

Manpower and Immigration Council

mathematics; the Jamaican, who was under tremendous pressure to give the right answers so that he could stay in this country and bring his family in, made a mistake. I give full credit to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Marchand); he granted this chap a special minister's permit and I give him full credit for his compassionate spirit.

The Immigration Appeal Board takes a different view from that of the minister. The special inquiry officer asked this man a trick question and he gave a wrong answer. He was wrong in his mathematics and that, therefore, showed that he did not have sufficient education to enter this country.

I have a daughter, Mr. Speaker, who has taught school in Jamaica for the past two years and she has been interested in the history of that country. I say to you, in all sincerity, Great Britain has been the dominant and controlling power in Jamaica for 300 years. What do you think of an educational system that is bequeathed to Jamaica after 300 years of control which makes a Jamaican who is under great pressure answer that four times two and a half is ten and a half? I do not consider that a reflection on the Jamaican; I consider that to be a reflection on the educational system. Oh yes, we talk about the white man's burden; but I can tell you, some white men do not pick up too heavy a burden, even though they talk about it a great deal. I think that that is a reflection on the educational system that was established in Jamaica with a lot of fuss and fanfare, as if it were 100 per cent all right. For a man to answer that four times two and a half is ten and a half is a reflection on the educational system, and not on the man.

Let me carry this further. This special inquiry officer asked questions about almost everything, and the would-be immigrant, if he wanted to enter, had to answer correctly. For instance the officer asked when the first world war broke out; when did the second world war break out; when was the date of this and the date of that, and he got some very intelligent answers, I can tell you.

Then all of a sudden the special inquiry officer said: "What was the date of the armistice in the second world war?" I said, "Just a moment, just a moment." I had not said a word until then. I said, "There was no armistice in the second world war; there was unconditional surrender, and nothing else." After that the special inquiry officer said, "Oh. Then, what was the date of the unconditional surrender in the second world war?"

There we had an immigration official who didn't know what he was talking about, so how could the would-be immigrant answer correctly? Mr. Speaker, the minister has said on several occasions that we have to upgrade the quality of the staff in the immigration department. Believe me, I know we have to, and I know where the minister can start making the improvements. I shall be glad to give him the name of the man; I shall gladly tell him who the official is, I can assure you.

Gentlemen, I ask the immigration department to give attention to the four cases I have brought up. They show that the regulations are ridiculous. They should be corrected or scrapped. I do not know what better description there can be of the regulations under which the department's people are working than the *Star's* description of "a quibbling quagmire." I sincerely hope that the special advisory council for the Department of Manpower and Immigration will be instituted quickly, because the immigration department surely needs help.

● (9:00 p.m.)

[Translation]

Mr. C. A. Gauthier (Roberval): Mr. Speaker, I shall certainly not follow along the same lines as the previous speaker, even though I always like to hear the hon. member for York-Humber deal with a matter which makes everybody wonder what he is driving at. While listening to him talk about abortions, illegitimate children and parents, I thought he would ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration (Mr. Marchand) to provide retraining courses for those babies and their parents.

But, on the contrary, he merely dealt with bureaucratic mistakes in matters of immigration, and I think that such mistakes are being made not only in the immigration branch of the department, but also in the manpower branch. The more progress is seemingly made, the more the government is heading towards a totalitarian bureaucracy which will prevent it from acting according to its own standards, in spite of statutes which, at first, often seem effective.

With regard to Bill No. C-150, since I shall only deal with the Canada Manpower and Immigration Council, I must say that it surely looks, at first sight, like an amendment to the previous bill. It corrected some deficiencies of the previous bill, but I am afraid that the staff which has just been appointed to implement this bill will cause the greatest upheaval ever seen. In fact, according to the