

[Translation]

HOUSE OF COMMONS

DATE OF BY-ELECTIONS

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the right hon. Prime Minister.

In view of the interest we hold for the representation of those ridings without members in the House, and since our organizers—particularly in Quebec—have been quite well trained for the last five or six weeks, could the Prime Minister tell the House when he will announce the holding of by-elections, because I think this moment is quite appropriate?

Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I intend to announce that date in the House.

* * *

IMMIGRATION

REQUEST FOR INQUIRY INTO ALLEGED PAYMENT TO OBTAIN LANDED IMMIGRANT STATUS

Mr. Jacques Lavoie (Hochelaga): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Because it is my duty both as a Quebecer and as a member of parliament to defend my fellow citizens, and in view of the fact that a Canadian individual of Portuguese origin anxious to obtain landed immigrant status has been forced to pay \$150 for some formalities to be filled on his behalf by the Liberal representative for Montreal-Saint-Louis in the Quebec National Assembly, can the minister advise the House whether such action is acceptable on the part of either a provincial or federal elected representative and also whether he intends to investigate this matter in view of the large number of people who have been victimized in this way and about whom I shall let him know as soon as I am in possession of the documented evidence?

[English]

Hon. Jack Cullen (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): I will be happy to receive the information which the hon. member has indicated he will provide and I will turn it over to my colleague, the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, if such action is in fact taking place.

* * *

ENERGY

DECISION ON REFINERY FOR ELDERADO NUCLEAR AT PORT GRANBY—REASON COMPANY TAKING UP OPTIONS ON LAND

Mr. Allan Lawrence (Northumberland-Durham): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct my question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Can the minister inform us whether there has yet been a ministerial or government decision with regard to the request that the new refinery of Eldorado Nuclear be built at Port Granby, Ontario, which is

Oral Questions

just outside Port Hope? If that decision has been made, will the minister tell us what the decision is, and if the decision has not been made, will he tell us why not?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member always tries to make his questions very simple with “if not, why not”, and so forth.

Mr. Baker (Grenville-Carleton): A simple minister; that's why.

Mr. Gillespie: It is never quite as simple as the hon. member would like it to be. The hon. member must know that there are a number of agencies which would have to approve any new plant in the Port Granby area. I refer to the local authorities with respect to zoning, the provincial government with respect to health and the environment, the federal government with respect to health and environment and the Atomic Energy Control Board and approval with respect to the question of the capital budget of Eldorado itself. Against that background it is quite clear that the approval of all of these bodies has not as yet been obtained nor have applications been made to all of them. The answer is that no approval has yet been given.

If I understood correctly, the second part of the question was with respect to waste management. I think the hon. member implied this. The federal government will be taking steps to provide for a permanent waste management facility in that area.

Mr. Lawrence: I gather from that that the ministerial decision has not yet been made. If that is so, I wonder why this Crown agency, for which the minister is responsible, is now very actively taking up options on the land and in effect is buying the land needed for the refinery. If the Crown agency does not believe the minister has made the decision, why is it buying the land for the refinery today?

Mr. Gillespie: If the hon. member had listened to the last part of my answer, I think he would have found the answer to that question. The reason is that under its terms of reference the corporation is perfectly free to make an acquisition and to exercise an option for the purchase of land. It is under very stringent constraint orders from the Atomic Energy Control Board to provide a permanent waste management facility with the existing waste management facility at Port Granby. The corporation has exercised its option, which is perfectly legal.

* * *

STATISTICS CANADA

REQUEST FOR ATTENDANCE OF FORMER CHIEF STATISTICIAN, DR. OSTRY, AT COMMITTEE HEARING

Mr. Walter Baker (Grenville-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce which arises out of an answer he gave to a question asked yesterday by the hon. member for Central Nova. The minister indicated his willingness to bring the matter of Statis-