

S.O. 21

## CITIZENSHIP

## PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER

**Hon. Bob Kaplan (York Centre):** Mr. Speaker, on April 11 I attended a citizenship ceremony in my constituency, and a message was sent from the Prime Minister's Office which I have confirmed is authentic. I should like to read a sentence of it with which I disagree very strongly. In part the message reads:

The act of changing one's citizenship is a dramatic and emotional moment; it signifies a carefully considered decision to commit oneself for the future to a new land, and represents a cutting of ties with one's homeland.

I think this statement by the Prime Minister (Mr. Mulroney) shows a fundamental lack of understanding of the meaning of Canadian citizenship and of the broader concept of multiculturalism.

I urge the Prime Minister to reconsider such a misguided message and in future to send something which takes a more positive view of the relationship immigrants in Canada are permitted to have with their homelands as far as the Prime Minister is concerned.

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## WAR CRIMINALS

## SOVIETS' REACTION TO DESCHÊNES COMMISSION

**Mr. Bob Pennock (Etobicoke North):** Mr. Speaker, it seems as though the Soviets are once again trying to fester the historical wounds which exist between Canada's Ukrainian and Jewish communities. Recently the Soviets responded positively to the request of Justice Deschênes that his commission travel to the Soviet Union to obtain evidence against alleged war criminals in Canada. However, the Soviets were silent on the important safeguards which Justice Deschênes included in his original request. Their silence on this most fundamental issue reinforces my concern over their desire to manipulate these proceedings to serve their own political goals.

Representatives from both eastern European and Jewish community organizations in Canada have repeatedly called for these safeguards in order to protect against Soviet deception. Let us not be fooled by the motives of the Soviets. They want to be perceived as supporting an inquiry, but they are not willing to tolerate an independent and fair treatment of evidence. They want nothing more than to see an open conflict between Canadians of eastern European and Jewish heritage.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Sixty seconds.

## INDUSTRY

## LOSS OF JOBS AT CANADA PACKERS PLANT IN WINNIPEG

**Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North):** Mr. Speaker, I have a statement which will now have to be dealt with by the new Minister of Regional Industrial Expansion.

On November 18 I wrote the former Minister to warn him that a grant which he made to establish a hog processing facility in rural Manitoba would have dire implications for the meat packing industry in Winnipeg. Unfortunately that warning has now come true. A full 200 to 300 jobs are now to be lost at the Canada Packers plant in Winnipeg in its hog killing operations. They will be replaced by 70 jobs at the new plant, and these jobs will pay about half what Winnipeg workers earned. Canada Packers is now reconsidering whether to proceed with modernization of its entire Winnipeg operation.

The new Minister must look at this use of public money when a \$865,000 government grant results in fewer jobs at lower wages. If not, the Minister would better be named the Minister of Deindustrialization, in charge of moving plants to constituencies of Conservative Members of Parliament.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Sixty seconds.

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## NATIONAL PAROLE BOARD

## MANDATORY SUPERVISION—DELAY IN PASSAGE OF AMENDING BILL

**Mr. Alan Redway (York East):** Mr. Speaker, Bill C-67, a Bill which gives the National Parole Board the power to refuse to release inmates on mandatory supervision if there are reasonable grounds to believe that they could commit a violent crime, was reported back to this House for third reading after extensive debate in the Justice Committee, three and a half months ago. Almost two months ago, on March 21, a coroner's jury in Toronto investigating the death of a man released on mandatory supervision endorsed the spirit of Bill C-67 and recommended that the Solicitor General of Canada (Mr. Beatty) implement it expeditiously following its proclamation. That was one and a half months ago, and Bill C-67 has still not reached the Order Paper for third reading.

The public wants this legislation, Mr. Speaker. I call on all Members of this House and all Parties in this House to get on with it and to pass the Bill quickly. Don't let it die on the Order Paper in June.

● (1410)