

Education Standards

being accompanied by the release of five or six others taking, possibly, a different position, in order that the public might reach a conclusion as to whether or not it was too revolutionary in its thinking.

As to the particular motion before us, I had something to do with the Czechoslovak refugees who came over here. I think it is unfair of the hon. member to seize upon this group to highlight his case. We were faced with an emergency situation and Canada came to the fore, as we did on another occasion when dealing with people suffering from tuberculosis. The government provided a sanctuary to those who were seeking it, without making any commitments. Accordingly, men of various professions came to this country hoping they would be able to practice in their own fields—architecture, medicine, dentistry and so on. The hon. member suggested that the doctors, lawyers, dentists and engineers here were trying to restrict the numbers of qualified people entering their field in order that competition might not become too keen. I do not believe that is true of professional groups in Canada. Just the opposite, in fact. Perhaps I should speak of the profession I know best. Lawyers would welcome more graduates provided they had the capability and could practice law to the benefit of their clients. But I am unalterably opposed to the kind of degrees which can be obtained by studying at night or through correspondence courses. Anyone worth his salt in a profession should be opposed to practices which might lead to the public being defrauded because those acting on their behalf did not possess the necessary qualifications.

I am satisfied that one of the most important responsibilities of an immigration officer abroad is to exercise judgment about the qualification of a prospective immigrant to pursue the occupation he wishes to follow in Canada. To make such a judgment, an immigration officer needs to be familiar with the qualifications which govern a particular occupation in Canada. I would be very suspicious if any immigration officer were to say to an individual: Yes, we need you in Canada and you'll have no difficulty about being recognized in the particular profession you have chosen to practice. I do not think Canada employs immigration officers of that sort, or, if we do, I do not believe senior officials would allow them to keep their jobs for very long. It does not necessarily follow that workers in one part of the world perform the same tasks as their counterparts in different sociological and technological conditions.

• (5:20 p.m.)

Even in Canada we have this brought home to us daily. In Quebec the Civil Code governs civil law suits. The rest of the provinces use common law. To suggest that an individual who has studied the civil code in France, for example, could come to British Columbia and practise law would be fallacious. It just is not done, and I cannot see any immigration officer suggesting that it can be done because these gentlemen are knowledgeable in the work they perform.

I want to deal primarily with one area to show the kind of problem that would be faced by an immigration

[Mr. Cullen.]

officer, and why the department commissioned a study of this particular matter. Although it is somewhat foreign to my own field, I want to talk about architects. I choose architecture because I had some experience studying the particular requirements in the field of architecture during a course of a study that I undertook at one time.

Architects in Canada, as we know, plan and design private residences, office buildings, theatres, public buildings, factories and other structures, and organize the services necessary for their construction. They consult with a client to determine size and space requirements, and provide information regarding costs, design, materials and equipment. Surely, this is a textbook definition of that which an architect does in this country. In addition to this, an immigration officer may point out to a prospective immigrant who is an architect from another part of the world that Canadian architects also prepare sketches of proposed projects for clients; they provide specifications, scale or full-size drawings, and other contract documents for the use of building contractors and craftsmen. Canadian architects may specialize in a particular type of structure or project and confer with other consultants in order to develop feasibility studies, make financial analyses and arrangements, and in regard to site selection and land assembly.

As I say, this seems to be a textbook definition of that which an architect in Canada does. But architects have other problems to meet, such as those caused by the changing seasons that we have in Canada. How could an architect from, say, the state of California, knowing nothing about winter conditions in Canada, claim he is in a position to plan the type of buildings that we need? I think all too often people fancy themselves as architects. They think about building homes, having looked into U.S. magazines and seen pictures of sunrooms, and think it is a good idea to build one, all too often only to find that they are no good in the cold weather with the 174 inches of snow that we have in Ottawa.

An immigration officer would surely have to tell a prospective immigrant that Canadian architects usually graduate with a degree or diploma in architecture that is acceptable to a legally constituted provincial association of architects in one or other of the provinces of Canada; that after graduation they gain experience in architectural practice under the supervision of a qualified architect for a period of time prescribed by an architects' association. An architect from another country who had graduated from a school but who did not have this kind of on the job training, similar to internship in medicine or working with a principal in the practice of law, obviously should not be allowed to participate in that form of activity in Canada.

What I have tried to point out is that persons seeking employment in Canada as architects must meet certain occupational qualifications. Canadian immigration counselling officers must supply information concerning the procedures connected with these formalities. If they are to do their job and do it well they must be as familiar with the requirements for practising architecture in this country as the architects themselves. For this reason, I am sure that the study the department has commissioned