

Proceedings on Adjournment Motion

and south. The report produced costs required to create those projects which were grossly inaccurate, and slandered the residents in public housing to the point of despair. To add insult to injury, it referred to public housing projects as ghettos of the poor.

It is too bad that the report failed to make a comparison between modern public housing, despite its weaknesses, and some of the appalling slums which existed before urban renewal and redevelopment. It is too bad the report failed to mention the refusal of the federal government to provide recreational facilities in public housing projects, or expose the government for its lack of interest in such matters. It is too bad the task force failed to make a study of the success of the Ontario Housing Corporation in public housing and request its president to give them the benefit of his experience in that field.

Is it any wonder City of Toronto officials thought the recommendation with regard to public housing disastrous, and that the Toronto Social Planning Council should have referred to it as kindergarten arithmetic? At a time when almost every nation has concluded that it is only through vast public housing programs that the housing needs of low income groups can be met, it is most disheartening that the task force should have

attempted to discredit and disparage public housing.

This is why I asked the Minister of Transport to refer the report to a standing committee for detailed study in this regard. I regret the minister is not here tonight, but I notice that the hon. member for Toronto-Parkdale (Mr. Haidasz) is present. He knows the tremendous progress which has been made in Toronto with regard to public housing. He knows there is a long list of people waiting to get in, and I am sure his answer will show agreement with the remarks I have made.

Mr. Stanley Haidasz (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): The information available to me on this side is that the Minister of Transport (Mr. Hellyer) expects legislation concerning housing to be introduced in the House of Commons within a few weeks and referred to the appropriate standing committee for study. At that time, the committee might also wish to examine the broad range of realistic recommendations contained in the report of the task force on housing, recommendations which are designed to provide good homes at a reasonable price for all Canadians.

Motion agreed to, and the house adjourned at 10.20 p.m.
