

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

the temporary committee of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, that is the twelve members who have been charged with the responsibility of going into this whole question of resources and requirements. What has happened is that an executive board of that committee consisting of three members has drafted a report to the committee of twelve, and that committee of twelve is still considering that report. The consideration has not yet been completed and may not be completed for a fortnight or so. Until a report comes from the committee of twelve, and not merely the committee of three, it would be obviously inappropriate for me to make any comment on this matter.

**Mr. Graydon:** There is a good supply of committees, anyway.

**IMMIGRATION****IMMIGRANTS FROM UNITED KINGDOM—  
AVAILABILITY OF EMPLOYMENT**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. G. K. Fraser (Peterborough West):** Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration (Mr. Harris), as I have had cases of immigrants from the United Kingdom who have been stranded in my own district owing to the fact that they have not been able to secure work. Will the minister say what is being done to look after those people who cannot find work in Canada at the present time?

**Hon. W. E. Harris (Minister of Citizenship and Immigration):** As the hon. member knows, Mr. Speaker, immigrants from the United Kingdom are, by our laws, free to come here whether there is assured employment for them or not. Nevertheless the government attempts to find employment for those people both through the settlement service of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration and also through the good offices of the national employment service of the Department of Labour. If my hon. friend has any particular persons in mind and will let us know about them, we will do our best to place them. Nevertheless, we do not necessarily accept full responsibility for those who may be free to come here without assured employment.

**Mr. Fraser:** Mr. Speaker, I may say to the minister that these people were assured of employment before they came over.

**UNITED STATES SELECTIVE SERVICE****CANADIANS WORKING IN THE UNITED STATES—  
IMMIGRATION VISAS**

On the orders of the day:

**Mr. M. J. Coldwell (Rosetown-Biggarr):** I should like to direct a question to the [Mr. Pearson.]

Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Pearson). On December 19 certain questions were asked of the minister with regard to the United States selective service act as it affects Canadian citizens. I asked the minister if there was any consultation between the two governments and the minister replied:

I would have to look into that.

I wonder if the minister has looked into the matter and if he can tell us whether there has been consultation or if our government has made any representations with regard to this matter, since it affects Canadian citizens in the United States?

**Hon. L. B. Pearson (Secretary of State for External Affairs):** Mr. Speaker, I have some additional information on this matter which deals with the question which has just been raised by my hon. friend. The hon. member for Rosetown-Biggarr asked the other day if the action of the United States in this matter of the application of the United States selective service act to Canadians was unilateral with respect to Canada and not to other nations. That was one of his questions. The reply to that is that the United States law is applicable to all aliens "residing in the United States" except those who are nationals of a country with which there is in effect a treaty or international agreement exempting the nationals of that country from military service while they are within the United States. No treaty or agreement of this nature exists between Canada and the United States.

In reply to the other part of the question which the hon. member asked me, I may say that no representations have been made to the United States government except in a number of individual cases in which it seemed that there had been an incorrect application of the law by local authorities. In such cases representations were made.

The hon. member for Dufferin-Simcoe (Mr. Rowe) and the hon. member for Peel (Mr. Graydon) inquired about the position of students and temporary employees. The regulations are somewhat complex in this matter, but ordinarily bona fide students receive specific student visas and are not required to register in the United States under the selective service act. Persons temporarily employed in the United States for periods of less than six months similarly are not required to register and in consequence do not come within the provisions of the act unless their period of employment exceeds six months.

**Mr. Coldwell:** Would it not be well to endeavour to negotiate with the United States a treaty similar to that which exists between