

Immigration

provinces for the purpose of facilitating the formulation, co-ordination and implementation of immigration policies and programs. If that is not playing at politics, I do not know what is. In other words, the clause says that the federal government may make deals with the provinces. If a politically hot situation arises, say, in Quebec, Alberta or British Columbia, the federal government is allowed to make a deal with the provincial government with respect to matters of immigration, even though immigration under the British North America Act falls under the jurisdiction of the federal government. I suggest that the reasoning behind this clause stems from our make up as a people, that is to say, we are all supposed to be Canadians, period. We are not French-Canadians, English-Canadians, German-Canadians or Ukrainian-Canadians. We are Canadians. Hyphenated Canadians never had a place in this country. We are all Canadians. But that is put in there for a purpose, and I do not need to outline what the purpose is.

● (2040)

Clause 115(1) to (2) deals with extensive regulatory discretion given the governor in council to establish immigration selection standards. This is supposed to give equal opportunities to all people applying to enter Canada, whether they come from the Ukraine, Germany, Japan, China, the U.K. or France.

Let us find out what the bill says. It establishes immigration selection standards as regards education, family relationships, language, skills, occupational experience, personal attributes and attainments, demographic considerations, and labour market conditions. What we are really doing tonight is assigning to the public service, to officials of the Department of Manpower and Immigration and of other departments, the right to make the law for Canadians regarding what people we will allow to come to this country. Worse than that, we are putting it in the field of politics, because when you give public servants the right to make rules and regulations such as these, you give that right to cabinet ministers who might want to play a little politics by playing one province against another. This is playing politics with the most important thing in the nation, namely, the kind of people we will have here in the country, a right which is laid down in our constitution.

An hon. Member: We have been doing this for years.

Mr. Woolliams: Then they should be told they are wrong.

Mr. Peters: But it keeps them elected. Surely they will not change that system.

Mr. Woolliams: It is because people do not know what is in the act. I thought my friend would say that reading is dangerous. It is dangerous for some people.

The bill prescribes the classes of immigrants who may be sponsored by Canadian citizens or permanent residents. That is the very essence of the law. If you can do that by order in council, why can we not have one section in the act saying we will have a new immigration policy to be administered by the government of the day, and rules and regulations designating

what kind of people we will bring here, how many of them, what language they will speak when they land here, what culture they will have, what standards they will have, and what labour requirements they will fulfil, instead of having this verbosity, this rhetoric, this big act which says nothing because all these things can be done behind our backs?

The bill exempts particular members of "the family class" from any requirements and regulations; and substitutes "special regulations" for such individuals. They even go further and make a regulation setting up a standard. Then they make a regulation to administer the standard, and finally they administer by regulation. That is what this act is all about, and that is why it should be scrutinized and carefully studied before being passed.

The bill designates the classes of persons referred to as refugees. If that does not enter into the field of politics, I do not know what does. I can imagine my friends to the left preferring left-wingers to come to the country, and my friends to the right preferring right-wingers. It would depend on what kind of government we have. They would pass regulations and choose the refugees that would suit the government of the day. As my friend says, we will elect that government and perpetuate its right to govern, which its members think is their divine right.

The bill would establish a system of priorities for applications. In other words, if you wanted to have people from the United Kingdom here, or if you wanted people from another country, you could give them priorities. You could set up your own priorities. If that is not dictatorial legislation, I do not know what is. Is that what the human rights bill is all about, or is the human rights bill a piece of window dressing to cover up the dust on the window, to cover up the fact that there is discrimination based on race, language, creed, etc.?

The bill prescribes the universities, colleges and other institutions for the purposes of academic, professional or vocational training, and prescribes the courses at these institutions for visitors granted entry for the the purposes of study. In other words, as soon as you land in Canada they tell you what university you will attend, where you will study, whether you will be an accountant, a lawyer, or a doctor. If they do not want you to be any of those, you can be forced to go to a vocational training school to be a carpenter or a plumber. And if you are not the kind of person who will bend that easily, you will not be admitted to Canada because a regulation will deny you the right to be here even though you have the qualifications spelled out in the act.

The bill prescribes the requirements for a returning resident permit. I suppose this means that if you wish to visit your brother in Chicago and you have landed status in Canada, you might be allowed to go to the United States and return here and retain your permanent residence in Canada.

The bill specifies the documentation that will be required of visitors. It prohibits aliens from engaging in employment in Canada, and also specifies the type of employment such persons may engage in. Imagine that! You pass an order in council and you tell these people, whom you call aliens, that