

[Translation]

I would like to know, considering the fact that these families were held in transit when the changes were made on February 20, and also considering that a period of grace was not allowed and that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees declared them to be *bona fide* refugees, why wouldn't the Minister be prepared to make up for the Prime Minister's announcement and authorize these people to enter Canada and join their families?

[English]

Hon. Benoît Bouchard (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I have just answered the Member's question. I said on February 20, and I repeat it, that we have to apply regulations. That is what we did.

People from around the world who want to come to Canada have to respect the regulations and the laws of Canada. People have a chance to apply as immigrants. If they want to do that, we will consider their applications. There are a lot of people in Canada who want to be reunited with their families. They are waiting for decisions under the Immigration Act. We apply the Immigration Act to all Canadians.

Some Hon. Members: Hear, hear!

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TRADE

ALLEGED DUMPING OF STEEL IMPORTS

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of International Trade. In light of the recent imposition of import restrictions on steel in the United States, the Western Canada Steel plant in Richmond, British Columbia, is being forced to compete with cheap foreign steel that is being dumped in Canada.

Due to the seriousness of this situation, why does the Minister refuse to meet with the joint union-management committee which is working hard to avoid a job disaster for Canadian steelworkers? Why will she not meet with this committee and protect the jobs of Canadian workers?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister for International Trade): Possibly the reason I have not met with this committee is that I have not personally received an invitation to meet with them, Mr. Speaker.

I can only assure the Hon. Member that we are developing a steel policy to deal with the question of imports. Should the company feel that steel is being dumped in its market, it is perfectly free to take an anti-dumping action against the offender.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Speaker, the Minister's office has received repeated requests for a meeting which she has refused completely.

Oral Questions

MINISTER'S POSITION

Mr. Svend J. Robinson (Burnaby): Mr. Speaker, Canada's position has been undercut by unscrupulous brokers who ship cheap offshore steel into Canada and then re-export it to the United States, thus escaping American quotas. When will the Minister introduce strong measures to stop this offshore steel from being dumped into the U.S. via Canada and help save the jobs not just of Western Canada Steel but other steel producers in Canada, including those in the Hamilton region?

Hon. Pat Carney (Minister for International Trade): Mr. Speaker, I can only say that I cannot refuse an invitation that I was unaware I received. I will certainly try to meet with this committee on my next visit to Vancouver. In terms of our steel policy, it will be announced at the appropriate time.

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[Translation]

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

THE CONSTITUTION—IMMIGRATION AND FINANCIAL COMPENSATION—INQUIRY WHY GOVERNMENT TABLED PROPOSALS UNACCEPTABLE TO QUEBEC

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I would have preferred to put my question to the Minister responsible for the Constitution but he is sitting in the other place, or to the Prime Minister who is not in the House. My question is therefore directed to the Deputy Prime Minister and concerns the constitutional talks with Quebec, aimed at enabling this province to ratify the Canadian Constitution with honour and enthusiasm, to quote the Prime Minister.

Could the Deputy Prime Minister inform the House why his Government put on the table a number of proposals that are clearly unacceptable to Quebec, since what it is offering in terms of immigration and financial compensation in the case of new programs represents a step backwards for Quebec and Quebecers?

[English]

Hon. Don Mazankowski (Deputy Prime Minister and President of the Privy Council): Mr. Speaker, I am advised that the federal Government did not table a counter-offer to Quebec's proposals during last week's federal-provincial officials' meeting.

[Translation]

INQUIRY WHETHER GOVERNMENT WILLING TO INCLUDE CULLEN-COUTURE AGREEMENT IN CONSTITUTION

Mr. Jean-Claude Malépart (Montreal—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary. According to my information that is not so, and we all know how truthful this Government is.

Some Hon. Members: Oh, oh!