

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Supplementary Order Paper

Wednesday, the 10th day of October 1973

QUESTIONS AND REPLIES

[Covering period 20 September–3 October]

WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Transferred on dates shown

Acupuncture

1. Mr MOORE (Eden) asked the Minister of Health, Has he seen an article in the *Dominion* of 11 September 1973 in which the leader of the Chinese delegation to the World Health Organisation stated, when discussing acupuncture, that "We think there could be some kind of exchange programme"; and, if so, does the Minister consider that this invitation should be accepted?

Hon. R. J. TIZARD (Minister of Health) replied, I have seen the article referred to. Acupuncture anaesthesia was discussed with the Chinese delegation which attended the World Health Organisation Regional Committee meeting in Wellington. There is increasing interest in China's work in this field and while I could not construe the remarks of the leader of the delegation as an invitation, I am prepared to accept any reasonable opportunity to have the procedure studied in some detail by someone from New Zealand.

(20/9/73)

Industrial Relations Legislation—Rights of Objectors

2. Hon. DAVID THOMSON (Stratford) asked the Minister of Labour, To allay some public concern, will he give an assurance that the new clause 106A in the Industrial Relations Bill does not in any way prejudice the rights of conscientious objectors set out in clauses 105 and 106?

Hon. HUGH WATT (Minister of Labour) replied, I can assure the member that there is no need for concern as the provisions of clauses 105 and 106 of the Industrial Relations Bill are no different to those provided in the appropriate sections of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1954. The new

clause 106A operates only by agreement between the parties and only after the conscientious objection committee is satisfied that a prima facie case for exemption has been established. It will be realised that the Bill gives the objector additional rights to those which he has enjoyed in the past by giving him the opportunity to decide how his fees are to be used.

(20/9/73)

Christchurch Secondary Schools—Zoning

3. Mr BURKE (Rangiora) asked the Minister of Education, In view of the considerable distance which children in the Redwood area of Christchurch will be required to travel to attend Mairehau High School as a result of zoning by the Department of Education, and in view of the fact that there is no direct public transport available between Redwood and Mairehau, could the Minister indicate whether the Government considers the present zones to be permanent or whether they are to be subject to regular study and possible review?

Hon. P. A. AMOS (Minister of Education) replied, The enrolment areas adopted by secondary schools in the Christchurch metropolitan area for 1974 will be the subject of further study and possible review. Future enrolment trends may make it necessary to adjust boundaries to ensure that the burden of further roll increases is shared among all schools as equitably as possible.

(21/9/73)

Parklands, Christchurch—School Facilities

4. Mr BURKE (Rangiora) asked the Minister of Education, Can he indicate what progress has been made towards the establishment of pre-school and primary school facilities in the new Parklands area of Christchurch?

**Carpenters' Strike on Upper Waitaki
Power Project**

94. Mr TALBOT (South Canterbury) asked the Minister of State Services, as an urgent question, In view of the strike by carpenters employed on the Upper Waitaki power project at Twizel, which is threatening all concrete work on the project and could bring operations to a standstill in 2 days, can he inform the House what urgent and immediate action is being taken to resolve the pay claims of the men concerned in order to avoid delays in the development of this major project.

Hon. R. O. DOUGLAS (Postmaster-General)—I reply on behalf of the Minister of State Services. Carpenters em-

ployed on the Upper Waitaki power project at Twizel, who are members of the New Zealand Workers Union, are paid at rates which are common throughout the State services. The question of the adequacy of these rates has been raised by the Combined State Service Organisations, of which the Workers Union is a member, with the State Services Co-ordinating Committee, and a meeting to discuss the issue was held this morning. Some propositions were put forward by the employee representatives which are to be considered by the official side preparatory to further talks. I am unwilling to comment further whilst between the two parties are continuing.

(3/10/73)
