

Government Orders

Europe and the Soviet Union. For this purpose Australia and New Zealand are grouped with of course western Europe and North America. All the rest, all the non-white people, are considered to be Third World. This is where most of the refugees are now because of, primarily, civil wars and international wars fuelled by guns from the northern countries, not from those southern countries.

These people are congregated by the millions into the refugee camps of Latin America, Africa and Asia. This is where our officials go to select the refugees. They select the cream of the crop.

After the long delays that I have described and the added delay caused by the government's mishandling of the limit on the loan fund, refugees get to Canada and, in the public perception, are lumped together with those who came to make their claim in Canada.

I want to go back to the matter of the crisis of the loan fund. It is that crisis that the government has used to put the pressure on to say: "Look, we have only got a couple of more days or so of Parliament. We want to make sure that this crisis does not happen again, so leave it all to the minister". As my colleague from York West pointed out, this means that the minister can raise the loan limit, as well as reduce the loan limit. She could reduce it to zero if she so desired. I hope she will not.

There is very little way to become aware of this, unless a person becomes a hobby reader of *The Canada Gazette* and watches like a hawk everything that is published in it. I hope the minister would in fact report a major decision like this to the committee which deals with the matter, the Standing Committee on Labour, Employment and Immigration.

Therefore I support the member's amendment which is:

That Bill C-77 be amended in Clause 2 by adding immediately after line 18 at page 1 the following:

"(3.1) The operation of subsections (1), (2) and (3) and any report made pursuant to subsection (4) shall be reviewed on a permanent basis by the Standing Committee on Labour, Employment and Immigration of the House of Commons".

That will not necessarily cure all the problems, but it will somewhat widen the area of responsibility.

Finally, I want to acknowledge that the minister was kind enough to send a draft of the regulation which she intends, and I understand Cabinet has agreed, to enact once this bill which is passed today gives her the authority.

I have here the copy of an amendment which is that Section 45 of the immigration regulations, 1978, be amended by adding thereto immediately after subsection (3) thereof the following subsection: "(4). For the purpose of Section 119 of the Act the total amount of outstanding advances out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to the minister shall not at any time exceed \$150 million".

That is a very substantial increase on \$90 million. I believe it is warranted in the circumstances. I am very glad that the minister has given us a copy of that regulation as some assurance that the action put into effect will be taken immediately with the authority given by this bill.

However, I want to deal, as I said, with the problem that is colliding with the matter of the refugees we bring from overseas. That is to say the government's persistent delay in dealing with those who have come to Canada to claim refugee status.

It is not because the government is letting anybody and everybody come easily into Canada and claim refugee status. The government has been very firm about placing visa requirements on any country from which many people have come claiming refugee status.

It has been very firm about laying the burden on the airlines, that the airline officials and ticket agents must examine a person's papers and determine whether the person has valid papers and a valid visa for coming to Canada. Otherwise, the airline is subject to a financial penalty.

The officials of the department remarked with great satisfaction last year after the program started that there was a reduction in the number of people coming to Canada claiming refugee status. These methods that the government has used, some of them enacted three years ago in Bill C-55, have had some effect.

It is not easy for a genuine refugee to get to Canada to claim refugee status. If he has to pay \$5,000, \$10,000 or \$15,000 for a false visa—and apparently there is quite a trade in that—he has to find \$5,000, \$10,000 or \$15,000 which is not easy.