. In the first place, the Science Council of Canada is not dissatisfied with the quality but rather the quantity or quantum of research and development in this country. The O.E.C.D. examiners likewise were not dissatisfied with the quality or, even to some degree, the quantity. In their view we were doing a satisfactory job on a relative basis in relation to other countries at which they looked. I repeat, I do not know that there will be an occasion to make such a