

Inquiries of the Ministry

almost four o'clock. The hon. Member for Winnipeg North.

HEALTH AND WELFARE**ETOBICOKE, ONT.—TREATMENT BY DOCTOR OF NARCOTICS ADDICT**

On the orders of the day:

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I have been trying to get the floor for an hour, so I do not think I have to apologize. I wanted to ask the Minister of National Health and Welfare a question, but since she has left the Chamber her Parliamentary Secretary might take it as notice.

I would like to ask the Minister what steps she is taking to revise the administration of the Narcotic Control Act so that doctors who wish to treat narcotic addicts will not be interfered with in their medical treatment by the Department in the way that an Etobicoke doctor was interfered with, and about which Rev. Mr. West, director of the Anglican Correctional Chaplaincy for the Diocese of Toronto wrote to the Minister in such strong terms.

Hon. G. J. McIlraith (President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I think out of fairness to the House this type of question is not one that should be permitted without notice before orders of the day, and to that extent should be put on the order paper.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order. Would the hon. Member put this question on the order paper?

Mr. Orlikow: I would like to debate it at ten o'clock.

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Burnaby-Coquitlam): Mr. Speaker, the President of the Privy Council has raised this matter repeatedly and suggested that Members put questions of this type on the order paper. I point out that this is a matter that affects someone immediately. If anyone looks at the order paper he can see the length of time questions remain on it. Questions have been on it since April 5 and April 6, half a dozen since April 6 and one since April 5. Last session we had questions that were on it for five months.

For the Minister to get up and say that a question which affects someone in a community near Toronto, on which a decision should be made in the course of the next few days or weeks, should be put on the order paper, where it may lie for days if not weeks, is not good enough.

[Mr. Speaker.]

Mr. McIlraith: Mr. Speaker, I think I should clarify my reasons for asking that it be put on the order paper. It is perfectly apparent to any one in the House who listened to the question that it could not be answered without notice, and surely the hon. Member should not be taking up the time of the House asking a question which, by its nature, cannot be answered without notice. Either he should put it on the order paper or give notice of it.

I admit it is an important question, but it is not one which meets the criteria set out in the rule book for questions which are asked before orders of the day are called. That is why I took objection to it, and I think if hon. Members examine the question carefully when they see it in *Hansard* they will realize I would have been remiss in my duty here if I had not pointed that out.

Mr. Orlikow: Mr. Speaker, I want to point out to the President of the Privy Council that this is a matter which was raised today in the lead editorial of the *Globe and Mail*, and the Minister received a letter from the Chaplain working in this field. So the Minister really did not need notice from me, which I gave today, because she knows about the case and she knows the medical association has said that it is useless to try to deal with this question. As far as putting it on the order paper is concerned, when we get into debate today I want to point out to the President of the Privy Council that I have had questions on the order paper for as long as six months.

Some hon. Members: Order.

Mr. Speaker: Order. Perhaps the hon. gentleman would give notice and raise the matter at ten o'clock. The hon. Member for Danforth.

Mr. Reid Scott (Danforth): Mr. Speaker, I wanted to ask a question of the Minister of Justice but he seems to have disappeared.

● (4:00 p.m.)

HOUSE OF COMMONS**AMENDMENT OF STANDING ORDERS
RESPECTING CONDUCT OF
BUSINESS**

The House resumed from Wednesday, June 9, consideration in Committee of the following resolution—Mr. Pearson—Mr. Lamoureux in the Chair:

That the following amendments be made to Standing Orders:

1. That Standing Order 6 be deleted and the following substituted therefor: