

HIGHWAY SAFETY

HAZARDS CREATED BY THROWAWAY
CONTAINERS

Mr. W. C. Scott (Victoria-Haliburton): Mr. Speaker, I had a question for the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs but in his absence I will direct it to his parliamentary secretary. In view of the minister's concern about the dangerous hazards created by throwaway containers strewn about our highways and beaches, will he inform the house whether there have been any further negotiations on this matter between his department and the provinces?

Mr. Stanley Haidasz (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs): Mr. Speaker, I will bring the hon. member's representation to the minister's attention.

HOUSING

COMPLAINTS RESPECTING PROPOSALS OF
ONTARIO HOUSING CORPORATION

Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. May I first thank the hon. gentleman, as I meant to do on Wednesday, for his courtesy in providing opposition spokesmen with copies of his task force report. Has the minister studied the complaints of Mr. Suters of the Ontario Housing Corporation that some of its proposals have gone through C.M.H.C. to the Privy Council office and disappeared there, and what is being done to correct or explain this situation?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, there has been no official word in respect of this matter. If my hon. friend is referring to a newspaper article, I can only say that there are, of course, some projects in the pipe line which are being studied. In the normal course, their disposition will depend on any policy decisions which may be taken in the meantime.

POSSIBILITY OF REFERRING TASK FORCE
REPORT TO COMMITTEE

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Transport and part time minister of housing. Is it the intention of the minister to refer the report of the task force on housing to the appropriate standing committee of the house in order that it may examine the outrageous recommendations in respect of housing and regional development?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

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Inquiries of the Ministry

TRADE

POTATOES—COMMISSION TO SEEK EXPANDED
MARKET

Mr. David MacDonald (Egmont): Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether I might put a question to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce which I asked last Friday but which seems to have resulted in some confusion in *Hansard*? It relates to the possibility of the minister's department establishing at the earliest possible date a trade mission for the purpose of seeking to expand the seed potato market, which is of vital importance in view of the very depressed market at the present time in the Atlantic region.

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, there has been no such request for a mission at this time, but there is provision in the department's promotional programs for an incoming trade mission on seed potatoes to take place this year. We also have plans to undertake additional trade missions to promote this commodity. I might mention that the total export movement of all potatoes thus far this season shows some improvement over the same period last year, and I have here statistics to demonstrate that.

Mr. MacDonald (Egmont): At what price?

SALES OF HAIR SEAL SKINS

Hon. Jean-Luc Pepin (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, may I also answer quickly a question asked by the hon. member for St. John's West having to do with sales of hair seal skins. They have improved markedly in the past few months. Reports from the most recent auction sale indicate that prices have advanced 20 per cent since September, 1968, and that demand is strong.

FISHERIES

SEALS—REQUEST THAT OPENING DATE BE
SET AHEAD

Mr. Walter C. Carter (St. John's West): Mr. Speaker, on January 24 I directed a question to the Minister of Defence Production in the absence of the Minister of Fisheries. My question related to the opening date of the seal harvest in the gulf of St. Lawrence. Is the Minister of Fisheries prepared to make a statement as to the possibility of pushing that date ahead?

Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries): Mr. Speaker, current plans are for the Harp seal hunting season to open on March 7 this