

Oral Questions

of Fisheries and Oceans himself indicated that absolutely no representations were made to him by Moores-Doucet. The only thing which was done was that a meeting was set up, access to Ministers, on behalf of friends of the Prime Minister, for cash.

Does the Prime Minister hold to the view he expressed yesterday that there was nothing inappropriate, no impropriety, in that kind of activity by his friends—it's not lobbying, it is simply setting up meetings for money?

Hon. John A. Fraser (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member has heard quite clearly in this House and, no doubt, has also heard statements I made surrounding this situation, to the media and to Hon. Members. I repeat to my hon. friend that I said yesterday that if—and it is an "if", because the company may well have done other services for Mr. Snarby—anyone should suggest that they have to pay a fee to anyone to get an appointment with this Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, that is inappropriate and unacceptable, because we have an open door policy, and it is something which is completely unnecessary.

TIMING OF MEETING

Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre): Mr. Speaker, I ask the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, in view of that answer, whether he denies the story which is reported and well documented in *The Globe and Mail*, that a citizen, Mr. Snarby, tried for two months to have a meeting with the Minister unsuccessfully, and that within five days of entering into a deal with friends of the Prime Minister, for no other services which are disclosed, he had a meeting? Is the Minister contradicting that view?

Hon. John A. Fraser (Minister of Fisheries and Oceans): Mr. Speaker, I do not speak for Mr. Snarby. Mr. Snarby may have his version of what he thinks happened or what he says has happened. I have made it quite clear that if someone wants to ask Mr. Snarby what he did, they can go and ask him. What I know is that Mr. Snarby's application was in the Department and was brought to me in the usual way. In December, on the basis of what he was proposing, I turned it down. Some weeks later, on the basis of a changed proposal, I accepted it, with certain conditions.

If the Hon. Member does not want to accept that, then he must go to see Mr. Snarby and find out what Mr. Snarby says. But, I repeat, there was no need for anyone to be led to believe, nor is there any need now for anyone to think that, to get to see this Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, anyone has to pay a fee to anyone.

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YOUTH

KATIMAVIK PROGRAM

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Deputy Prime Minister.

Katimavik has been a program much praised for its benefits to thousands of Canadian youths. Nevertheless, expenditures this year have been cut from \$50 million to \$19 million. Open House Canada is another program which benefits Canadian youth. Can the Deputy Prime Minister assure the House that his ministerial task force has not been the author of further cuts to Katimavik, and that Open House Canada is not at risk as well?

Hon. Erik Nielsen (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to tell the hon. gentleman that the Katimavik Program is continuing along quite nicely and doing the job which is expected of it.

FUTURE OF PROGRAM

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, will the Deputy Prime Minister assure the House that his committee will not have been the author of the cancellation of Katimavik at the end of IYY?

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I would like to say to the Hon. Member that the programs for youth he has mentioned have taken this morning, I should say, a very dramatic and positive step forward. This morning the Government announced its job strategy in which there is one program, Job Entry, which is specifically designed for young people and which will involve some \$350 million this year. It is for young people—hundreds of thousands of young people—

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Miss MacDonald: —who are going to be able to go from school, or those who have dropped out of school, and be assisted to go into the work force with training which will lead to permanent long-term jobs—

Mr. Speaker: Order. Given the question, I think that is a slightly long answer.

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REFUGEES

PLAUT REPORT—PROCEDURAL DELAYS

Mr. Bob Pennock (Etobicoke North): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Employment and Immigration. The Plaut report, tabled last week by the Minister, noted lengthy delays in the current refugee determination system. This causes hardship for genuine refugees but, more important, it invites unscrupulous individuals to misuse the system and prolong their stay in Canada, as was the case of which I have given the Minister notice. What steps is the Government taking to speed up the process to help the deserving, and remove those who abuse the system?

Hon. Flora MacDonald (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member made reference