

## Oral Questions

## FINANCE

POSSIBILITY OF DISCUSSION OF BUDGET WITH NEW  
DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADER PRIOR TO DELIVERY

**Hon. Alvin Hamilton (Qu'Appelle-Moose Mountain):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Finance. In view of the statements he made yesterday on the television show, would the minister confirm to the House whether he did or did not have discussions with the leader of the New Democratic Party on the budget before the budget speech was delivered?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. I will, of course, allow the minister to reply to the hon. member's question as I have shown some leniency in regard to questions asked earlier this afternoon about the statements made outside the House. As hon. members know, it is long established practice that normally questions are asked only of the Prime Minister to inquire whether statements made by ministers outside the House represent government policy. However, as the question has been asked the minister may wish to reply.

**Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I can confirm that before the budget I discussed budget measures neither with the leader of the New Democratic Party nor the leader of the hon. member's party.

**Mr. Woolliams:** Why did he say that you did?

**Mr. Turner (Ottawa-Carleton):** He did not say that.

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## HEALTH

STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH PROVINCES ON  
PROVISION OF CHRONIC CARE IN NURSING HOMES

**Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare and he may want to make his reply on motions. In view of mounting hospital costs and the federal government commitment in this field, would the minister state whether general agreement has been reached with the provinces for providing chronic care in nursing homes to relieve hospital overstay or in the prevention of illness leading to a cutdown in hospital admissions?

[Translation]

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, we recently had a meeting on that subject with representatives of provinces. The federal government made a proposal in view of easing health services and specifically developing less expensive services such as mentioned by the hon. member, as compared with the very expensive hospital services. If the provinces agree to the formula we proposed, we hope there will be a substantial reduction in health service costs in Canada.

[English]

**Mr. Rynard:** Mr. Speaker, I will debate this question at ten o'clock.

[Mr. Basford.]

REPRESENTATION OF YUKON AND NORTHWEST TERRITORIES COUNCILS AT RECENT CONFERENCE—  
TRANSFER OF JURISDICTION OVER SERVICES TO TERRITORIES

**Mr. Erik Nielsen (Yukon):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary for the same minister. Were the elected bodies in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories represented at the conference of which he speaks, and what is the time frame within which federal health services will be transferred from federal jurisdiction to the jurisdiction of the governments of either the Yukon or the Northwest Territories?

[Translation]

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, in reply to the first question, that was a federal-provincial conference of ministers of finance and of health and the Northwest Territories and Yukon were not represented as such.

Replying to the second question, the matter has been under discussion for many years between the federal government and authorities involved, and is permanently under review.

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[English]

## TRANSPORT

REQUEST THAT RAILWAYS REINTRODUCE "O CANADA"  
TRAIN WHISTLES

**Mr. Ian Arrol (York East):** Mr. Speaker, I should like, with my question, to introduce a note of harmony if it would not be out of order today. I should like to ask the Minister of Transport a musical question. In view of the importance of promoting any good idea in aid of Canadian unity and the Canadian identity, could consideration be given to encouraging the railway systems of Canada to reintroduce the unique "O Canada" train whistle refrain that was so popular in the year of Canada's centennial?

**Mr. Speaker:** I suggest that the hon. member's question ought normally to be placed on the order paper. However, since it is intended to bring some harmony to the House the minister might be allowed to reply briefly.

**Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I shall be happy to discuss that with the presidents of the two railway companies.

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## DRUGS

REQUEST FOR LIST OF DRUGS THAT FAILED TO MEET  
TESTS AND NAMES OF COMPANIES

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Will his department make public the list of drugs that failed to meet the standards set by his department in its QUAD tests, as well as the companies by whom they were manufactured?