

another to the provinces, we will deal with the problem at that time and make the appropriate arrangements.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. DeBlois): For a short question, the hon. member for Mount Royal.

[English]

Mrs. Sheila Finestone (Mount Royal): Mr. Speaker, being aware of the fact that a short question is all that is allowed, let me ask the minister if there is a potential for a challenge under the charter with respect to mobility rights. If I do not necessarily accept to go or if I do accept to go and I do not like it, do I have the right to leave before the two years you are imposing? Yes or no.

[Translation]

Mr. Corbeil: Mr. Speaker, we do not think there could be a challenge under the charter, since these conditions would be freely accepted and freely contracted by people who would agree to enter Canada under this new system.

[English]

Mr. Sergio Marchi (York West): Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to participate in the second reading of Bill C-86, which is the very extensive and elaborate immigration legislation, a fact our critic certainly pointed out quite articulately on Friday. The bill is 113 pages long and comprises some 128 sections. Simply from a process viewpoint, having nothing to say about substance, from a clearly procedural point it is highly offensive that we are approaching such a sensitive area in such a callous manner.

Additionally, we are moving from first reading to second reading without even taking a breath because this morning the government imposed closure. It gives parliamentarians little or no chance to even begin to digest the essence of Bill C-86. More important, it does not give enough time at the second reading stage for Canadians to become partners in the equation rather than dealing with them as abstract observers to the entire situation.

It is regrettable. The critic for the Liberal Party of Canada and the Liberal caucus stressed this position on Friday and articulated the concerns the Liberal Party has as well as some of the minor improvements that had been made within the body of Bill C-86.

Government Orders

When we discuss immigration we are discussing one of the most emotional areas of federal public policy; emotional because we are saying who can come and who cannot come into the country and the reasons for those individuals not being able to come or to stay.

There is nothing more difficult than for members of Parliament to go back to their constituencies where immigration is a very important item and to be the messengers of those negative decisions whether it be for a student who wants to come here to study, a visitor for a marriage or a funeral, a refugee who has no other option but to be deported, a Canadian who cannot have his brother or sister join his family here. It is a very emotional area and yet at the same time, for the last number of years, it has probably been one of the most mismanaged areas of federal public policy. A wide array of ministers for immigration have brought with them new priorities, new directions. This has caused a great deal of frustration, not only in the immigration constituency but for Canadians coast to coast to coast.

Nothing has highlighted that mismanagement more than the entire refugee determination process, a process that has lacked management. This government wants to come across as a government that wants to get tough with refugees and wants a system that is going to be respected. It has been the manager of this so-called new system.

Look at the refugee backlog. How many millions of dollars have been spent? Count the years that people have not been able to see their own families, people who get refused and then do not get deported at the end of that day. The system is clearly breaking down. The architect of this system is not some former government, the architect of this system, which is being changed again, is in fact this government.

• (1310)

We have to wonder sometimes whether the government has the best interests of the immigration dossier at heart or whether it is playing fast and loose with this dossier against the interests of Canadians across the country, all for political expediency.

If we cast our minds back a few summers ago, there was a clear example of utilizing that dossier in the very worst way. That famous summer, 157 migrants landed off the east coast of this country. Rather than dealing with