

*Manpower and Immigration Council*

manpower, division full-time classes in language instruction, for immigrants were organized in Vancouver, but for some reason or other the Vancouver board of education was directed to phase out these classes and was advised that manpower would not support a program of instruction in language that is, in English or French, for immigrants. I do not think there is much sense in bringing in immigrants to be upgraded in skills if we are going to phase out programs in the languages of this country which they need to use in obtaining jobs here. I know there are many people who immediately run into difficulties in obtaining jobs if they do not speak English or French. The Vancouver Board of School Trustees wants to know why in heaven's name they were advised to phase out these training classes in languages for immigrants. It does not seem to make sense.

These are some of the things to which I should like to have an answer from the minister because I know these people have been corresponding with the department and I know they are not dull of understanding. I know that when they say they do not know what is going on, they want to know; and when they ask for a definite answer, they mean business. I know the minister is reasonable and I hope he can give us a clear answer to these policies which do not sound too sensible.

I want to conclude my remarks on the subject of manpower training by saying that we all realize this is a tremendously difficult job but we hope that the new bill will provide for a close liaison not only with the local and regional people and the federal government but also, where possible, with the provincial government. There may be provinces in this country which do not want to co-operate in this program with Ottawa but ours is not one of them. In cases where the provinces wish to co-operate, I think we should work with the provincial people wherever it is possible to do so because every single thing we can do to upgrade and improve the skills not only of native born Canadians but also of recent immigrants should be done.

Now, I wish to say one word regarding the immigration side of this matter. Most of what I wish to say I will keep for the time when we will discuss the bill. I do hope that the new regulations to be promulgated on October 1 will take account of the fact that Canada owes something in the way of assistance to people who are struggling desperately in other countries to survive economically.

I have in mind a young fellow from India whom I have tried very hard for nearly two years to bring into Canada. He has nobody in India but his old father who grows hardly enough vegetables on his poor little plot to feed himself. This lad has not been able to have much schooling because he has had to do hard, menial work. He has an uncle in Vancouver who has lived in British Columbia for many years and who is a naturalized Canadian citizen, as is his wife and his wife's sister. They are all here. This man is in a position to receive his young nephew, to send him to school here and to give him security until he obtains the kind of job which will be good for this country and good for this boy. I cannot for the life of me see why, in view of the misery, poverty and insecurity which exist in India, a bright boy who has had no opportunities over there and who has an uncle who is financially able and more than willing emotionally to bring the lad here, cannot be brought here. I do hope the new regulations will permit this to be done, not only on compassionate grounds but on the basis of the fact that in the long run this will help Canada and will help us to do our share internationally in trying to help others.

We welcome the bill but we also hope it will result, not in a piece of machinery ungeared to reality but in one that will make for close meshing among our different levels of government. I know all levels of government would be far happier if they could co-operate in this big job of manpower training.

**Mr. Kindt:** Mr. Chairman, I have listened attentively to everyone who has spoken on this resolution and all of them have been asking the minister questions. I can understand the necessity for these questions because the wording of this resolution is insufficiently detailed. The ordinary member does not know whether in voting for the principle of the resolution he is buying a pig in the poke or is doing the right thing. I hope the minister will give to the house a detailed explanation in answer to the questions which have been raised as well as the ones which I propose to raise myself. I should like to know what functions will be assigned to the new manpower and immigration council. Is it to be a policy-making body? Is it going to advise the minister on matters which he should either know himself or which should be decided by those officials immediately around him? Or is the council to have a purely advisory capacity? If that is the case,