

*Oral Questions***STATISTICS CANADA**

## EXPECTED TABLING OF CERTAIN REPORTS

**Hon. Sinclair Stevens (York-Peel):** Madam Speaker, my question is for the President of the Treasury Board. I wonder if he can indicate to the House whether he has been confirmed as the minister responsible for Statistics Canada for at least the coming months and, if so, when may we expect him to table the three reports which have now been concluded dealing with Statistics Canada, namely, the Newcombe report, the Price Waterhouse report and the Sir Claus Moser report?

**Hon. Donald J. Johnston (President of Treasury Board):** Madam Speaker, I do have responsibility for Statistics Canada. I hope to table the Price Waterhouse report and the Sir Claus Moser report within the next several days.

With respect to the Newcombe report, I have already indicated that it was not my intention to table it because of some of the personal references which are contained in it, but that I would be pleased to make it available to spokesmen of opposition parties who would like to review its contents. I am prepared to reconsider my position on that, if they insist that it also be tabled.

**Mr. Stevens:** Madam Speaker, I would like the minister to reconsider his decision not to table the full Newcombe report, but I also ask when he might indicate to the House what remedial action he intends to take with respect to Statistics Canada.

**Mr. Johnston:** Madam Speaker, the situation at Statistics Canada is now the direct responsibility of Mr. Larry Fry, who is the chief statistician acting under a short mandate. He has already studied the reports and is taking remedial action in the area of management improvement and some of the areas which were recommended in the Price Waterhouse report. I will be making a further statement at the time I table the report which, as I indicated, should be within the next several days.

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**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

## BOYCOTTING OF OLYMPIC GAMES IN MOSCOW

**Mr. Chris Speyer (Cambridge):** Madam Speaker, my question is to the Prime Minister. I would like to return to the general topic of the Olympic boycott. Apart altogether from what the Prime Minister perceives to be the effects of a boycott on the Russian people and the Russian government, and apart altogether from what any other country does, is the time not long overdue when the Prime Minister should assert the moral authority of his office and lead the Canadian people by concrete action, as opposed to sanctimonious statements—

**Some hon. Members:** Order.

**Mr. Speyer:**—and that we as a country should take the view that we are not going to Moscow?

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

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

**An hon. Member:** What?

**Mr. Trudeau:** I said "No".

**Mr. Crosbie:** He said "No".

**Mr. Speyer:** Prime Minister—

**An hon. Member:** Address the Chair.

**Mr. Speyer:** Sorry, Madam Speaker. Do you appreciate—

**Some hon. Members:** No.

**Madam Speaker:** The hon. member should remember that he must address the Chair.

**Mr. Speyer:** Madam Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Prime Minister. I wonder if the Prime Minister appreciates the symbolism to our people of a strong stand with respect to the Olympic boycott independent of other countries and independent, even, of the effect that it might have on Russians. Does the Prime Minister appreciate the symbolism of that to the Canadian people?

**Mr. Trudeau:** Madam Speaker, I am afraid I cannot agree with the hon. member. If he thinks that symbolism is just for the sake of symbolism and, in the terms of his own question, has no effect on the Soviet Union, then indeed I disagree with him.

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[Translation]

**NATIONAL UNITY**

## QUEBEC REFERENDUM—ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM TO ALLOW GREATER PARTICIPATION BY QUEBEC FEDERAL MEMBERS

**Mr. Maurice Dupras (Labelle):** Madam Speaker, my question is directed to the President of the Privy Council. While I am aware that the business of the House is important and that it is urgent to dispose of it, and although the No team is gaining wider support from Quebecers in all regions, I should like to know if the President of the Privy Council has obtained from the opposition parties an agreement which would allow us, as Quebec elected members, to be more visible and active during the referendum campaign. I know, Madam Speaker, that all men and women in Canada generally, but more specifically in Quebec, are anxious to know what part we will play if—

**Madam Speaker:** Order, please. Would the hon. member ask his question.