

New standards for hockey helmets

Consumer and Corporate Affairs Minister Herb Gray has announced that hockey helmets sold after January 1 must meet safety standards regulations of the Hazardous Products Act. Those that do not meet the standards may not be sold, advertized or imported into Canada after that date.

"Great strides have been made in the development of protective helmets for hockey and other sports over the past ten years," Mr. Gray said. "The Department has been actively following progress in this direction with keen interest. There are some excellent ones on the market today, but there are also some that do not provide adequate protection, even though they are almost indistinguishable, at first glance, from those that do. We want to make sure that every hockey helmet will do the job it is supposed to."

The Canadian Standards Association developed the standards which form the basis of the regulation, in co-operation with industry, coaches and medical specialists.

Mr. Gray said that the current standard was only a first step and that studies would continue with a view to producing more stringent regulations,

if necessary, to ensure the best possible protection for young hockey players.

"Helmets are mandatory in all hockey leagues affiliated with the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association," the

Minister added. "My hope is that players of all ages in all hockey leagues will take full advantage of the protection they afford by wearing them at all times, when on the ice."



Colin Price — Photo Features

Consumer and Corporate Affairs Minister Herb Gray helps Gerald Rayner (right) adjust headgear that meets the safety standards for hockey helmets announced recently in regulations under the

Hazardous Products Act. The helmet worn by Gerald's brother Graham (centre) also passed the test.

The regulations come into effect on January 1.

Farmers' subsidy increased

Canadian dairy farmers, who have been facing a steep rise in the cost of production, have begun receiving almost double the amount of their normal subsidies from the Federal Government.

The increase, which amounts to a total of about \$10 million, comes from two sources.

First, the Federal Government provided to farmers a temporary direct subsidy of 56 cents for 100 pounds of milk, effective August 1. It applies to all the manufacturing milk and cream a farmer ships under his market-sharing quota.

Secondly, the Canadian Dairy Commission has altered its method of payment on quotas to more closely reflect producers' deliveries. This gave producers an additional \$5 million for October.

These payments are intended to pro-

vide dairy farmers with cash to lay in the feed needed to keep winter production high enough to meet demand for dairy products.

The change means that farmers may have received payment on up to 60 per cent of their August quota, up to 70 per cent on their September quota, and will collect payment at the rate of 5 per cent a month of their annual quota from October to March.

Pledge to UN Development Program

Canada will increase its contribution to the United Nations Development Program by \$1.9 million to \$21.7 million this year. A supplementary sum of \$500,000 will be contributed in the coming calendar year for use in projects designed to accelerate development in the least-developed countries, bringing the total Canadian contribution for 1974 to \$22.2 million.

Women influence liquor purchasing

A recent survey among women indicates that liquor, liqueur or wine is served in 85.8 per cent of Canadian households. Some 54 per cent of the women said they had personally shopped for liquor in the past month; 29.2 per cent said they had full influence on brands purchased; 36.5 per cent said they had quite a bit of influence, 28.6 per cent had some influence and only 4.7 per cent reported no influence. Canadian rye enjoys its greatest popularity in the Prairie Provinces and Ontario. The buying of Scotch whisky, liqueurs and cordials is much heavier in the higher income groups. Domestic wine is mainly popular in British Columbia, while imported wines are more popular in Quebec than in the rest of Canada. Light rum has its greatest popularity in the Atlantic Provinces, while vodka and gin are drunk mainly in Quebec.