

*Oral Questions*

tres. I think the record of the corporation has been quite commendable. I am not minimizing the fact that there may be problems, but in terms of the over-all thrust of the corporation, in my judgment it has served this country well.

CONTRIBUTION OF DR. BOGGS AS DIRECTOR—POSSIBILITY  
NEW DIRECTOR WILL BE A PROFESSIONAL

**Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal):** Mr. Speaker, I too have a question for the Secretary of State. I wonder whether he could say something about the contribution made by Dr. Boggs to the cultural life of this country and whether her successor will be a professional?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Hon. James Hugh Faulkner (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, the question asked previously was about the corporation. I have said many times that Dr. Boggs' contribution not only to the National Gallery but to the cultural life of this country has been exceptional. It has been at the very highest level. I think the legacy of Dr. Boggs is found in the gallery today in the level of curators and research staff we have there as well as the obvious thrust toward the purchase of Canadian art. Everyone in the government, and on the other side as well, would, I am sure, want to join with me in saying that she has made a marvellous contribution to Canada.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Faulkner:** I can also confess that certain efforts were made to try to make her stay.

On the question of a successor, Mr. Speaker, a search committee has been formed and the decision by the chairman of the board of trustees is to make that search as wide as possible to cover all areas of interest in the gallery—artists through museum directors, etc. It will be a wide comprehensive search with the fullest possible participation.

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### VETERANS AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO ENSURE SERVICE TO VETERANS  
IN BRITISH COLUMBIA IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE STRIKE OF  
HOSPITAL WORKERS

**Mr. Bill Clarke (Vancouver Quadra):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Fortunately, the action taken by the British Columbia government yesterday has given a 21-day cooling off period but I should like to ask the minister what plans the government has to guarantee uninterrupted service to the hundreds of war veterans in hospitals in Vancouver in view of the prolonged hospital workers' strike in that province which has spread to seven of the hospitals in greater Vancouver?

**Hon. Daniel J. MacDonald (Minister of Veterans Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, we have had no problem in British Columbia or many other provinces up to this time. In the past when we have had interruptions as a result of profes-

[Mr. Faulkner.]

sional people going on strike, sufficient people have usually been retained by law to look after our veteran patients.

**Mr. Clarke:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the minister's concern and I should like to ask if he will ensure—even though they have had no problem until now—that the service will continue uninterrupted in the event of the resumption of this strike?

**Mr. MacDonald (Cardigan):** Mr. Speaker, we are always very close to the situation. When our transfers are completed there is always a guarantee in there for care of patients. We have people situated in those hospitals who are responsible for the care of veterans. I can assure the hon. member that my department will be checking this. As of today, we will look into the situation.

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### SPORTS

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PRE-OLYMPIC BASKETBALL  
TOURNAMENT AT HAMILTON

**Mr. Gus MacFarlane (Hamilton Mountain):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. I wonder whether he or someone in his department could say whether there has been any confirmation of financial assistance to the pre-Olympic basketball tournament which is to be held in Hamilton? The people of Hamilton are quite interested in this in view of their recent wonderful experience in Montreal when the Hamilton Finn Cups won the memorial cup?

**Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I have received numerous representations on this particular subject. I am pleased to confirm that I have approved a subsidy of \$30,000 for the holding of these games.

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### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

POSSIBILITY OF MERGING OFFICES WITH MANPOWER  
CENTRES—GOVERNMENT POSITION

**Mr. J. R. Ellis (Hastings):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. About a month ago I asked a question regarding joining together Canada Manpower centres and unemployment insurance offices. At that time the minister said he had previously answered that question. I looked back in *Hansard* and found that in fact he had put off the answer. Now that he has had a couple of months' respite, could the minister indicate to the House if he intends to join the function of the Canadian Manpower Centres and the unemployment insurance centres?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I have indicated that we are seriously examining this option. If and when a decision to do so is made, it will be made public and in this House.