

will have attractive features. The details of the tournament, as I say, are not yet developed but are being worked out.

[Later:]

Mr. A. B. Douglas (Assiniboia): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of National Health and Welfare which is supplementary to an earlier one. Can the minister assure the House that Canada's national team will not be disbanded and will continue to be available for games throughout the nation?

Mr. Munro: Mr. Speaker, my advice is that the national team is carrying on its operations in respect of outstanding commitments it has had in Canada for some time. How long after that the team will continue has not been decided.

RCMP MUSICAL RIDE—ASSUMPTION OF MAINTENANCE COSTS

Mr. George Muir (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Solicitor General in respect of the centennial celebration. In view of the importance to the Manitoba centennial of the appearance throughout the province of the RCMP musical ride, will the government give consideration to helping Manitoba communities to finance the ride by assuming the maintenance costs of the personnel and horses during the tour?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member is making a suggestion which is really not a question. I think he must assume the suggestion has been placed before the government for consideration and will be considered in due course.

[Translation]

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I wish to put a supplementary question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Could he not make it possible for the existing parliamentary hockey team to participate in the Winnipeg festival?

[English]

Mr. Speaker: That is also a suggestion which we can assume will be considered by the government.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF ABOLITION

Mr. Jack Marshall (Humber-St. George's-St. Barbe): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State. On behalf of the war

Inquiries of the Ministry

veterans of Canada would the minister agree to take steps to have the serious question of the abolition and reclassification of military awards referred to the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs before a decision is made so that the opinions of some one million veterans in Canada can be heard?

[Translation]

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, this is a proposal that we are willing to consider, but no decision has yet been made to that effect.

[English]

Hon. D. S. Harkness (Calgary Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. I should like to ask the Secretary of State why British Commonwealth gallantry awards have been suspended since, I understand, February of last year?

[Translation]

Mr. Pelletier: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware that any announcement was made along this line. However, I know that a committee has been formed in which six federal departments are represented at the civil servants level in order to study the question of gallantry awards.

I want to point out at the same time that some press reports these last few days were somewhat absurd. Indeed, they were dealing with awards granted only in war time, which is irrelevant at present since Canada is not at war with anybody.

[English]

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS

DISCONTINUANCE OF CERTAIN SERVICES—REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, this question is directed to the Minister of Transport. In view of the adverse effect on railway passengers and railway employees as a result of the discontinuance of certain CNR trains from Vancouver to Winnipeg, would the minister discuss with officials of the CNR the possibility of at least continuing those trains until the application for permanent discontinuance is heard and decided by the Canadian Transport Commission?

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I shall be very glad to bring these representations to the attention of officials of the CNR. I have already discussed the matter with them.