

*Medicare*

the minister a question. What did the union which represents the broadcasters have to say regarding this decision and, second, what qualifications has Mr. Burke, great as they are, to take the place of one who throughout the years has been able to enunciate the news and place before the people of Canada what is taking place day after day in a way which has met with general approval? Why change it?

**Miss LaMarsh:** Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to appear to be flippant about this matter because it is obvious from correspondence that a number of people would prefer to continue on with what has been the practice in the past, and retain Mr. Cameron. There really seems to be little more information I can obtain. It is within the C.B.C.'s responsibility to manage and they have decided in the news department to try a new look. While I am quite aware of what my right hon. friend and members of the public are saying, I really feel I have no right to interfere in this matter and can only report to him what the situation is.

## GENERAL POLICY IN ANNOUNCING NEWS

On the orders of the day:

**Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Secretary of State):** To answer a further query of the right hon. gentleman, the C.B.C. news will continue to be governed, as it has been since the establishment of the service in January, 1941, by the following policy directive:

Integrity of C.B.C. News: The policy which guides operations of the C.B.C. National News Service is based on the primary conception that the service is in the nature of a public trust: to present by radio and television all the significant news of the day's happening in Canada and abroad factually, without bias or distortion, without tendentious comment, and in a clear and unambiguous style.

● (3:20 p.m.)

## HEALTH AND WELFARE

## MEDICARE—AUTHORIZATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD COST OF INSURED MEDICAL CARE

The house resumed, from Monday, November 28, consideration in committee of Bill No. C-227, to authorize the payment of contributions by Canada toward the cost of insured medical care services incurred by provinces pursuant to provincial medical care insurance plans—Mr. MacEachen—Mr. Batten in the chair.

On subclause (d)—“insured services”.

**The Chairman:** When the committee rose last evening we were dealing with subclause [Mr. Diefenbaker.]

(d) of clause 2 and the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre. If it is the wish of the committee, I am prepared at this time to make a ruling on the amendment.

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Caouette:** I am in agreement as long as I do not lose my right to speak afterwards.

**The Chairman:** First of all, I should like to thank hon. members for the contributions which they have made to the discussion in respect of whether or not the amendment before the committee at this time is valid. Much of the discussion which followed the moving of the present amendment by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre centred around the desirability of including in insured services the services of optometrists. As I pointed out on an earlier occasion, this is not a matter to be decided by the Chair. What will be or will not be included must be defined by the bill itself.

The question to be decided by the Chair is whether or not the present amendment is procedurally correct, and whether it involves charges or obligations over and above what was authorized by the resolution which preceded Bill No. C-227 and which was adopted by the house on July 12, 1966.

The hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre, in supporting his amendment, quoted from *Beauchesne's* third edition, page 439. This citation is similar to section 3 of citation 250 contained in *Beauchesne's* fourth edition and, in my view, applies more directly to proceedings in the committee stage on the resolution than to proceedings on the committee stage of the bill. His further citations from *May's* thirteenth edition are those which have given me greater concern. I have been impressed, too, with the argument presented by the member for Fraser Valley as recorded on page 10473 of *Hansard* and by the hon. member for Greenwood, page 10483 of *Hansard*.

On an earlier occasion I quoted citation 246 of *Beauchesne's* fourth edition with reference to such amendments as we now have before the committee. I should like to quote citation 246 again, or that part of it which is applicable to this particular situation. Citation 246, subsection (3) at page 207 reads as follows:

The guiding principle in determining the effect of an amendment upon the financial initiative of the Crown is that the communication, to which the royal demand of recommendation is attached, must be treated as laying down once and for all (Unless withdrawn and replaced) not only the amount of a charge, but also its objects, purposes, conditions and qualifications.