

regulations. I know that hon. members do their best with individual cases. I do not think we should run to the minister with every little difficulty. Hon. members' time is limited, as is the minister's.

Perhaps I can illustrate my point by citing an example. Some time ago a school teacher named Nelson came to the district of Thetford Mines. He had come to Canada as a tourist from New York city where he had taught, I believe, the year before. He was well qualified, having taught in Africa under the UNESCO or Colombo plan or some such plan and was approached by the authorities in Thetford Mines. At first he came to Thetford Mines as a visitor. He was well qualified, having, I believe, a masters degree in science. The school board, needing a teacher, asked him to sign a contract. He signed. He did not know anything about immigration rules. Sometimes I wonder whether anybody but certain officials in the department knows those rules. The man took the job and then the trouble started.

Nelson went to the immigration officials and said he had signed a contract with the school board. He was treated badly. Sometimes I think we treat immigrants more severely than we treated Hal Banks. There were representations by the Quebec provincial government, the school board and the teachers' association. The man was willing to go back to the job which had been given him. He could have been charged with a breach of contract. School inspectors and everybody else jumped into the affair. Finally he was given eight days to leave the country. This was in November.

● (6:00 p.m.)

The hon. member for Carleton (Mr. Bell) said yesterday that the former minister of immigration, now the Minister of Transport (Mr. Pickersgill), had expressed the opinion that in the Department of Citizenship and Immigration there were more papers and trash than in any other department of government. I am inclined to believe this to be true when I see some of these forms whose meaning is so hard to understand.

The officials informed this man that he should sign one of these forms. But that did not help the situation. It made it worse. All he could do was return to the United States and leave the school board short of one teacher in November when it is not easy to find new teachers. He had no criminal record, no criminal convictions. He could have entered

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this country to teach at any time. He was charged only with entering the country under false pretences. The department said he had come to this country to teach and had not declared his intention.

This was not the case. He came in as a tourist and decided to stay only after he had been offered a post under good conditions which suited him. He did not know how he could get out of the mess except by breaking his contract, returning to the United States and fighting the case from across the border. This is why I submitted the whole question to the minister. I learned later that though under the terms of the expulsion order he was required to leave the country within eight days he was told he could nevertheless remain here until the end of the year. What is the use of issuing an expulsion order with a time limit of eight days if it can be disregarded? Apparently the man is still in Canada and able to finish his school year.

I suggest that this man signed the paper presented to him unwillingly or without reading the fine print and that by so doing he put himself into a situation where he was legally guilty. But from a humanitarian point of view he was not guilty at all. When I saw him he was as perplexed about the whole business as a ten year old might be. The officials really got after him. I do not know what kind of people we have in the department of immigration at this time, but the fact that he signed a contract before telling them he intended to remain was enough to cause this whole mess.

There are ways and means of dealing with matters of this kind which would avoid the necessity of running to the minister and the minister having to send a telegram to his officials telling them to take no further action until the case has been reconsidered. Moreover, when expulsion orders are sent to people telling them they must get out within eight days the department might as well tell them that they can stay on for a year and contest the order.

Maybe I should know more about these matters. If I were an immigrant I would no doubt understand them better. But no one looking at the immigration regulations can understand what they mean. The white paper seems to have clarified the issue somewhat. We now know what standards are required of those who seek admission to this country whereas previously we did not know who could come in and who could not. If the