May 13, 1966

Inquiries of the Ministry HEALTH AND WELFARE

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON CONTROL OF DRUG LSD

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): I do not know whether I should direct this question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare or to the Minister of Justice. Whichever minister feels he has jurisdiction over what I am about to raise could perhaps deal with it.

My question is based upon an article which appeared in this morning's Globe and Mail relating to what is believed to be the first arrest resulting in a charge of a person selling the hallucinating drug lysergic acid diethylamide, known as LSD, which it is illegal to possess in Canada. This arrest was made in Vancouver.

I wonder if the minister would indicate what steps are being taken to detect the possession of this drug, to prevent its further dissemination and to prevent trafficking in it.

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): This is a rather involved question, Mr. Speaker. With the permission of the house I should like to make a statement on this question, now or early next week

An hon. Member: Now.

Mr. Howard: The minister, I take it, is asking for permission to revert to motions. We might do that, I submit, because of the REQUEST THAT FUNDS BE MADE AVAILABLE importance of this matter.

Mr. Speaker: Is the minister seeking permission to revert to motions?

Mr. MacEachen: In reply to the question asked by the hon. member, I should like to make the statement on Monday.

OLD AGE SECURITY

INQUIRY AS TO INCREASE OF \$25 A MONTH

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): My question is directed to the Minister of Trade and Commerce. In view of recent information regarding pension plans, both private and public, I wonder whether the minister would not use his good offices to influence the government to increase old age security payments by \$25 a month.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. [Miss LaMarsh.]

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

REVIEW OF REPORT ON JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. S. J. Enns (Portage-Neepawa): Mr. Speaker, last week I addressed a question to the Minister of Justice. The question dealt with juvenile delinquency, and the minister reminded me that that subject comes within the portfolio of the Solicitor General.

The question appears at page 4725 of Hansard. I bring it to the attention of the Solicitor General. It simply asks what progress is being made by his department in studying the report on juvenile delinquency tabled in this house two months ago, and inquires what consideration is being given to forwarding the very helpful recommendations contained in that report to the departments of justice and legal affairs.

Hon. L. T. Pennell (Solicitor General): Within the office of the Solicitor General a study is being conducted at this time; but it is apparent from paragraphs 65-67 of the report that certain constitutional questions present themselves, and for this reason an interdepartmental committee composed of members from the Departments of Health and Welfare, Justice, Finance and the Solicitor General has now been brought into being.

HOUSING

THROUGH CORPORATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Reid Scott (Danforth): May I direct a question to the Minister of Labour in his capacity as the minister who answers for the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation? In view of the worsening crisis in the housing industry in Canada caused by the lack of mortgage money-for example, in the Toronto area-

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member knows he cannot accompany his question by statements and I believe this is what he is trying to do, now. He should address his question directly to the minister.

Mr. Scott (Danforth): I was just about to do so. In view of what I have indicated in my preface, is the minister prepared to reconsider his position and take responsibility for making sure that sufficient mortgage funds are available to keep the building industry operating?