

*External Affairs***INQUIRY FOR RETURN**GENERAL STORES—OPERATION BY
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. L. E. Cardiff (Huron): On March 22, Mr. Speaker, a question standing on the order paper in my name was passed as an order for return. When can I expect an answer?

Hon. J. W. Pickersgill (Secretary of State): I shall have the matter looked into, sir.

CANCERREPORTED NEW ANTIBIOTIC RESEARCH
FOR TREATMENT

On the orders of the day:

Mr. E. G. McCullough (Moose Mountain): Yesterday I sent a notice to the Minister of National Health and Welfare concerning a newspaper report of new antibiotic research work done in the United States for the treatment of cancer. Can the minister state if anything is being done in Canada in that regard?

Hon. Paul Martin (Minister of National Health and Welfare): The new antibiotic, Mr. Speaker, which is known as azaserine, has been receiving early testing on several forms of human cancer. This is a joint project of the Sloan-Kettering Institute on cancer and the Parke-Davis Company with headquarters in the city of Detroit. I think in view of the importance of this matter, it is not desirable I should say any more at this time.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRSREFERENCE OF ESTIMATES OF DEPARTMENT TO
STANDING COMMITTEE

The house resumed, from Monday, March 29, consideration of the motion of Mr. Pearson:

That items Nos. 84 to 103 inclusive, of the main estimates, 1954-55, be withdrawn from the committee of supply and referred to the standing committee on external affairs, saving always the powers of the committee of supply in relation to the voting of public moneys.

Mr. Howard C. Green (Vancouver-Quadra): This external affairs debate has centred largely around the question of the recognition of the communist regime in what is commonly known as Red China. This interest in the house has developed, I believe, largely because of the statements made by our own Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) while he was in the Far East. We were all somewhat startled to read what stand he had taken, and today I propose to quote briefly from three of

In the Crowland-Welland area, which several members have discussed with me, the corporation has sold 750 houses on a deferred payment plan. The term for repayment varies, but the average monthly instalment is approximately \$28, which includes a provision for the payment of monthly taxes and as such must be regarded as being rather modest.

As I have indicated, where there is genuine distress arising out of unemployment the corporation will give every possible consideration to working out an arrangement suitable to both the purchaser and the corporation. Having regard to its responsibility for the management of public funds, the corporation does not follow a policy of waiving or postponing the collection of the monthly instalments on a wholesale basis. Each individual case is dealt with on its merits and only such measure of relief as the circumstances of each individual case may warrant is given.

Mr. G. K. Fraser (Peterborough): On that occasion I asked the Minister of Public Works if he had seen what the Minister of Trade and Commerce had said, that people would not be evicted from their homes—

Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce): On a point of privilege, Mr. Speaker: I suggest that neither the hon. member nor anyone else has heard what was reported to have been said, because it was not said. I simply said the government was a good landlord.

Mr. Fraser (Peterborough): As I mentioned at that time, the statement appeared in the press of that morning and I have a copy of it here if the minister would like to see it.

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): I suggest that what my hon. friend is reading is what the newspaper reporter wrote, and not what the minister said.

Mr. Fleming: Did the minister not make any reference to a moratorium on that occasion?

Mr. Howe (Port Arthur): No, sir, he did not. I said that in my experience with the government as a landlord it did not dispossess people who are temporarily out of work through unemployment in an area. I made it quite clear that if they were good tenants otherwise, temporary difficulty, in my opinion, would not be a cause for eviction.