

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

A few days ago I asked him if it was true that the centennial commission was going through a crisis. Since then the minister made a statement in Regina which, Mr. Fisher, through some references to the chief commissioner, indicated that this was so. Can the minister tell us if at a recent meeting with him Mr. Fisher tendered his resignation?

**Hon. Maurice Lamontagne (Secretary of State):** Mr. Speaker, I met Mr. Fisher at a meeting of the national conference on the centennial in Regina and nothing was said in any of our conversations about a particular difficulty that might exist within the centennial commission.

However, a newspaperman told me, yesterday afternoon, that certain problems might exist there, and when Mr. Fisher comes back to Ottawa I intend to see him to find out if such is the case.

[Later:]

**Mr. Martineau:** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question.

Is it true the Secretary of State said in Regina that Mr. Fisher was not a very good administrator?

**Mr. Lamontagne:** No, Mr. Speaker.

[Later:]

**Mr. Martineau:** Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Secretary of State in order to clear up the answer he gave a few moments ago.

Could he tell the house whether it is true that Mr. John Fisher dissociated himself from the administration of the centennial commission? Could he also tell the house which journalist called his attention to the crisis the commission is or was going through?

In addition, could he tell us whether it is true he informed Mr. Greg Connolly, of the *Ottawa Citizen*, of the reasons which prompted him to change his mind about the existence of such a crisis?

**Mr. Lamontagne:** Mr. Speaker, I am of the opinion that the hon. member knows the name of the reporter concerned, since he has just mentioned the name of Mr. Greg Connolly.

As to the new distribution of responsibilities within the centennial commission, that was done following the appointment of Mr. Georges Gauthier as associate commissioner of the centennial commission, and it was made by Mr. Fisher himself and Mr. Gauthier.

[Mr. Martineau.]

[Text]

**PENSIONS****LEGISLATION RESPECTING SUPERVISION OF PRIVATE PLANS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, may I take this opportunity to direct a question to the Minister of Finance. Can the Minister tell us when we may expect the legislation we have been promised to control private pension plans which come under Federal jurisdiction?

**Hon. Walter L. Gordon (Minister of Finance):** I cannot give an exact date. This is one of the matters which will be taken up as soon as we can get to it, having regard to a number of other pieces of important legislation which will be before the House.

**Mr. Knowles:** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Will this legislation be brought down in time so that companies and employees affected by it will know what its provisions are and will have the benefit of those provisions during the period when they are negotiating any integration between private plans and the Canada Pension Plan?

**Mr. Gordon:** I hope it will be brought down very soon, Mr. Speaker.

**HEALTH AND WELFARE****MEETING WITH PROVINCES RESPECTING NATIONAL HEALTH PLAN**

On the orders of the day:

**Mrs. Eloise Jones (Saskatoon):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the introduction of the medical services insurance act in the Ontario Legislature, is the Minister contemplating a meeting with the Governments of the Provinces earlier than anticipated in the Throne Speech, for discussion of a comprehensive national health service for Canada; and if so, when?

**Hon. Judy V. LaMarsh (Minister of National Health and Welfare):** Mr. Speaker, it takes a long time to set up dominion-provincial meetings, and the question of health services is not the only one intended for inclusion in the agenda of the next meeting. I should like to thank my hon. friend for giving me notice of the question, but there is no intention on my part to request the Prime Minister to call the Premiers at an earlier date than already contemplated.