

Inquiries of the Ministry

which are all communist-slanted, are still considered as second class mail in Canada?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. This type of question should be put on the order paper.

[*English*]

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS**SUGGESTION OF SABOTAGE IN DERAILMENT NEAR TORONTO**

Mr. W. M. Howe (Wellington-Grey): I have a question for the Minister of Transport. In his absence yesterday I asked the Prime Minister whether he had any information to give the house in connection with the tragic railroad accident which occurred near Toronto a few days ago. Can the minister give us any information on that now?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): I am not sure that I can add much to what has already been reported publicly, but, as hon. members know, at 5.35 p.m. on April 20, C.N.R. train number 151, consisting of two diesel electric units and six cars entered the facing point switch of Dosco siding, mile 12.4 Weston subdivision, where it struck an empty tank car, derailing both locomotives and five cars.

One employee, the locomotive fireman, and one passenger were killed. Two employees and 24 passengers were injured; the engineer's condition is reported to be critical.

The switch was found lined for the siding with the lock in the keeper. Investigation has revealed that the loop of the lock was cut through by hacksaw. The target was not displaced and indicated the switch lined for the siding.

The matter is under investigation by the Canadian Transport Commission, the investigation department of Canadian National Railways and the Ontario Provincial Police and metropolitan Toronto police.

Mr. Howe: In view of the situation that has developed in this regard in Toronto, what steps are being taken to make these types of switches electrically controlled, particularly in areas where trains are travelling fast, to ensure that such an accident could not occur again?

Mr. Hellyer: I think I should take that question as notice. This type of accident is most unusual and normally cannot occur. In this case there has been evidence of some unusual action. A deliberate attempt has been made by someone to cause an accident.

[*Mr. Caouette.*]

HOUSING**C.M.H.C.—CRITERIA APPLICABLE IN PROJECTS**

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): May I ask the Minister of Transport, in this Don Messer hep week, on what day of this week the minister expects to place before us the new criteria for public housing programs.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): We were discussing them this morning and made considerable progress. I hope to be able to make them available to my hon. friend fairly soon.

SURVEY OF URBAN RENEWAL PROJECTS

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. On the premise that the minister visited the cities of Vancouver and Calgary, can he now assure the house that no further trips are envisaged before he is in a position to bring down his conclusions with respect to urban renewal and public housing? I ask this question because it appears to me that at one time the minister indicated to the house that he was going to visit eight or nine cities.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

[*Translation*]

FRENCH COMMENTS FOR PROJECTION OF SLIDES

Mr. André Fortin (Lotbinière): Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask a supplementary question.

In view of the fact that the minister has stated on two occasions that he would show slides with comments in French for the benefit of French-speaking members of parliament, in connection with the inquiry on housing, may I ask him when his promise will materialize?

Mr. Speaker: Order.

[*English*]

VETERANS AFFAIRS**DIEPPE PRISONERS—SEARCH OF FILES**

Mr. Jack Cullen (Sarnia): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Veterans Affairs and it arises out of a meeting held by the minister some time ago with the Dieppe Prisoners of War Association. I should like to know whether the minister's department has begun or completed the research work on its files requested by the Dieppe veterans.