Inquiries of the Ministry
POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS FOLLOWING TASK
FORCE REPORT

Mr. David Lewis (York South): May I ask the Minister of Transport, in his capacity as minister in charge of housing and in view of his hope that legislation would be passed in time to be of use during the spring construction term this year, when parliament may expect the bill he promised embodying some of the recommendations of the task force which he chaired.

Both spring and the construction term have now begun, and it would be interesting to know when we may expect the bill to be presented.

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): This is the same question as was asked the day before the house rose for the Easter recess, and the answer is the same optimistic one I gave at that time.

Mr. Lewis: It may be the same question, Mr. Speaker, but two weeks have elapsed and I should like to ask the minister now whether his proposed legislation has been drafted—whether it is being considered by cabinet or whether it is still in the process of being drafted.

Mr. Hellyer: There is no change in the answer I gave earlier, Mr. Speaker. We are making excellent progress and I hope the bill will not be long delayed.

THE MINISTRY

POSSIBILITY OF NEW MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): I have a question for the Prime Minister, Mr. Speaker. Is it the intention of the government to set up a separate ministry of housing and urban development?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): No, Mr. Speaker.

GRAIN

MEETING WITH FARM ORGANIZATION TO CONSIDER EMERGENCY PROGRAM

Hon. W. G. Dinsdale (Brandon-Souris): May I take this opportunity to ask the Minister without Portfolio whether he met with representatives of the Saskatchewan Farmers Union in Saskatoon last Friday and, if so, what emergency programs does he contemplate to deal with the critical situation facing grain growers on the prairies?

[Mr. McGrath.]

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio): I did attend a meeting of the Saskatchewan Farmers Union in Saskatoon last week. The union presented a brief dealing particularly with feed grain and the quota situation with regard to feed grain. I told them I would be very happy to discuss their representations with my colleagues in the cabinet and that I would do so with a view to seeing whether policy of the Conservative government should now be reversed.

Mr. Dinsdale: While the hon. gentleman is considering programs and policies of the Conservative government, would he also reactivate the aggressive sales program of that government?

COMPENSATION FOR SALES BELOW I.G.A. FLOOR

Mr. T. C. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): May I ask the minister a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker? Did the Farmers' Union make any representations to him regarding the request that the government should compensate them for any sales below the floor price specified in the International Grains Arrangement and, if so, what reply did he give?

Hon. Ofto E. Lang (Minister without Portfolio): The meeting in question was called specifically to deal with the subject of feed grains and the quota regulations in that regard and discussion was restricted almost exclusively to that subject. References of a broader nature which were made to farm income were made largely by myself.

Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands): A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. In view of the fact that representations have been made in writing by the Farmers' Union to the government regarding the loss of income from selling wheat below the agreement price, has the government given any consideration to whether or not the farmers will be compensated?

Mr. Lang: These questions are still under consideration, Mr. Speaker.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

INQUIRY AS TO RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON $_{\rm BILL}$

Right Hon. J. G. Diefenbaker (Prince Albert): Mr. Speaker, the question I direct to the President of the Privy Council is one that is of tremendous interest to the Canadian