

*Speech from the Throne*

be very glad to make a copy of that statement available to any hon. member who would like to see it.

**Mr. Fisher:** I should like to ask the minister whether this unofficial inquiry that he has suggested should get under way is likely to be preliminary to a general broadcasting inquiry such as we have had in the past, the Fowler inquiry, or to a parliamentary inquiry by a house committee.

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Speaker, in the brief time this government has been in office there has not been an opportunity for the cabinet to give consideration to the question of whether or not there should be an inquiry. Until that is done I have nothing to say on the subject.

**Hon. Michael Starr (Ontario):** I should like to address a supplementary question to the Secretary of State. He has spoken about roles. Is it true that the Secretary of State is having difficulty in changing his personality from that of Jack the Ripper to jolly Jack?

**Mr. Pickersgill:** Mr. Speaker, I doubt whether the personality of any hon. member is a proper subject for inquiry in this chamber.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE****REQUEST FOR U.S. REPORT ON DANGER FROM PESTICIDES**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Royal):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the minister of national health, welfare and truth.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Fairweather:** Has the minister received a copy of the report that was made yesterday or the day before to President Kennedy by his science advisory committee concerning the threat to life and health resulting from the overuse of pesticides? If so, will the minister see that the members of the house are supplied with a copy of that report? Are changes contemplated in the controls related to the use of pesticides?

**Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** I wish to thank the hon. member for the appellation by which he addressed me. I was not aware that there had been a change in the name of my department. However, I am glad, as a member of this government, to be known as a seeker after truth. I am sure the Canadian people will find this a refreshing change after the past few years.

In answer to my hon. friend's query, I should like to thank him for the notice which he gave me a few moments ago, and advise him that the answer is no.

**THE BUDGET**

INQUIRY AS TO PROBABLE DATE OF PRESENTATION

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, can the Minister of Finance tell the house on what date he plans to bring down his budget?

**Hon. Walter L. Gordon (Minister of Finance):** Mr. Speaker, I have every expectation that a budget will be brought down within 60 days of April 22.

(Translation):

**CANADIAN FLAG**

INQUIRY AS TO ADOPTION OF NATIONAL FLAG

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Georges Valade (St. Mary):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister.

Does the Prime Minister intend to submit to the House of Commons—as he promised to do during his election campaign—a bill for the adoption of a distinctive national flag for Canada?

(Text):

**Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister):** Yes, that is a commitment of this government to be discharged within two years of the taking of office.

(Translation):

[Later:]

**Mr. L. J. Pigeon (Joliette-L'Assomption-Montcalm):** I should like to direct an additional question to the Prime Minister. Will he entrust the hon. member for Bonavista-Twillingate with that choice?

(Text):

**SPEECH FROM THE THRONE**

ADDRESS IN REPLY MOVED BY MISS PAULINE JEWETT AND SECONDED BY MR. AUGUSTE CHOQUETTE

The house proceeded to the consideration of the speech delivered by His Excellency the Administrator at the opening of the session.

**Miss Pauline Jewett (Northumberland):** Mr. Speaker, I have just received a very warm and very enthusiastic greeting and I am grateful for it. May I say first of all, I am sure on behalf of everyone here, that we were sorry His Excellency the Governor General was not able to deliver the speech from the throne yesterday and we join with the administrator in wishing him a speedy and full return to good health. Also at the outset, Mr. Speaker, I hope it is safe for me to assume that hon. members opposite have now used up their stock of questions for this session.

I should like to congratulate you, sir, upon your election to the distinguished office you