

IMMIGRATION

ILLEGAL ENTRY BY RUSSIAN SAILOR—REASON FOR
TRANSFER FROM VANCOUVER TO QUEBEC CITY

Mr. Harold E. Winch (Vancouver East): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. May I preface it by saying that the young Russian who swam ashore on the British Columbia coast has been transferred from Vancouver to Quebec City detention cells on the excuse, according to a Vancouver immigration officer, that better accommodation is available to him there.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Winch: Will the minister assure the concerned citizens of Vancouver that this sailor has not been moved from an area where his case is well known to a city more than 3,000 miles away so he can be quietly deported and not be an embarrassment when Premier Kosygin visits Canada?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): My information also, I am sorry to tell the hon. member, is that the accommodation is better in Quebec City than it is in Vancouver, and this is the reason for the transfer. I should like to assure him that the board of inquiry, should it be reconvened, would almost certainly sit in Vancouver, so there would be no problem in connection with representation. I can also say that at the present time I am fairly confident that a variety of problems associated with this young gentleman's stay in Canada may be settled and it may not be long before he has legal status here.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Winch: May I say we greatly appreciate the information as to the question of legal status. In view of the answer the minister gave to the first part of my question, may I ask him when he intends to improve the detention cells in Vancouver?

ILLEGAL ENTRY BY RUSSIAN SAILOR—DETENTION
PENDING DISPOSITION OF CASE

Mr. R. Gordon L. Fairweather (Fundy-Royal): I have a supplementary question to ask concerning the holding of Mr. Kourdakov in jail. Was this the consequence of a decision by the minister? Further, may we expect the sailor to be released pending disposition of the hearing?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): In the first instance the detention of the Russian sailor was simply a routine procedure reflecting the manner of his arrival in the country. At the present time discussions are going on concerning his various applications. He is being maintained in what are now fairly comfortable quarters. I hope this matter can be settled satisfactorily fairly soon.

Mr. Fairweather: Is this Russian sailor able to leave these comfortable quarters, be they in Vancouver or in Quebec City, or is he under detention?

Inquiries of the Ministry

Mr. Lang: I am not sure the question has arisen in terms of any request to go anywhere other than where he is. He is comfortably housed at the moment.

Mr. Woolliams: Is he in custody? Of course he is.

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MUSIC

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO BUGLE AND OTHER BANDS
TO VISIT FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Mr. W. M. Howe (Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo): I have a question for the Secretary of State. Has the minister's attention been drawn to the fact that over the weekend the National Bugle Corps championships were held in Ottawa? I am particularly interested because for the second year in a row the Durham Bugle Band won the national drum corps junior standstill title. My reason for asking this question is not only to pay tribute to this band but to point out that when the world's fair was held in Japan there was great difficulty in getting assistance from the Department of the Secretary of State for bugle bands of this type which would have been wonderful ambassadors for Canada with their bright, shining faces—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Howe: I ask the Secretary of State whether he will give consideration—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I think the Chair will need a bugle band for assistance in maintaining order at times.

Mr. Howe: On a question of privilege, Mr. Speaker, many members will recall that we have a number of excellent school bands who at the time of the world's fair needed assistance to go to Japan. They had been invited to go but there was no assistance available—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. That, of course, is hardly a question of privilege.

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GRAIN

WITHHOLDING BY GOVERNMENT OF PAYMENTS UNDER
TEMPORARY WHEAT RESERVES ACT—LEGAL POSITION

Mr. Don Mazankowski (Vegreville): My question is directed to the Minister of Justice, Mr. Speaker. Have he or officials of his department undertaken to determine whether the provisions of the Temporary Wheat Reserves Act are being contravened by the government's failure to pay to the Canadian Wheat Board some \$61 million for the crop year 1970-71 plus a further \$26 million, approximately, for the crop year 1971-72?

Hon. John N. Turner (Minister of Justice): We are apprised of the matter.

Mr. Eldon M. Woolliams (Calgary North): The Minister of Justice may be apprised of the situation but will he now refer the matter to the legal officers of the Department of