

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

tion, which is to progressively eliminate the safeguards presently in the pact. Conversations are going on with the United States on this subject.

**COMMUNICATIONS****TELESAT CANADA—LAUNCHING OF SATELLITE  
—IMPLEMENTATION OF SYSTEM**

**Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton):** Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Communications. Would the minister say whether a timetable has been established for the launching of the satellite portion of Telesat Canada and for the implementation of the Canadian domestic satellite communications system?

**Hon. Eric W. Kierans (Postmaster General and Minister of Communications):** Mr. Speaker, there are some dates that are tentative and subject to negotiation and the progress that is made in the matter of research and development for Canada's particular needs. I am not in a position at the moment to give an up to date timetable other than to say the latest date is still the end of 1972.

**TRADE****JAPAN—PROSPECT OF INCREASED MARKET  
FOR RAPESEED**

**Mr. A. P. Gleave (Saskatoon-Biggar):** Mr. Speaker, I would direct my question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce. On April 9, in reply to a question asked him in the House, the minister stated that the first step had been taken by Japan in the liberalization of trade in rapeseed. Would the minister inform the House what particular action he was referring to and at what time it was taken?

**Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce):** Mr. Speaker, I was referring to a one-third reduction in tariff unbound, for one year.

**HOUSING****ONTARIO—DECLINE IN STARTS—MEETING  
WITH PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES—  
INTEREST RATES**

**Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the minister in charge of housing. In view of the report in today's *Globe and Mail* that there is a 42 per cent decline in housing starts in Ontario, is it the intention of the minister to call together

[Mr. Pepin.]

the appropriate representatives of the provincial government to work out plans to increase the number of starts?

As a supplementary I should also like to ask, with regard to the drop in the interest rates, whether it is the intention of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to drop their interest rates so as to set an example for other companies to follow?

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio):** Mr. Speaker, both matters are under constant consideration.

**REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON SCHEMES TO  
INCREASE MORTGAGE MONEY AND  
REDUCE INTEREST RATES**

**Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. In view of the concern expressed by the minister, wherein he indicated he was looking at all schemes whereby more money would be placed in the market, is the minister in a position to advise which scheme to increase mortgage flow and reduce interest rates he finds most attractive?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order. This kind of information ought normally to be given by way of a general statement. The hon. member might invite the minister to make such a statement in due course.

**Mr. Alexander:** Then perhaps I could rephrase my question, Mr. Speaker. Keeping in mind the preamble to the question asked, would the minister at the earliest opportunity make a statement in this regard.

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister without Portfolio):** I will give that consideration, Mr. Speaker.

[Translation]

**AGRICULTURE****INTRODUCTION OF BILL RESPECTING  
CO-OPERATIVES**

**Mr. Gérard Laprise (Abitibi):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Agriculture.

Could he tell us whether representations have been made to him by consumers or leaders of farm organizations concerning the introduction of special legislation on co-operatives? Could he also tell us whether his department or the government intends to introduce such legislation during this session?