

## MR. PEPIN LOSES SEAT

As a result of a judicial recount of federal election results in the Drummond, Quebec riding, Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister Jean-Luc Pepin was declared defeated by 70 votes on November 10 in favour of Jean-Marie Boisvert of the Social Credit Party.

The loss of Mr. Pepin's Liberal seat and other recounts have resulted, as of November 17, in the Liberal Party having 109 seats and the Progressive Conservative Party 107 seats in the House of Commons; the New Democratic Party has 31, Social Credit 15, and there are two Independents. Other recounts are in progress. A judicial recount is automatic under the Elections Act when the margin is under 25 votes.

The Prime Minister has announced that the House of Commons will convene on January 4.

## IMMIGRANTS MUST APPLY AT HOME

Manpower and Immigration Minister Bryce Mackasey announced on November 3 the temporary suspension of the right of visitors to apply in Canada for landed immigrant status, effective immediately. This decision had been taken, Mr. Mackasey said, "in the light of evidence that this provision of our immigration policy is being flagrantly abused, particularly by racketeers who take advantage of the innocence and gullibility of many citizens from many countries".

"*Bona fide* tourists will continue to be welcomed to this country," he explained. "Some 38 million tourists arrived in Canada last year, and it is to our advantage to stimulate this tourism. For this reason there is no immediate intention of adding to the list of countries from which visitors to Canada are required to have visas, unless it becomes evident that citizens of certain countries are abusing this privilege. If we see that visitors do not go home within their allotted time, we might have to extend our visa system.

"We've tried to be reasonable and fair in permitting continuation of the policy that permits visitors to apply for landed immigrant status, but there is increasing evidence that organized movements are exploiting individuals by misrepresenting our immigration policy. It can best be described as commercial trafficking in human beings."

Mr. Mackasey said that visitors to Canada who had applied for landed immigrant status and been refused were too often forced to take employment in order to survive while waiting for various appeals, "when in reality these jobs should be made available to Canadians".

"The immigration policy of Canada has always been a liberal and open one and will continue to be so," the Minister stated. "When prospective immigrants apply from within their own countries, we are

able to gear immigration to skills needed and at the same time provide the new immigrant with the maximum opportunity for economic survival in a strange country.

"It is largely overlooked that last year immigrants to Canada brought \$344 million with them. Everything will be done to encourage immigrants to come to Canada by the traditional methods, that is, by applying from within their own countries."

Mr. Mackasey said current efforts to clear up the inquiry backlog had been "successful without in any way materially reducing our original criteria". "As of October 27, 1972," he added, "we had reviewed 13,500 cases and 3,000 remain. It is anticipated that this original backlog will be cleared by the end of December as previously announced."

## NAVIGATION CODE

A Code of Navigating Practices and Procedures, which establishes a set of non-regulatory standards for the conduct of ships in Canadian waters, has been issued by the Ministry of Transport.

The Code, aimed at minimizing the incidence of ship collisions and groundings along Canadian shipping routes, will ensure a high standard of efficiency and marine safety if adhered to by ships' masters and officers.

Recommendations are set forth in such areas as navigation, operation and maintenance of navigation equipment and watchkeeping.

The Code emphasizes the use of bridge-to-bridge Very High Frequency (VHF) radio-telephone communication, and establishes standard procedures so that at appropriate times, shipping will be aware of a vessel's location, its intended movements and any other facts relating to it that concern its own safety and that of other vessels.

The Code is primarily intended for observance by larger vessels.

## SNOWMOBILE LICENSING

Two more provinces, British Columbia and Quebec, are requiring registration of snowmobiles. The All-Terrain Vehicles Act, which makes permits compulsory, also sets out regulations and controls regarding the use of snowmobiles and their operation.

Snowmobile drivers in Quebec will be required to have a driver's licence after December 1. All snowmobiles will have to be registered by 1974.

The minimum age for snowmobile drivers in Quebec will be ten years. Drivers aged ten to 15 will not be permitted on public trails and certificates of competence will be required before driver's licences are issued.

Snowmobile registration has already been required in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, and Manitoba. Saskatchewan and Alberta require licences for vehicles on public roads.