

All operators of school buses be required to have a current First Aid Certificate:

The Hon. John R. Rhodes of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications stated that, "We are of the opinion that the key to success in solving this problem is the Local School Board. Certain Boards have already accepted responsibility in this area and have made graduation from an approved First Aid Course a pre-requisite for employment. Others provide on-the-job training in first aid after the person has been employed. It has been suggested to the President of the Ontario Council, St. John Ambulance, that his organization approach local school boards individually, advocating that they take the necessary steps to require that it's school bus drivers are trained in first aid and to provide the necessary training facilities. Driver licensing qualification standards have historically been limited to areas directly related to the safe operation of a motor vehicle. These include knowledge of traffic laws and traffic signs, skill in the operation of a motor vehicle itself, adequate vision for safe operation, and maintenance of a level of physical and mental health adequate for safe driving. To depart from this position and decree standards not directly related to driver qualification in the operation of a motor vehicle would seem to go beyond the responsibility and authority assigned this Ministry."

Misuse of alcohol, request more preventative measures:

A letter from the Office of Health and Welfare states that the Research Bureau has recently redefined its priorities and lists preventative research among its priorities. Asking that the emotional needs of married couples be considered when the new homes for the aged are being built:

I have had no reply from Rene Brunelle, Ministry of Community and Social Services.

Recessed handles on appliances to facilitate moving:

The Canadian Appliance and Manufacturing Association assured us that they have forwarded our resolution to their Technical Committee to discuss the matter with their product engineers and we would hear from them. To date no reply.

All bottles containing vitamin pills and/or iron tablets have a cautionary label:

The Department of Health and Welfare, Protection Branch, in their reply state that, "At the present time, the Food and Drug Regulations require that where a drug in the form of a capsule or tablet contains more than 60 mg. of element I iron in the form of ferrous sulphate, the inner and outer labels must carry a caution or warning to the effect that the drug should be kept out of the reach of children. Furthermore, it is expected that a regulation, which would require manufacturers to make available iron-containing preparations in child-resistant packaging, will be promulgated."

So-called meat products — misleading labels:

Our letter with the resolution was acknowledged with thanks by the Hon. Ouellet but no comment was made. An official in the Packaging and Labelling

Branch said they had pressed for legislation as well. The Canadian Consumers are asking that if the product has 10% meat it be called "stew", if it has 12% it be called "dinner."

Reflective markings on all types of cars travelling on railways in Canada:

This resolution is a repeat and the Canadian Transport Commission assure us their programme of placing reflective markings on railway cars is progressing.

Incidents of rape or attempted rape:

There has been no reply to the letter to the Minister of Justice regarding psychiatric and corrective treatment for persons convicted of rape or attempted rape.

Asking the Ontario Government to amend Section 20 (1) (a) of the Child Welfare Act:

The Attorney General states in his reply: "In 1969, the Report of the Age of Majority in Ontario of the Law Reform Commission recognizes that the Child Welfare Act, in its definition of "child" includes children up to the age of eighteen where the child was alleged to be beyond control of the parents. The Federal Government is also proposing changes in the Juvenile Delinquents Act to include raising the age of alleged delinquents to "under eighteen".

The School Leaving Age in Ontario is sixteen and, therefore, there would be many problems involved in trying to force a sixteen or seventeen-year-old who had a job and who was supporting himself to live at home with his parents. A law declaring that children under eighteen must live at home, subject to the whims of their parents would be unenforceable in many cases without locking the child up.

A serious study of the primary reading programme be made and stress be put on phonetics:

A reply from the Director of Curriculum Development for the Ministry of Education, pointed out that phonics are only one of several cues used to decode print and that there is no such a thing as a phonetic system for teaching reading. He goes on to say, among other things, that a child learns to read by reading a wide range of materials and with the guidance from an information-provoking adult. He says that the Ministry of Education has just completed a five-year study of the curriculum in the Primary and Junior Divisions and will be issuing a series of documents to assist teachers, principals and others in more effective programmes for children four to twelve years of age. We were thanked for our resolution and assured that communications from concerned groups such as ours is vital to their task of developing programmes to best serve all children.

To abolish the computerized check-out system:

As you know, this resolution was in the Spring Issue of Home and Country. A copy of the resolution was sent to the Hon. Handleman, Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations who acknowledged it. He said that this subject is under study by the Economic Council of Canada and was a major topic in their National Economic Conference in 1974.