

IMMIGRATION

MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF IMMIGRANTS—GOVERNMENT ACTION TO ENSURE ADEQUACY

Mr. P. B. Rynard (Simcoe North): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the astronomical costs being encountered in respect of health care in the treatment of worms and intestinal parasites as well as sickness which, according to experts in the field, is becoming a widespread problem in urban areas, I should like to ask the minister, since this problem is brought into Canada mostly by immigrants from tropical countries, why proper examination and treatment is not carried out before entry of the person into Canada?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, there have been changes in the recent past with regard to examination of immigrants and indeed visitors destined to employment in Canada in terms of health. Those efforts have been stepped up very considerably in recent months. I would be glad to give the hon. member the full details of this and elaborate on it in a letter or make the situation public. There is a further difficulty which bothers us of course with regard to people who come here as visitors and then stay for other purposes, that is to take unauthorized employment. But here again steps are being taken to make it easier for employers, and more likely that they will be able, to identify people who are authorized or unauthorized in terms of the validity of their being in Canada. These steps combined with others will improve the situation which indeed concerns me, as it does the hon. member, although I am not sure it is as prevalent as he is indicating in his comments.

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● (1440)

AIR TRANSPORT

POSSIBILITY OF CHANGES IN TERMS OF REFERENCE OF INQUIRY INTO USE OF BILINGUAL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS

Mr. Jack Murta (Lisgar): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Transport, and it is basically a supplementary question to the one asked earlier. The minister in his statement yesterday indicated a willingness to look at all aspects of safety. I should like to ask him now whether he could be more specific and indicate exactly what he meant. Is he willing to go as far as the air traffic controllers have asked him to go, that is to include all aspects of bilingualism?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): Mr. Speaker, I think that my answer yesterday speaks for itself adequately. I do not think it would be useful to attempt to spell out in detail what may be the nature of the first proposal, the reply, the second proposal, and later discussions today. I can say to the hon. member, however, that any aspect relating to safety, so far as I am concerned, is something we are certainly willing to establish satisfactorily, that we are concerned and that our procedures take it into account.

Oral Questions

What I am not willing to do is to treat as a bargainable issue a matter which must be a matter of government policy or indeed, in parallel business terms, a matter for management, and that is the fundamental issue of a policy decision about whether or not to provide certain service in a bilingual way. That is a policy decision which the government will take and, with the co-operation of this parliament will continue to take, and that does not become a bargainable issue.

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[Translation]

SPORTS

POSSIBILITY OF CANADA CUP HOCKEY GAMES AT QUEBEC CITY

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of National Health and Welfare.

On May 7 last, the minister made a statement about the Canada Cup and said that the games would probably be held in Montreal, and Toronto if a satisfactory agreement could be reached with them, and that possibly one or two games might be held in Quebec City. Is the minister in a position to say to the House today whether such agreement has been reached and whether there will be some hockey games of that series in Quebec City?

Hon. Marc Lalonde (Minister of National Health and Welfare): The organizing committee has the firm intention of scheduling at least one game and perhaps two in Quebec City. I do not know, however, if a formal agreement has been signed, but as far as the organizing committee is concerned, there is no doubt that it will do its utmost to hold at least one game in Quebec City which, as you know, has many hockey fans.

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INDUSTRY

TEXTILES—POSSIBILITY OF UNION REPRESENTATION ON COMMITTEE TO ESTABLISH NEW POLICY

Mr. Yvon Pinard (Drummond): Mr. Speaker, in the absence of the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, I will direct my question to his parliamentary secretary; it is about the recent establishment of a special committee to review the whole Canadian textile and clothing policy. As this committee must report to the minister before June 30 next, and following the interesting meeting last week between CSD representatives and several government members on the matter, will the participation of a union representative on this committee be encouraged to ascertain the constructive and useful views of workers in this major industry who are interested in the safety of their employment?

Mr. Marcel Roy (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, I think I must first outline the composition of this advisory committee: three senior executives of the textile industry, three senior executives of the clothing industry, one provincial