S.O. 21

Mr. Speaker: Order, please! I regret to interrupt the Hon. Member, but his time has expired.

REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

DOMTAR RELATED INVESTMENT—QUEBEC

Mr. François Gérin (Mégantic-Compton-Stanstead): Mr. Speaker, encouragement and strong support is needed with respect to the proposed \$1.2 billion investment by Domtar in the Eastern Townships, because it is essential to the long-term survival of the mill, essential if it is to be competitive on international markets, and essential to better the company's productivity and competitiveness. It is essential as well to the survival of the town of Windsor, essential to my riding's wood producers who supply the company and to the economy of the Eastern Townships and Quebec as a whole.

Along with my Liberal colleagues in the House today, I am glad to see that the company management, the provincial authorities and our Government are getting together to see what must be done to make sure that this investment becomes reality.

The outcome of the last election shows that this is the way Canadians want their country to be administered. They look askance at irresponsible promises which might spell national bankruptcy and they are unfavourably impressed by the approach taken in recent days by some Liberal Members who bleat openly like lost sheep without a leader. It is through consultation with the various parties and serious consideration of all possible avenues—

Mr. Speaker: I regret to inform the Hon. Member that his time has expired.

[English]

IMMIGRATION

FAMILY REUNIFICATION—EFFECT OF NEW REGULATIONS

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, given the large number of immigrants who have come to Canada in recent years, it is not surprising that there has been an increasing number of applications for permission to bring family members to Canada. Most Canadians favour the principle of family reunification. However, recently the Department of Employment and Immigration increased the income required by landed immigrants to bring relatives to Canada. In some cases the annual income required now ranges between \$26,000 and \$30,000, an income which many landed immigrants, and indeed most Canadians, have not achieved.

• (1410)

Spokesmen for immigrant groups have expressed their dismay and dissatisfaction with the new income levels established by the Department, and have made it clear that these will have very serious adverse effects on family reunification.

In Winnipeg, in the last three months, 87 of 558 requests to bring family members to Canada were refused because the sponsors did not earn enough money. Similar situations exist in most other cities in Canada, including Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver. I call upon the Minister of Employment and Immigration (Miss MacDonald) to review personally the income increase imposed by her Department which is causing so much grief to new Canadians.

[Translation]

REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Clément M. Côté (Lac-Saint-Jean): Mr. Speaker, the least that can be said for them is that the Hon. Members opposite have not lost their voices.

In my opinion, when a tame member of the Quebec Liberal caucus has the audacity to become indignant about the decision of the Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion (Mr. Stevens), he shows once again how badly he understands Canadian politics.

When the Hon. Member for Bourassa (Mr. Rossi) speaks about weaknesses, inertia and indifference in the Progressive Conservative Party and recalls the initiatives of his own Party, he is maliciously misleading the people of Canada and of Ouebec about the sad facts which this Government must face.

If this Progressive Conservative Government cannot meet the request of the Domtar company, it is precisely because of the indifference and the wasteful spending of the previous Liberal Government; we are therefore to deal with a record deficit which leaves us without any freedom of movement.

Mr. Speaker, the Quebec caucus will always support the Prime Minister in promoting a reasonable approach and a dialogue with the main participants—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please! I regret to inform the Hon. Member that his time has expired.

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER

Mr. Don Boudria (Glengarry-Prescott-Russell): Mr. Speaker, people from across Canada have been calling my office accusing the Government of being a Government of destruction. This Government has no respect whatsoever for the