

**Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Acting Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, this whole matter is the subject of very serious consideration by the government.

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### COMMUNICATIONS

#### TRANSPORT COMMISSION STUDY OF BELL CANADA STRUCTURE—SUGGESTED DEFERMENT OF COMPANY RATE INCREASE APPLICATIONS

**Mr. Arnold Peters (Timiskaming):** I have a question for the Minister of Communications, Mr. Speaker. Is the minister aware of the statement made by his counterpart in Ontario who indicated that there would be a federal inquiry by the Canadian Transport Commission into the Bell structure? If this has been set up, when are the hearings going to be held?

**Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of Communications):** Mr. Speaker, some weeks ago the Canadian Transport Commission announced a study somewhat along the lines mentioned by the Ontario minister. I think the details of it are of public record.

**Mr. Peters:** Would the minister, who is responsible for that section of the Canadian Transport Commission's decisions that affect communications, give consideration to delaying the two or three applications that Bell now has before the commission for rate increases until this inquiry is conducted?

**Mr. Stanbury:** I might, Mr. Speaker, except that the minister does not have authority to delay any such consideration.

**Mr. Peters:** May I ask the minister, who represents members of parliament in dealing with the commission, whether he will convey to the commission the request made in Ontario and the request being made now by members of parliament to have these rate increases delayed until the conclusion of that inquiry?

**Mr. Stanbury:** Mr. Speaker, I think it should be clear, unless I am mistaken, that the minister in Ontario did not request a delay in any consideration of existing applications, but I will be glad to convey the suggestion of the hon. member to the chairman of the CTC.

#### BELL CANADA RATES FOR PRIVATE LINE CONSTRUCTION

**Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton):** I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. When the minister is making this inquiry would he also inquire into Bell rates for private line construction to customers who have to build lines under the supervision of Bell?

**Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of Communications):** Again, Mr. Speaker, this comes under the authority of the Canadian Transport Commission. The authority was given to them by parliament. I would be glad to draw the hon. member's inquiry to the attention of the chairman of the CTC.

### Inquiries of the Ministry

[Translation]

### HOUSING

#### FEDERAL ASSISTANCE FOR REHABILITATION OF HOMES

**Mr. Henry Latulippe (Compton):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs.

Would the minister indicate whether the statement published in the *Globe and Mail* of April 11 is correct concerning loans and grants for house renovation by the federal government?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member knows that he cannot ask the minister to say whether a statement published in the press is correct. Perhaps the question could be considered as having been put directly to the minister and the minister may reply to the hon. member for Compton if he wishes.

**Mr. Latulippe:** Mr. Speaker, a supplementary.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. I suggested that the minister might answer the first question. The hon. member can put his supplementary when the minister has done so.

[English]

**Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs):** Well, Mr. Speaker, the question, put directly, was answered directly and fully last Tuesday. Proposals have been submitted for discussion purposes to the provinces relating to a number of areas of the National Housing Act and we are consulting with them for the purpose of developing a legislative policy which will be introduced in the House.

[Translation]

**Mr. Latulippe:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a supplementary question.

Would the minister tell us whether it is also true that federal funds will be allotted municipal projects in the form of bonds instead of mortgages?

[English]

**Mr. Basford:** No, Mr. Speaker.

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### HEALTH

#### SUMMER OPERATION OF MEDICAL SCHOOLS TO OFFSET SHORTAGE OF DOCTORS

**Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North):** Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the minister's recognition of the great need for more doctors and his paramedical services scheme, will he inform the House what provision he has made to operate Canadian medical schools this summer?

**Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, as I have told the hon. member and as I am sure he is well aware, the operation of medical schools is not within federal jurisdiction but is under provincial control. If anything can be done to increase the output of doctors in our communities