

Supply—Citizenship and Immigration

it even for you. That is my own language but that is the way I took it. I know it is true that they will follow the law and we have no right, no matter what the local need is, to expect them to break the law because they will not do so. I tried to get a tailor brought out from Italy for a local tailoring establishment because the owner of the establishment could not get a tailor any place in Canada. Because the tailor in Italy was not a relative the request was refused, and of course my friend thought that the government was terribly hard. He may get the tailor here in some other way. However, I should like to say that if a thing is right and you will stick to it the officials will see that you are right.

There is the outstanding example of a Hebrew family we brought out from Poland just two weeks before the war. I tried for two years to get that family brought out here. They landed in Fort William. The rest of their relatives have not been heard from since. They do not know where their uncles and aunts are unless they are across the river Jordan. A boy and girl of that family have been a credit to Canada. They have graduated in arts and are determined now to give Canada their best because Canada saved the lives of their father and mother and their own lives. The boy, who could not speak a word of English when he came here, won first prize for public speaking in our collegiate.

I give this example to show that the officials have still got a heart. While there may be a housing shortage, so far as immigrants seeking to come to Fort William are concerned housing is no problem. Those who want them brought here have houses and jobs for them. As I see it, we need far more immigrants in Canada. You can travel almost any place in Quebec and there is vacant land. Around Fort William we have splendid pieces of land that will grow beautiful potatoes. Therefore we need immigrants to cultivate the land and who will carry their own load.

As I said the other day, I am very pleased that the department of immigration has been getting a number of immigrants from the north of Ireland. I asked then if there was any possibility of getting more of them because men and women coming from the north of Ireland are able to take their places with Canadians anywhere in any type of work for which they are qualified. I congratulate the department on allowing more Irish immigrants to come to Canada, because we believe they are good immigrants.

I must admit that I have tried in vain to bring a young Chinaman out from China but

it seemed that the quota was complete. I thought the boy was coming out to go to school in Fort William but an X-ray was taken of him and he was declared to be older than the father and mother said he was. I congratulate the department on having the age limit raised to 25 years and I am therefore hopeful that this potential Canadian citizen will get to Fort William. His father has a restaurant, a fine paying business, and he needs the boy there. The father is an old man both in his years and in his ways. I hope to see the boy come to Fort William.

I have another case of the same kind but because the age limit is raised the second boy may qualify. When the two boys come to Fort William, as I expect they will, we are going to have a real reception for those prospective Canadian citizens.

I just wish to thank the officials for the courtesy they have given me during the years. I could not have been better treated and, in fact, if I asked for something which they found was contrary to the law they were very kind in saying "no"; and "no" should be said to any member of parliament who wants an official to break the law of Canada.

Mr. Noseworthy: As the hon. member for Winnipeg North indicated this morning, I wish to discuss for a few minutes the question of immigration from the British West Indies. In my opinion, the policy which is followed by the government in regard to immigrants from the British West Indies is immigration by discrimination on the basis of colour. I know that the minister will object and say that such is not the case, but from all I can gather it is about the only conclusion one can reach regarding the government's present policy.

About a year ago I took up with the minister a special case. It was the case of a coloured Canadian citizen, a former employee of one of the railway companies, a man against whose character as a Canadian citizen there was no blot, a man who had lived a fairly exemplary life in his community, who wanted to bring his granddaughter from Barbados. I wrote to the minister and the minister in his reply said:

I have had the case reviewed by the immigration branch to ascertain whether some grounds could not be found for extending favourable consideration. It is quite evident, however, that Miss Braithwaite . . .

That was the young lady's name—

—does not qualify for admission under present regulations and in the circumstances no encouragement can be offered.

The minister goes on to say:

In reply to your last paragraph one of the conditions for admission to Canada is that immigrants should be able readily to become adapted and integrated into the life of the community within a reasonable time after their entry. In the light of