

and discuss it with my hon. friends when we are considering transportation policies some time later in March.

[Translation]

EXHIBITIONS

INQUIRY AS TO DISPOSAL OF MAN AND HIS WORLD SITE

Mr. Gilbert Rondeau (Shefford): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Can he tell us whether he was speaking on behalf of the government when he stated yesterday that even if the City of Montreal wanted to give Man and his World to the federal government, the latter would not even consider it.

Is that the official policy of the government—

Mr. Speaker: Order.

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I have never made such a statement.

[English]

HOUSING

REMOVAL OF LENDING RATE CEILING

Mr. Ed Schreyer (Selkirk): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Finance to indicate whether his department has under formal review or has given sympathetic consideration to the proposal that the ceiling on N.H.A. lending rates be completely removed? Could the minister say whether this is under review at the present time by his officials?

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, this would require a change in the National Housing Act which, if it were to occur, would be proposed by my colleague the minister responsible for housing.

Mr. Schreyer: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I gather from the minister's reply that I should direct it to the Minister of Transport. I ask the Minister of Transport whether systematic consideration is being given at the present time to the proposition that the N.H.A. lending rate ceiling be removed entirely.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, this is one of the questions raised by the task force. It is not a new idea, it is one that has been under debate for many years. It is, naturally, one that I will be

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considering, as the minister responsible for housing, in order to decide whether it should be amongst recommendations that I will make to my cabinet colleagues.

Mr. A. D. Hales (Wellington): A supplementary question to the Minister of Finance. When the ceiling is freed, does the minister expect the rates to be lower?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. Orders of the day.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

WAYS AND MEANS

MOTION TO AMEND INCOME TAX ACT AND ESTATE TAX ACT

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance) moved:

That it is expedient to introduce a measure to amend Part IV of the Income Tax Act and to amend the Estate Tax Act to provide among other things:

1. That on and after October 23, 1968

(a) the deductions and exemptions described in subsections (2) and (3) of section 112 of the Income Tax Act for the purposes of determining the aggregate taxable value of gifts made in a taxation year to be replaced by new deductions and exemptions, and in particular that a taxpayer be entitled to deduct

(i) the value of any gift to his spouse other than a gift by way of a settlement under which any person other than his spouse has, during the lifetime of the spouse a right of any kind whatsoever to receive or use any or all of the property so settled or a beneficial interest in any of the income from such property, and

(ii) the value of the aggregate of gifts (other than gifts made by settling property in a trust other than a trust under which there is only one beneficiary, who is living at the time) made in the year by him to any one individual other than his spouse, to the extent that such value does not exceed \$2,000,

(b) the exemption described in paragraph (ba) of subsection (4) of section 112 of the said Act be restricted so that it no longer applies to transfers to a child if the spouse of the taxpayer has at any time taken advantage of the provision,

(c) gifts made by a taxpayer shall include

(i) transfers to a person other than the taxpayer's spouse pursuant to an agreement made in consideration of marriage,

(ii) the exercising of a general power of appointment,

(iii) the act of permitting a debt owed to a taxpayer by a person with whom the taxpayer was not dealing at arm's length, to become unenforceable by virtue of the operation of any law limiting the time for bringing action thereon,

(iv) gifts made by a corporation at the direction of, or with the concurrence of, the taxpayer, and