

S.O. 21

favour of foreign investment, the man who will review every future takeover in this country. I do not believe Canadians want that fox in charge of our chickens.

The jobs it will cost are not just, in that case, jobs from new investment, jobs from takeovers of small companies, jobs from indirect takeovers, but jobs from large takeovers. By taking this out of the control of Cabinet and putting it to the gentle mercies of the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion, even large-scale takeovers will be subject to approval without guarantees to the Canadian people.

There are two visions for the future which will compete in this debate. I predict the debate will go on a long time because we intend to fight this Bill in a tough and effective way. There is a vision of an independent, strong Canada under our own control, giving us the jobs we need for our future. On the other hand, there is a vision of a country dependent, weakened, with an economy that relies on others to give it dynamism, an economy and a policy prostituting itself to try and get direct foreign investment from whoever will provide it.

We will fight for that first vision of a strong, independent economy under our own control. As this fight goes on, it is that vision of a positive, exciting future for all the people of this country which will win support. I predict that this first major initiative of the Conservative Government will be one of the first steps that ultimately costs it the popular support of the people of this country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It being one o'clock, I do now leave the chair until two o'clock.

At 1 p.m. the House took recess.

AFTER RECESS

The House resumed at 2 p.m.

STATEMENTS PURSUANT TO S.O. 21

[*Translation*]

IMMIGRATION**APPLICANTS FOR CITIZENSHIP POSSESSING BANGLADESH REFUGEE STATUS**

Mrs. Lucie Pépin (Outremont): Mr. Speaker, today, there are nearly 500 people from Bangladesh who are now living in the Montreal area and are waiting for a reply from the federal authorities. Many have been waiting for over a year, living with the fearful thought that they might have to go back to their native country and the military regime they wanted to escape.

Today, between 20 and 25 applicants for refugee status have received deportation orders, the reason given being that they

were not political but economic refugees. It is quite clear that if these people return to Bangladesh, they will probably suffer retaliation. I therefore urge the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Miss MacDonald) to accede to the request for a moratorium by the Bangladesh Refugee Action Committee and the Centre des services sociaux du Montréal métropolitain.

Since the present system under which applications for refugee status are processed is inefficient and is now being reviewed by Rabbi Gunther Plaut, and since Amnesty International and Development and Peace have both denounced the many human rights violations in Bangladesh, including cases of imprisonment, torture and execution, I think that cancelling these deportation orders should be a priority.

In my opinion, the Minister of Employment and Immigration should do everything in her power to defend the rights of these applicants, and this could be done if the Minister would consider the concerns of the main parties involved. Furthermore, no decision should be made until such time as the system for processing the files of applicants for refugee status has been changed.

[*English*]

Mr. Speaker: I regret to inform the Hon. Member that her time has expired.

ROUTINE PROCEEDINGS

[*English*]

AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT**TABLING OF ANNUAL REPORT**

Mr. Speaker: I must apologize to the House. I have a duty to perform before we can continue with statements.

I have the honour to lay upon the Table the report of the Auditor General of Canada to the House of Commons for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1984. I remind Hon. Members that, under Standing Order 69(1)(q), this report is deemed to have been permanently referred to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

We will now continue with Statements pursuant to Standing Order 21.