

Inquiries of the Ministry

Since most receipts for charitable donations given by parish priests to Canadian workers have been reduced by the department in the last two years, could the minister tell us whether this period of time has been long enough to lead the people to think that parish priests are liars?

Mr. Speaker: Order. For many reasons, the question is out of order.

[*English*]

HEALTH AND WELFARE**REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF STATUS OF THE BLIND**

On the orders of the day:

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of National Health and Welfare may I direct my question to his parliamentary secretary. Has the national convention of the remembrance association which we honoured two days ago in the gallery, the Silver Cross Women of Canada who gave their husbands and sons, communicated with the minister respectfully requesting the government seriously and immediately to review the status of the blind with respect to their allowances and the rules relating thereto, and requesting that the means test be abolished? If so, what is the government prepared to do?

Mrs. Margaret Rideout (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the government had a representative at the meeting, and I am sure the subject matter of the hon. member's question has been drawn to the minister's attention.

INSULIN—REQUEST FOR PROTECTION OF USERS FOLLOWING PRICE INCREASE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Eric A. Winkler (Grey-Bruce): My question is addressed to the Acting Minister of National Health and Welfare and has to do with something of national interest, the announcement today that pharmacists across the country will increase the price of insulin by up to 100 per cent. Does the government contemplate doing anything about this? Has the situation been looked into, to protect those large numbers of Canadians using insulin?

Mr. Speaker: Order. The hon. member is making a representation which will be noted, I assume.

[Mr. Godin.]

Mr. Winkler: May I ask a supplementary question. May I ask the Prime Minister if it would be possible to submit this matter, because of its national implications, to the standing committee on drug costs and prices?

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): I shall be glad to look into this matter. I assume my hon. friend is referring to the increased price of insulin?

Mr. Winkler: That is correct.

VETERANS AFFAIRS**INQUIRY AS TO REPORT ON PENSION COMMISSION**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Jack McIntosh (Swift Current-Maple Creek): I wish to address a question to the Minister of Veterans Affairs. Has he received the report of the Wood commission? If not, would he advise the house when he expects the commission to submit its report?

Hon. Roger Teillet (Minister of Veterans Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I have not yet received a report; the chairman at present is in Europe and I expect his return this coming week. I shall attempt to obtain an answer to the second part of the question after he returns.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE**CONTINUATION OF DEBATE ON ADDRESS IN REPLY**

The house resumed, from Thursday, May 11, consideration of the motion of Mr. Don Jamieson for an address to His Excellency the Governor General in reply to his speech at the opening of the session, and the amendment thereto of Mr. Diefenbaker.

Hon. Gordon Churchill (Winnipeg South Centre): Mr. Speaker, last night when I unexpectedly entered this debate I made a few remarks about parliament. Because of words that have been spoken in the debate and the interest which is being shown across the country in this institution, I spoke about it, expressing regret that the Prime Minister and the cabinet have been using a certain amount of their time in addressing the public outside this chamber and finding fault with the institution of parliament.

In centennial year of all years I thought we should all draw our people's attention to the values of our parliamentary system. The right hon. Leader of the Opposition has done so repeatedly, as have other hon. members on