

Oral Questions

Mr. Siddon: Then let us have the committee meeting at five o'clock.

Mr. Johnston:—and I think the committee work on the Estimates is important. The Hon. Member knows that I have always been co-operative in terms of appearing before the committee at any time.

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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**STORAGE OF NUCLEAR WASTE**

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of the Environment. I am sure he is aware that last week Mr. Donnelly, President of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, stated that Canada has some interest in storing international nuclear waste from other countries. In light of the fact that not one ounce of the over 100 million tonnes of radioactive waste in Canada is properly permanently stored, would the Minister advise what is the Government's policy now on the storage of international nuclear waste in Canada? Would he table in the House any plans he or Atomic Energy of Canada has regarding the storage of waste anywhere in Canada?

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member should know that we have conducted extensive studies on this matter over past years. Substantial sums of money have been made available in terms of research for the storage of nuclear waste. There is a process in place which needs to be triggered before any decision is made in this respect. Therefore, the matter is well under control in terms of research and of procedure.

Mr. Fulton: I hope the Minister did not confirm that his Department and the Government have plans to bring nuclear waste from other countries into Canada for storage. It seems that was his answer.

NUCLEAR REACTOR SITES

Mr. Jim Fulton (Skeena): Mr. Speaker, would the Minister advise us whether the Government shares the views of Mr. Donnelly, and it seems of the Hon. Member for Prince George-Peace River, on the lucrative nature of radioactive waste storage for other countries? I am sure the residents of Prince George will be interested to know more about that. Would the Minister also indicate whether or not it is government policy to finance and construct nuclear reactors along Canada's border for the export of power into the United States? Would he confirm those points?

Hon. Chas. L. Caccia (Minister of the Environment): Mr. Speaker, it is absolutely ludicrous on the Hon. Member's part to suggest that my Department has the intention of bringing in any radioactive waste material. As far as his allegation of arranging, organizing or making plans for sites along the

border is concerned, I should like him to substantiate his claims before even investigating them.

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[Translation]

POOLS**CANADA SPORTS POOL CORPORATION—REQUEST FOR LIST OF DISTRIBUTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS**

Mr. David Kilgour (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of State for Fitness and Amateur Sport. It is quite obvious that the guidelines for selecting distributors or administrators for the new Canada Sports Pool Corporation are that if two candidates are equally qualified and one has links with the Liberal Party, the latter should be given the distributorship or position.

My question is as follows: Is the Minister prepared to publish today a list of the people working for the Corporation or who have obtained a distributorship? Could the Minister inform the House or the Canadian people whether it is true that Marie-André Bastien, Vice-President of the Corporation, has been guaranteed two years' severance pay?

Hon. Jacques Olivier (Minister of State (Fitness and Amateur Sport)): Mr. Speaker, I would like to start by congratulating my hon. friend opposite on his excellent command of French. I think my hon. friend's premises are false. Unfortunately, he has not had time to hear what I said on the subject, but I said very clearly last week that being a Liberal, a Progressive Conservative or a member of the NDP was not one of the job qualifications. In fact, I hope it will never be used as indication that a person is competent or has sales experience with respect to sports pools or lotteries. In fact, that is a criterion! Previous experience in a similar environment is another. So much for the first part of the Hon. Member's question.

As for the second part, I would like to point out to the Hon. Member that the distributors have yet to be selected. The President of the Canada Sports Pool Corporation informed me last week that no distributors had been selected and that the people who were selling tickets were doing so under contract, with the proviso that they would withdraw as soon as distributors were appointed. That should answer your question. No one has been appointed distributor. As for Mrs. Marie-Andrée Bastien, she was appointed by order in council, and that is public information you can check.

REQUEST THAT MINISTER TABLE LIST OF EMPLOYEES

Mr. David Kilgour (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, if that is true, why not publish a list of the people working for the Corporation and who have been given a distributorship? With the list, perhaps the Minister might care to sell me a