

*Government Orders*

exigencies of the moment. In fact, they can engage in some long-term planning.

How can the government propose this bill in the absence of a comprehensive industrial economic strategy and immigration policy? Over the course of the last couple of decades, we have developed a cheap labour pool that has been a disincentive for technological innovation, and yet in this country where immigration continues to serve the interests of this cheap labour pool, what have we done? We have cast aside the potential for growth represented by a sound and progressive immigration policy. We have put a tariff of \$150,000 for those who have a few dollars to spare and will invest in Canada. We will give them landed immigrant status regardless of their location of origin, their race, their creed, whatever, as long as they come up with \$150,000. We do not take advantage of the talents, the energies, the dynamics and the risk-taking characteristics that many of these new Canadians could bring to us.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The hon. member for Kootenay West—Revelstoke.

**Mr. Kristiansen:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I regret to interrupt my hon. friend, but I believe that the House lacks a quorum.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** We now have a quorum. The member for Eglinton—Lawrence.

**Mr. Volpe:** Mr. Speaker, in that moment of reprieve as we were taking a count of the members, I know there were many more than other colleagues could see because they were more and more attentive.

**Mr. Kempling:** Your speech was so boring that they couldn't stand it.

**Mr. Volpe:** What was happening, Mr. Speaker, more than anything else, is that some of them are catching up on the rest that they have been losing at night as they have been thinking about what is going to happen to their jobs. Tory times, as one of my colleagues said, are hard times indeed. They stay awake at night thinking about what they are going to do the day after this bill is presented.

• (1520)

So, Mr. Parliamentary Secretary, let's start thinking about making proposals that are comprehensive in nature so that this government can at least show some initiatives and leadership, the kind of leadership that has been lacking so far.

**Mr. Kempling:** Say something with substance.

**Mr. Volpe:** You wouldn't understand it if I gave it to you all in one lump sum, Mr. Parliamentary Secretary. We have been giving you more substance than you can handle and you say pooh-pooh, we do not believe this. We have given you statistics from all kinds of organizations and research groups. I have read some into the record. I see the parliamentary secretary giving a shrug of the shoulders and saying: "Well, they are not our statistics. I do not believe them."

I am going to read some of the statistics from his own impact studies and perhaps maybe he will be able to understand that there is a different interpretation to some of those figures and those interpretations give a better picture of Canada than the one that he and his minister would like us to have believe.

[*Translation*]

Mr. Speaker, many people from other countries bring energy, talent, dynamism and entrepreneurial spirit to Canada. We have someone who is both Minister of Employment and Minister of Immigration making decisions in a vacuum.

[*English*]

The government should be looking for ways to capitalize on the creative talent of all Canadians. Many who come from overseas have energy, talent, education and commercial expertise that goes untapped. A solid labour development strategy should seek to exploit this source of talent through a progressive immigration policy.

[*English*]

If the government is not going to pay attention to the comprehensive nature of its decision, can we be at all surprised that when it proposes these restrictions on qualifications, when it proposes enormous reductions in benefits that we will suffer throughout Canada?