

Inquiries of the Ministry

Prime Minister and other government members that the number of employees on the Civil Service payroll will be reduced?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I suggest that the question is argumentative and not acceptable in that form.

[Translation]

NATIONAL FILM BOARD

REPEAL OF USER CHARGES ON FILMS

Mr. Gaétan J. Serré (Nickel Belt): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Secretary of State.

As a result of the many representations made to the National Film Board for a reconsideration of its decision to impose user charges for its films, could the Secretary of State tell the House whether or not the Board has decided to change its policy in this connection?

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, I may be called upon to comment on this matter in greater detail, but I do not have any objection, since the decision has been taken, to replying to the hon. member. In accordance with the government policy not to increase any charges or duties on non-commercial services, pursuant to the policy announced recently by the Prime Minister, the new charges on film rentals set by the National Film Board, effective January 1, 1970, are cancelled forthwith.

[English]

HARBOURS

COME-BY-CHANCE—REQUEST BY NEWFOUNDLAND GOVERNMENT FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. Has he received a request from the Newfoundland government for financial assistance for docking facilities in Come-by-Chance, Newfoundland?

Hon. Jean Marchand (Minister of Regional Economic Expansion): Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Carter: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. What action has the government taken on this application from the Newfoundland government?

Mr. Marchand (Langelier): Well, Mr. Speaker, the decision has not yet been taken. It will be taken shortly.

An hon. Member: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. A number of hon. members seek to ask supplementaries on this subject. Perhaps they might ask their questions tomorrow. The question period expired a few moments ago. Orders of the Day.

And the Clerk having read the order:

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I am very reluctant to raise this point of order, but I note the time every day rather carefully when the question period begins. The question period, according to my observation, started today at 2.37 and should not end until 3.17.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member's point is well taken and hon. members who have questions may ask them. I received a note saying the question period should end at 3.16, and misread it as 3.06. I apologize to hon. members. We have a few minutes left.

Mr. McGrath: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The ministers have left the chamber—I beg your pardon, they are coming back.

An hon. Member: Call Orders of the Day.

[Translation]

Mr. Rondeau: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The hon. member for Shefford on a point of order.

Mr. Rondeau: Mr. Speaker, since the beginning of the oral question period no Créditiste member has had a chance to put a question. I would therefore ask you to give us a little consideration.

[English]

DRUGS

REFERENCE TO COMMITTEE OF NON-MEDICAL USE OF MARIJUANA AND LEDAIN COMMISSION REPORT

Mr. Barry Mather (Surrey): Mr. Speaker, may I direct a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Is consideration being given to referring the question of the non-medical use of marijuana and the report of the LeDain commission to an appropriate committee of the House?