

prior to wanting an arbitrator. They may be desirous of having a different arbitrator than the one we have appointed for the non-ops, or they might be agreeable to working out their disputes within the ambit of the present arbitrator. In other words, I would prefer to leave this until I have a further opportunity for discussion.

**DISPUTE WITH RAILWAY SHOPCRAFT EMPLOYEES—
JURISDICTION OF ARBITRATOR TO DEAL WITH PAY**

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): I should like to ask the minister one supplementary question. As I understand it, he has answered the first question in that the appointment of Mr. Justice Hall has been accepted. Could I ask the minister, in view of the fact that a substantial number of the workers in the shopcraft categories are in fact to get an increase of less than 34 cents an hour in pay for this year, whether that matter will come within the jurisdiction of the arbitrator to rule on whether they are entitled to get the full amount.

● (1450)

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): If an arbitrator is appointed with reference to the shopcraft, most definitely yes, Mr. Speaker.

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ENERGY

**GASOLINE—CONTROL OF RETAIL PRICES—GOVERNMENT
POSITION**

Mr. Terry O'Connor (Halton): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources supplementary to those asked earlier. In view of the fact that some retail gas outlets in southern Ontario raised the price of gasoline ten cents per gallon last night, will the government policy in this regard involve any steps to roll back retail prices or prevent further jumping of the gun in anticipation of a freeze?

Hon. Donald S. Macdonald (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I cannot be sure whether they are independents or affiliated to the companies. Of course, the freeze is related to the price of crude oil for sale in markets west of the Ottawa Valley line.

Mr. O'Connor: Mr. Speaker, with the greatest respect, my question relates specifically to retail prices. Is the government going to take any steps in respect of retail prices? I may say to the minister that these are dealers affiliated with companies.

Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale): Mr. Speaker, I pointed out that the government policy related to crude oil prices.

Oral Questions

HEALTH

**FREE DRUGS FOR OLD AGE PENSIONERS—GOVERNMENT
POSITION**

Mr. Robert Muir (Cape Breton-The Sydneys): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. May I ask the hon. gentleman if he can advise what progress is being made with regard to the provision of free prescription drugs for all those Canadians who qualify for old age security and any portion of the guaranteed income supplement?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Those provisions among many others are being discussed in the general review of social security for all Canadians, including aged Canadians.

Mr. Muir: Mr. Speaker, is the minister in a position to advise just how soon this study and review will be going on and how soon we may have some developments in this regard?

Mr. Lalonde: The review is going on now.

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[Translation]

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

**INQUIRY AS TO INFORMATION GIVEN PROVINCIAL
GOVERNMENTS ABOUT CABINET MINISTERS**

Mr. René Matte (Champlain): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the right hon. Prime Minister.

Could the Prime Minister tell the House whether he follows the policy of informing his colleagues, the provincial premiers, when the RCMP or the Solicitor General tell him of some compromising action on the part of cabinet members in a province?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, the question is really too vague for me to be able to reply to it.

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[English]

LABOUR CONDITIONS

**HAMILTON—STRIKE OF GARBAGE COLLECTORS—
REQUEST FOR FEDERAL INTERVENTION**

Mr. Duncan M. Beattie (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In light of the fact that a labour-management dispute which is going on in the city of Hamilton has halted garbage collection for the past seven weeks and in light of the fact that the health inspectors are out on strike also, would the minister inform the House if he would use his good offices to investigate the smelly situation which could reach epidemic proportions if not halted soon. I ask this question notwithstanding the fact that it comes under provincial jurisdiction?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member gave the