Immigration

East Indians. We must take steps to achieve this if we want to avoid cells of discontent and the establishment of more ghettos. There is too much pressure in this regard in the city of Vancouver. Perhaps it is time for another cabinet leak. Man has been trying to solve the question of integration of races for some 2,000 years If the cabinet has the solution to the problem, maybe it should leak it so we can understand a little more about it.

An hon. Member: Tolerance.

Mr. Huntington: Yes, tolerance and compassion. Those qualities are not developed by the immigration of masses of people who are foreign to our ideologies and our way of life. They come in planeloads, 350 at a time, and there just is no way to assimilate them.

Mr. Sharp: How would you do it?

Mr. Huntington: It is high time to ask ourselves if immigration from Asian countries in great numbers is helping solve the world's population problems. Each year the populations of India and China increase by a number in excess of the population of all Canada. India's population increases annually by 13 million.

• (2120)

An hon. Member: Do you want to shoot them?

Mr. Huntington: No. You want to feed them and have them breed more, but what can we do with an immigration policy to solve that problem? This is a world situation which cannot be solved by destroying the Canadian social fabric with an over-anxious immigration policy. There is nothing racist in my remarks. I just think this has to be said.

The matter of crime that is being allowed by the Immigration Act and the enforcement of it has been mentioned. Some day when the act is again being discussed there will be a massive presentation, as has already been indicated by the leader of the Senate. By all means we should pass Bill S-12, but let's get on with the 1966 white paper, the 1974 green paper and the restructuring of our Immigration Act so that it protects and adds to the quality of Canadian life.

Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona): Mr. Speaker, in giving my support to this bill I do so with some concern and apprehension. I hope Your Honour will allow me to put my remarks concerning this apprehension in a shade wider context than the narrow focus of the bill. I assure Your Honour I will not make a general speech on immigration.

I cannot reflect my concern about the manner in which the government is now handling immigration if I do not make a few comments just slightly around this bill. I am concerned because of the headlines I see in the newspapers. For example, in the November 25 edition of the New York *Times* there is a headline, "A Racial Trend In Immigration Is Troubling Canadians". The November 26 edition of the Ottawa *Journal* carried the headline, "Racial Conflict, We Are Not So Free Of It—Discrimination Tearing at the Canadian Fabric".

[Mr. Huntington.]

The other night I heard a comment on CBC "Viewpoint." I forget the name of the commentator. However, his words have lingered in my mind because I considered them so racist in provoking Canadians to hostility toward immigration.

I commend the government on bringing forward this bill to straighten out the criminal abuse by immigrants, whether those who entered illegally or those who entered legally and then committed criminal acts.

I send the minister many cases concerning immigration. Very often I do not know whether the people who are making the request have legitimate grounds. I want to thank the minister. I think he is doing a very fine job. It reflects a combination of compassion and concern in the dispatch with which the cases are handled. I have been greatly pleased to see several people able to come into this country because the officials of the minister's department care.

Having thrown that bouquet which is very legitimate, I must also throw a little brickbat. The reason for the problems in immigration, the headlines I have quoted, the program and the comments on it, and the concern of many Canadians about immigration, is they do not know whether they are coming or going with regard to immigration. The policies of the government have been loose and changeable. There are many regulations and minor bills that have been brought forward.

I refer to the statement on motions about a month ago concerning the tightening of regulations to make it much more difficult to get into this country. I refer to the debate we had a year ago in which my colleague, the hon. member for Provencher (Mr. Epp), referred to illegal immigrants and straightening out that matter. I refer to the bill now before us. All of these are negative acts. They are reacting to loopholes. They react to what the government perceives as a feeling in the country that immigration is too loose. That is why the government comes along with these band aids.

We know the green paper is in preparation. I have known that since coming to parliament two years ago. What I am suggesting is that the bill now before us, as well as the other pieces of legislation and regulations that have come in, are actually doing a disservice to the cause of immigration and the understanding of the Canadian people. We do not have a full understanding of where we are going with regard to immigration.

I have a question for the minister. I hope he will respond to it when he closes the debate. Why is there the long delay on the green paper? It was referred to here this evening. It is an absolute disgrace that the green paper, which is to outline the beginnings of what will be a new policy, has been delayed. It is that delay, along with these minor pieces of legislation, that is unsettling the Canadian people.

I am going to make a strong pitch for immigration. For those who advocate the overthrow of our country, for those who are here illegally and those who are committing criminal acts, let the government move in much more strongly. Let it have better control over the dissident elements in our population. However, do not do this in such a way that it creates the impression that immigration