Inquiries of the Ministry

AIR CANADA

WINNIPEG—REPORT OF INQUIRY RESPECTING MAINTENANCE BASE

On the orders of the day:

Mr. W. H. Jorgenson (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Transport which deals with the investigations that have been conducted into the removal of the overhaul base at Winnipeg. I understand the Thompson commission report has been in his hands for about two months. Would he advise the house when he intends to make this report public by tabling it in the house?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, the hon. gentleman's understanding is a misunderstanding. The report has not yet been received by the governor in council. I hope it will be quite soon. I intend to read it with avid interest the moment I get it. As soon as possible thereafter I shall indicate any action the government feels should be taken consequent upon it.

[Translation]

INQUIRY OF THE MINISTRY

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Réal Caouette (Villeneuve): Mr. Speaker, may I put a question to the Minister of Justice?

Is the minister in a position to confirm or deny the rumour that he will resign from the cabinet very shortly?

[English]

HEALTH AND WELFARE

FAILURE OF DRUG MANUFACTURERS TO SPECIFY CHILDREN'S DOSES

On the orders of the day:

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, last Friday I asked the Minister of National Health and Welfare a question regarding manufacturers endangering the health of children by not prescribing the dosage of drugs. He said he would take the question as notice. I wonder whether he has an answer ready yet.

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, the regulations under the Food and Drugs Act provide that drugs that are made for the use of children have the dosage specified. My officers, after considering the question, feel that this matter is looked after within the present regulations because it is not regarded as necessary to specify the dosage of drugs not

[Mr. Muir (Cape Breton North and Victoria).]

recommended for children. This is the only case in which it is not done except where it is suggested that the dosage be prescribed by the physician.

RADIOACTIVE FALL-OUT FROM CHINESE BOMB TESTS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. A. B. Patterson (Fraser Valley): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of reports that the radioactive fall-out from recent bomb tests in China is four times as heavy as from former tests, and that this fall-out is expected to descend on North America within a day or two, can the minister indicate whether it is considered this will create a hazard in Canada?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, because of the importance of this question I should like to take it as notice.

MEDICARE—INQUIRY AS TO LEGISLATION

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the statement the minister has made several times recently in speeches he has given outside of the house to the effect that he is confident that a federal medicare scheme will be in operation by the target date of July 1, 1967, can he say what steps he has taken to make sure this target date will be met?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Every possible step, Mr. Speaker, including the preparation of legislation.

Mr. Knowles: May I ask if that legislation will be presented at this session of parliament?

Mr. MacEachen: The Prime Minister stated prior to the Easter recess that it was his expectation the medicare legislation would be on the order paper after the Easter recess, and the intention is to proceed at this session.

UNITED NATIONS

CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER AND SECRETARY GENERAL

On the orders of the day:

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I direct a question to the Secretary of State for External