

Oral Questions

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. If that was the question, perhaps the minister might reply. The question was so long, I had forgotten the first part of it.

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, there has been put before the provinces a new financing formula that will allow plenty of flexibility on health services to the population at reduced costs. I suggest the hon. member's friend in British Columbia could listen to his question about reducing the cost of health services.

Mr. Speaker: I will return to the hon. member for Fraser Valley West. The hon. member for Athabasca rises on a point or order. I will hear him on that.

Mr. Yewchuk: Mr. Speaker, I am sure the hon. member for Fraser Valley West did not intend to mislead the House with regard to the question of fees charged by doctors. I have a statement in my office which I am prepared to table. It indicates that a plumber charges \$22 for a house call whereas a doctor charges \$10.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps the hon. member ought to have first declared his interest.

Mr. Rose: I might point out, Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Is the hon. member rising for the purpose of asking a supplementary? That was the reason he was recognized.

Mr. Rose: Mr. Speaker, I rose several times, but I did not feel I had the attention of the House. I might say to the hon. member for Athabasca there might be some very expert plumbers who could justify that kind of salary. I wish to ask the Minister of National Health and Welfare whether his proposals to the province of British Columbia and other provinces to reduce the cost and increase the health care of Canadians contemplates the continuation of dependence on the fee for service concept for rewarding the medical profession.

Mr. Lalonde: As I said in my previous answer, Mr. Speaker, there is nothing in the proposal that would prevent any province, including the province of British Columbia that my good friend knows, from adopting a system other than the fee for service system. The federal government would be pleased to continue sharing in the cost of those services.

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[Translation]

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**QUEBEC—OBLIGATION OF EMPLOYEES IN PASSENGER SERVICE TO BE BILINGUAL**

Mr. Eudore Allard (Rimouski): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport.

Can he tell the House if the employees of the Canadian National in the Quebec passenger service must be bilingual?

[Mr. Rose.]

Mr. Speaker: This question could be placed on the order paper. If it is urgent to establish whether the employees of the Canadian National should be bilingual, the question could be discussed at ten o'clock tonight.

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[English]

NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION**INQUIRY AS TO CHANGE IN POLICY ON LEASING RECREATIONAL LAND**

Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa East): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a question to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs. Has the National Capital Commission reported to him any change in their long standing policy with regard to leasing recreational land to the Ottawa-Hull municipalities? If so, when was the change made and will it adversely affect local municipalities?

Hon. Ron Basford (Minister of State for Urban Affairs): No, Mr. Speaker, it has not. I understand this question relates to press reports of yesterday with regard to a proposed arena. That is a matter for discussion between the NCC and myself and the NCC and the city of Ottawa.

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● (1450)

[Translation]

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE**MONTREAL—ALLEGED ABUSES BY INVESTIGATORS OF CERTAIN CLASSES OF CLAIMANTS—REPORT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Mr. Claude Wagner (Saint-Hyacinthe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Could he tell the House if it is correct that investigators of the department, especially in southwest Montreal, abuse the recipients of unemployment insurance, and more particularly immigrants, aged persons, women and young people, and does the minister intend to remedy the situation more clearly and severely than last April 5?

[English]

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I do not think the allegations are correct. However, to make sure there is no doubt about it, I will look into the specifics of the hon. member's representation. I might add that having read the press reports of the incident to which I think the hon. member is referring and which gave rise to this comment, from information I have, I do not believe these are factual representations from the people making demonstrations.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[Translation]

I believe the hon. member for Saint-Hyacinthe has a supplementary question.

Mr. Wagner: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.