

*Business of the House***BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

for the first year—the figure has been given in the report—includes coverage of optometric and chiropractic services which are to be covered by the established premiums, could the minister confirm whether the federal government has agreed to this, and at the same time could he comment further on my question of Monday, January 27?

• (3:30 p.m.)

[Translation]

**Mr. Rosaire Gendron (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I shall take this question as notice and the minister will no doubt be able to reply to it Monday.

[English]

**SHIPPING****CLOSING OF LACHINE CANAL**

**Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport or to whoever is acting for him today. There is an element of urgency in the question because an interim injunction relating to the matter in question expires either today or tomorrow. Does the minister plan to take any action to ensure that the Lachine Canal is not closed off and filled in?

**Mr. Speaker:** Orders of the day.

**Mr. Howard:** Mr. Speaker, perhaps in the absence of an answer I could address a supplementary question to the government house leader. In view of the fact that no one appears to be available who has any responsibility in the field of transport, would the minister take whatever steps he has at his disposal to see that this matter is referred to an appropriate committee for a thorough examination?

[Translation]

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** I think I can reply to that question, Mr. Speaker.

In fact, steps have been taken to terminate projects which had already been discussed in connection with the Lachine Canal and, according to my information, nothing will be done to change the present situation during the next few months.

[English]

In other words the proposed changes are being delayed for reassessment.

**Mr. Baldwin:** Mr. Speaker, may I be permitted to ask the President of the Privy Council what the order of business for the remainder of this week and for next week will be.

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we propose to call a vote on the estate tax resolution which was presented today. Then we will call second reading of the bill to amend the Prairie Grain Advance Payments Act, and further stages if possible. When that is disposed of we will deal with the bill to amend the Customs Act, which is under the direction of the Minister of National Revenue. On Monday next we will call the report stage of the bill to amend the Aeronautics Act, to be followed by the report stage of the bill to amend the Navigable Waters Protection Act. On Tuesday we will call second reading of the bill to amend the Estate Tax Act, and we contemplate calling that measure on Wednesday and Thursday if that is necessary in order to dispose of all stages of the bill. If we find we are making better progress, I will make a statement later in the week.

**Mr. Lewis:** I have a supplementary question. The President of the Privy Council, in answer to questions regarding when we might expect the government reorganization bill or bills, has said more than once that he would be able to tell the house today, I think, about that legislation, which is obviously of tremendous importance and to which ministers continue to refer. Can we have word on when that bill or bills may be expected?

**Mr. Macdonald (Rosedale):** I am very hopeful of having it in the house within two weeks.

[Later:]

**Mr. Broadbent:** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Prime Minister which is supplementary to the question I put earlier to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. Would the Prime Minister care to make a statement now or in the near future on whether the government intends to establish a ministry of science?

**Right Hon. P.-E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, there is no question of our establishing a ministry of science.