HOUSE OF COMMONS

Tuesday, June 17, 1969

The house met at 10 a.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

ISSUE OF EXPERIMENTAL ORDER PAPER IN ABRIDGED FORM

Mr. Speaker: Hon. members will notice that a special abbreviated issue of the Order Paper has been circulated this morning. The normal Order Paper will be circulated later this morning, as is the custom.

hon, members that a suggestion was made some time ago that considerable savings could be effected if the complete Order Paper were published once a week only, perhaps on a Monday, and an abbreviated Order Paper, expressed the hope that the minister in published once a week only, perhaps on a Monday, and an abbreviated Order Paper, perhaps in the form which is now before hon. members, on other days from Tuesday to Friday. This, it was said, would result in a great saving of money.

Of course nothing would be done without the agreement of hon. members, but it was thought that on an experimental basis until the end of the current part of the session, we would publish both the ordinary Order Paper and an abbreviated issue so that hon. members might look at it and see what might be the advantages and the disadvantages in each case. In due course the Chair will be pleased to hear from hon. members. I might add that this proposal was discussed by the Chair with representatives of parties, with the house leaders. It was agreed that the matter might be looked into by hon. members and that the best way to proceed would be to distribute, on an experimental basis, an abbreviated issue of the Order Paper for hon. members to consider.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS

NATIONAL HOUSING ACT

AMENDMENTS CLARIFYING DEFINITIONS AND DEALING WITH THE INTEREST RATE ON INSURED LOANS, AND OTHER MATTERS

The house resumed from Friday, June 13, consideration of the motion of Mr. Andras (p. caused the task force to be formed in the first 10136) for the third reading of Bill No. place and which caused the task force to

C-192, to amend the National Housing Act. 1954.

Mrs. Grace MacInnis (Vancouver-Kingsway): Mr. Speaker, when the house adjourned last Friday evening I had been discussing what we in this party consider to be two of the major sins of omission in this legislation. One is the lack of any comprehensive program to provide housing for people on low incomes. I also expressed deep disappointment and indignation about the fact that the public low rental projects now being I think I should bring to the attention of removed from the deep freeze, in which they charge of housing would take steps even at this late stage to rectify that situation.

> I suggested that this could be done in these projects by modifying them in such a way that, if necessary, planned suites could be converted into recreational facility areas or, better still, that the minister should use this occasion to work with municipal or metropolitan authorities, as the case might be, in order to erect community centres in adjoining neighbourhoods that would serve both the people of these low rental projects and the people of the adjoining communities. This would be a method of preventing the walls of the ghetto rising around public housing projects.

> I am sure that the responsible people in the various cities would be only too pleased to see such an initiative taken by the minister so that they would be able to create community centres with federal help. Such community centres would do much to avoid the development of the ghetto mentality. As the Canadian people will find out in years to come, they are being short-changed on these two counts, the failure to provide public housing, and the failure to provide at least inside recreational facilities in some of the projects now being built.

• (10:10 a.m.)

I see no reason why the mistakes which