

will the minister take immediate steps to establish safety standards for toys so that parents and others can buy them without fear of possible consequences to their children?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, we have been working on this for six months now and hope to draw up a safety standard. The matter is extremely complicated. The British have been working eight years drawing up such a standard. I am confident we will be much quicker than the British.

SPORTS

ASSISTANCE TO CANADIAN SKI PATROL

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): I wish to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. I do so because I understand it comes under his jurisdiction. As a result of my question addressed to the Prime Minister some two weeks ago, has reconsideration been given to granting financial aid to the Canadian Ski Patrol during the present ski season?

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Not that I am aware of, Mr. Speaker.

CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

GERUSSI PROGRAM—ACTION RESPECTING REMARKS BY FRED DOBBS

Mr. W. B. Nesbitt (Oxford): I wish to direct a question to the Secretary of State in his capacity as spokesman in the House for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Will the Secretary of State make inquiries as to why last Friday morning, on the CBC Gerussi program, one Fred Dobbs, a guest of Mr. Gerussi, was cut off the air when he made some unpleasant and unflattering remarks about the Minister of Finance and the figure of \$30 a week compared with a salary of \$800 a week?

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

DISPOSAL OF CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WARFARE INSTRUMENTS

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): I wanted to direct a question to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Speaker, but in his unfortunate absence I will

Inquiries of the Ministry

direct it to the Prime Minister. It relates to the recent statement of the President of the United States having to do with the use of chemicals in war. Can the Prime Minister indicate to the House whether Canada has assurance from the United States that in the course of disposal of the stockpile of chemical and other warfare instruments of this nature the ocean deeps will not be used?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Parliamentary Secretary to Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I am glad to take the question as notice and I will inquire to find out whether such discussions took place.

[*English*]

Mr. Forrestall: I wonder if the parliamentary secretary could indicate to the House whether a statement could be made by the minister in order to alleviate any fear that this might possibly happen?

[*Translation*]

Mr. Goyer: Mr. Speaker, whoever makes the statement on behalf of the government, the responsibility is always the government's.

[*English*]

HEALTH AND WELFARE

HOSPITALIZATION—INCREASE IN GRANTS TO SETTLE SASKATCHEWAN DISPUTE

Mr. John L. Skoberg (Moose Jaw): My question is to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the fact the federal government contributes upwards of 50 per cent of hospitalization and medicare costs and in view of the fact that approximately \$8,000 is all that is needed to settle a dispute at one of the hospitals in the province of Saskatchewan, can the minister say whether any increase in grants necessary to settle this dispute will be shared by the federal government?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's question as asked is in the form of an argument. In this respect it is not acceptable.

Mr. Skoberg: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, it certainly was not meant to be in the form of an argument. I can assure Your Honour it is of the utmost concern to the people of Saskatchewan. If I may reword it I will try not to put it in argumentative terms. In view of the federal government's participation in hospitalization and medicare costs in Canada, could the government at this