

QUEBEC—APPLICATION OF FEDERAL FUNDS FOR HOSPITAL PURPOSES

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Ralph Cowan (York-Humber): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare of which I have given him due notice. The annual report of the Montreal Children's Hospital contains this statement by Eliot S. Frosst, president:

We are facing the worst financial crisis in our hospital's history.

The report also contains this statement by Douglas Lennox, the honorary treasurer:

This means for the bulk of our suppliers, that we are now ten months behind in paying for goods and services without which the hospital cannot continue to operate.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member should ask his question.

Mr. Cowan: I simply wish to ask the minister whether he has yet been able to persuade the minister of health for the province of Quebec to apply the federal funds provided them for hospital purposes.

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I should like to discuss this matter with the Minister of Finance and make a reply later.

Mr. Cowan: Perhaps the minister and I could discuss it at ten o'clock.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

REQUESTS FOR MEETINGS OF COMMITTEES ON CROWN CORPORATIONS AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Reid Scott (Danforth): I should like to address a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare in his capacity as house leader. In view of the government's announced desire that committees function efficiently, does the government intend to refer anything at all to the committee on crown corporations so we might have an opportunity to meet and examine these very important bodies?

Hon. A. J. MacEachen (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to consider the suggestion made by my hon. friend to see whether anything at all can be referred.

[Translation]

Mr. Auguste Choquette (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a supplementary question but I do not know whether I should

Inquiries of the Ministry

address it to the house leader or to the Registrar General. Will steps be taken shortly so that the special joint committee responsible for investigating consumer credit may resume its activities?

Hon. John N. Turner (Registrar General): Mr. Speaker, I recently discussed the terms of reference of this committee with the former joint chairman, the hon. member for Vancouver-Burrard (Mr. Basford) and with hon. Senator Croll, and I think that we will be able to reconstitute the committee soon, with terms of reference quite interesting for the country.

[English]

IMMIGRATION

REQUIREMENT THAT IMMIGRANTS STATE PAST POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Acting Prime Minister. In order to protect the good name of Canada as a country of freedom of political expression, will the government give immediate consideration to changing the immigration policy in effect since October 1 which requires prospective immigrants to declare their past political affiliations?

Hon. Paul Martin (Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, that question was asked yesterday, I think, and it has been referred to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. I thank my hon. friend for asking it again.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—NON-PARTICIPATION IN REFUGEE SETTLEMENT PLAN

On the orders of the day:

Mr. Frank Howard (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Acting Minister of Manpower and Immigration. I ask the minister whether a statement can be made as soon as possible as to why the province of British Columbia is not participating with the department to bring handicapped refugees and their families to Canada this year, as is the situation with eight other provinces.

Hon. J. R. Nicholson (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, I will see that the matter is taken up with the minister right away. The minister's parliamentary secretary is here and he will follow through on the question.