

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Obviously the hon. member seeks to fish in troubled waters. I suggest that the question as asked is not in order.

**Mr. Nasserden:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of privilege. It is not my fault that hon. gentlemen opposite are in troubled waters.

[Later:]

**Mr. Nasserden:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Does the \$2.50 fee under the hospitalization plan in Saskatchewan represent part of the austerity program of hon. gentlemen opposite?

**POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT****DISTRIBUTION OF U.S. MAGAZINE CONTAINING BIRTH CONTROL ADVERTISEMENTS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. R. W. Prittie (Burnaby-Richmond):** Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the Postmaster General has a reply today to my question of last week concerning the use of Canadian postal facilities by certain American magazines advertising birth control information, which is against our law?

**Hon. Jean-Pierre Côté (Postmaster General):** Mr. Speaker, after carefully reviewing the circumstances surrounding these advertisements and obtaining appropriate legal advice, I have concluded that these are not proper cases in which to issue an interim prohibitory order under section 7 of the Post Office Act.

**TRANSPORT****REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON FERRY SERVICE, SAINT JOHN, N.B.—DIGBY, N.S.**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Digby-Annapolis-Kings):** Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport since he has been left almost unnoticed in this question period. In view of the fact that for the last three years progressive questions have been asked and various regressive replies given with regard to the Digby-Saint John ferry, could the minister advise us on the present progress of these negotiations and whether we may expect an announcement before the end of the week or before April 4?

**Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I have an even more positive reply to this regressive question. I hope to make an announcement soon. Progress is [Mr. Nasserden.]

being made and I am just as optimistic as I was the last time the question was asked of me—even more so.

**Mr. Nowlan:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Would the minister be kind and considerate enough to take the hon. member for Digby-Annapolis-Kings into his confidence when he is about to make the announcement?

**Mr. Hellyer:** Why not?

**INDIAN AFFAIRS****INQUIRY AS TO REDUCTION IN HEALTH SERVICES FUNDS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Robert Simpson (Churchill):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Is he now in a position to make a more definite statement with regard to the curtailment of some of the medical services provided to the Indian people?

**Hon. Allan J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I hope to be making a statement before the house recesses but I do not think I can make it on orders of the day.

**HUMAN RIGHTS****REPORTED DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT IN NORTH**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Acting Prime Minister. Last week a question was asked of the Prime Minister and the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development with regard to the Supreme Court decision in respect of Mr. Terence Whitfield and his difficulties. The Prime Minister promised to make a statement. Will that statement be forthcoming before the house adjourns?

**Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** I think so, Mr. Speaker. I know the Prime Minister has been interested in this matter.

**GRAIN****WHEAT—INQUIRY AS TO INTRODUCTION OF TWO PRICE SYSTEM**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. S. J. Korchinski (Mackenzie):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to