

## MEDICAL CARE

### CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION'S REQUEST FOR OHIP BOYCOTT

**Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Is the Minister aware that the Canadian Medical Association has put out a memo to all doctors and hospitals outside Ontario asking them to support the Ontario medical strike and asking them also to bill patients directly and not through the provincial program, OHIP? If he is aware of that, what has he done to make sure that Canadians, and Ontarians in particular, have universal access to hospitals and medical care?

**Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, in an earlier question I was asked what action I had taken and I said I had phoned the office of the Minister of Health in Ontario to—

**Mr. Nunziata:** It's the Canadian Medical Association.

**Mr. Epp (Provencher):** Would you let me answer, please? I said that I had phoned the Minister's office, because it is under provincial jurisdiction, to ensure that access and portability be maintained under the Canada Health Act. I have received a report from the Government of Ontario indicating that there is no evidence from the Minister's point of view that access or portability has been denied. I have also indicated that the Ontario Government, under OHIP, will recognize and accept OHIP payments for residents of Ontario outside Ontario since that is within the legal requirements of the Canada Health Act. I have been assured by the Province of Ontario that it will honour all those bills.

[Translation]

INQUIRY IF OTHER PROVINCES WILL RECOGNIZE ONTARIO'S  
HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN

**Mr. Jean-Robert Gauthier (Ottawa—Vanier):** Mr. Speaker, the Minister did not answer my question.

I should like to know whether the Minister can assure all Ontarians who will be travelling throughout Canada this summer, as tourists or otherwise, that they will be able to obtain medical care in hospitals and be attended by physicians in case of accident or serious illness, without prejudice to their ability to pay? Will all provinces other than Ontario recognize Ontario's health insurance plan?

[English]

**Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, I have every assurance that Ontario residents who are travelling are being given that service under the Canada Health Act, and specifically the portability clauses. I also want to indicate to the Hon. Member that doctors outside Ontario may sign or fill out the interprovincial benefits form which will allow them to get paid by OHIP. If that is not done and if there is a direct payment by an Ontario resident, OHIP

*Point of Order—Right Hon. J. Clark*

will also cover that. I have every assurance today from the work I have done, and the assurances I have received from the Province of Ontario, that Ontario residents outside Ontario are being protected.

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## FIREARMS

### CUSTOMS INSPECTION

**Mr. Simon de Jong (Regina East):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of National Revenue. The Minister is aware of my concern and the concern of various police and customs officers about the number of weapons being imported by wholesale gun dealers. The concern is that customs officers have no training to determine whether automatic weapons have been properly modified to make them legal in Canada. Can the Minister inform us what action the Government is taking to ensure that illegal automatic weapons are not entering the country?

**Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, first let me thank my hon. colleague for the interest he has shown in this subject. I appreciated the observations he made at a meeting we had not long ago. He knows that our Department is very diligent in making sure that all regulatory requirements that govern the importation of prohibited weapons are followed, and when our Department lacks the necessary expertise to match the type of weapons with the consignment or to make sure that these weapons are permanently converted for semi-automatic use, we obtain the services of firearms experts, usually the local police, to help us in this regard. We go on to seize any prohibited weapons that are located and, if necessary, we are prepared to make arrests.

● (1500)

### INSPECTION TRAINING PROGRAM REQUESTED

**Mr. Simon de Jong (Regina East):** Mr. Speaker, is the Minister prepared to endorse a program of training individuals to enable them to inspect firearms better, and to designate four or five major centres through which large commercial shipments of guns must be processed?

**Hon. Elmer M. MacKay (Minister of National Revenue):** Mr. Speaker, that is an interesting suggestion. I certainly give my colleague the undertaking to consider it seriously.

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## POINT OF ORDER

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**Right Hon. Joe Clark (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, during Question Period I inadvertently