Herbicide Restrictions

haphazard and potentially dangerous way of disposing of a product which the minister says could be hazardous. If it were not a hazardous product, the minister would not be announcing restrictions.

I suggest that this, and other similar products, should be collected by the government and returned to the manufacturer. The manufacturer should be responsible for breaking down and disposing of that material in a harmless manner. Failing that, the government should be responsible for the disposal of such materials on which restrictions have been placed. High pressure, high temperature furnaces have been developed which could burn such substances. The residue is not toxic and has no harmful effects. The Department of Agriculture and other departments should acquire these facilities. The department should gather up any restricted, hazardous products, break them down and dispose of them in a manner that is not dangerous. The minister suggests they can be thrown in garbage dumps, but the public, particularly children, are prone to frequent these places at times. I suggest this constitutes an additional possible hazard.

What long term or even short term effects does this product have upon watersheds and tables? There are no restrictions on the use of this material on pastures and rights-of-way. We do not know what effect this substance has on water. It seems that there has been insufficient research and investigation in this area. Even though it is a fast dissipating herbicide, our knowledge of its effects is very insufficient. What effect will it have on our bird life? After use, the smell of this material lingers for hours. We do not know what effect it will have on bird life. I ask the minister to urge the officials in his and other departments to continue their investigations. It may well be that the product should be completely restricted and prohibited from manufacture.

[Translation]

Mr. Adrien Lambert (Bellechasse): Mr. Speaker, I do not often praise the minister and I hope he does not hold it against me. In any event, I feel he must be commended, at least by me, for the statement he just made in the House. In fact, although the restrictions announced today are likely to annoy the farmers who thought that 2,4,5-T was an excellent weed killer, nevertheless I have faith in the scientists who conducted the experiments with a view to showing that in the long run this product may prove harmful to the population.

[Mr. Benjamin.]

I agree that it is advisable to take the necessary steps to prevent an even greater danger. The Food and Drug Directorate of the Department of National Health and Social Welfare has certainly given wise counsel to the minister in recommending restrictions on the sale of 2,4,5-T.

• (3:20 p.m.)

[English]

COMMUNICATIONS

TABLING OF THIRD CANADA-SWEDEN WORK-ING PAPER ON DIRECT BROADCAST SATELLITES

Hon. Eric W. Kierans (Postmaster General and Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, I wish to table, on behalf of the Department of External Affairs and the Department of Communications, in the two official languages the third Canada-Sweden working paper on direct broadcast satellites which was prepared for the United Nations committee on the peaceful use of outer space.

[Translation]

HEALTH AND WELFARE

TABLING OF INTERIM REPORT OF SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON ORAL CONTRACEPTIVES

Hon. Gérard Pelletier (Secretary of State): Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the minister of National Health and Welfare, I would like to table copies in French and English of the interim report of the special advisory committee on oral contraceptives.

[English]

LABOUR CONDITIONS

UNEMPLOYMENT INCREASE—REQUEST FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT TO MOVE MOTION UNDER S.O. 43

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker, I ask the unanimous consent of the House to move a motion under Standing Order 43. I base my argument in favour of unanimous consent on the following facts.

During April, unemployment in Canada increased from 5.1 per cent to 5.6 per cent of the work force, seasonally adjusted. I am using the figures which the government has steadfastly maintained during the past few months to be the only figures which give a true picture of the employment situation in Canada. This 10 per cent worsening of the