

Prime Minister indicated that this might be a beneficial way for discussions to proceed. That was a great help in promoting this particular policy. The various elements which are working together on this council have considered this to be a high priority. Both these factors had a good deal to do with the initiative which was taken in this direction.

POSSIBLE ROLE OF PROPOSED CANADIAN LABOUR COUNCIL
IN SETTLING DISPUTES OUTSIDE FEDERAL JURISDICTION

Mr. John A. Fraser (Vancouver South): As the minister is aware there are a number of work stoppages taking place in the country at the present time which are outside federal jurisdiction. It has been some time, now, since we have discussed the Canadian Labour Council. How soon can we expect this council to come into being? In what way will the council, as envisaged by the minister be successful in assisting us in dealing with these work stoppages and difficulties of negotiation that are outside the federal jurisdiction, but which are very important to the economy of Canada and the wellbeing of relations between management and labour?

● (1150)

Hon. John C. Munro (Minister of Labour): Mr. Speaker, as the hon. member is aware, I take it, his party has always stood firmly for these policies, namely that we should not interfere in areas of provincial jurisdiction. There are 10 other labour departments in this country. All I can say is that when you have effective and influential members of management and the labour movement meeting at the federal level to try to cope successfully with problems at the federal level, hopefully they will come up with constructive solutions that will have a beneficial spin-off on labour problems in this country.

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ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

REFERENCE TO ALLEGED STATEMENT BY MINISTER THAT
WHERE SEVERAL COUNTS INVOLVED ACCUSED OUGHT TO
PLEAD GUILTY TO ALL IF FOUND GUILTY ON ONE

Mr. Paul Dick (Lanark-Renfrew-Carleton): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address a question to the Minister of Justice. When the Minister of Justice was replying during the adjournment debate on July 15 to my question concerning Dr. Henry Morgentaler, he indicated he believed that if there were a number of similar counts against an accused, and if the accused is found guilty on one, then the accused ought to plead guilty to the other charges. Would the minister now assure the House that he was wrong in so indicating, that in fact he believes that an accused ought to have full rights to a trial on all charges if the accused so desires, and that he was not trying to indicate a new government policy of coercing an accused into pleading guilty?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Justice): Mr. Speaker, I would have to check *Hansard* on that. If it shows the word "all", I should have preferred to use the word "often" and that is what I intended. I think, in fact, that is the word I

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used that night. It is, in fact, a very common practice, and that is all I was referring to.

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IMMIGRATION

REFERENCE TO ALLEGED STATEMENT BY MINISTER
CONCERNING RELOCATION OF IMMIGRANTS—REQUEST FOR
CLARIFICATION

Mr. Jake Epp (Provencher): Mr. Speaker, I should like to address my question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. It is in respect to the CBC program "Spotlight". May I ask the minister whether some of the statements that he made do not, to his mind, seriously jeopardize the credibility of the joint committee studying the green paper on immigration; and if the minister has already decided on the relocation of immigrants in less densely populated areas by offering incentives, can he explain what these incentives are and what the policy of the government is in relation to those incentives?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I think, as the hon. member knows, I have been doing my best to respect the integrity of the process by not prejudging or pre-empting any decisions of the committee which the government hopes to get before too long. I cannot recall any statements made in the program, which as the hon. member knows was an interview, that would breach that commitment.

As far as the redistribution of people across the country is concerned, this has been talked about a great deal, not only by myself but by others, and I must honestly tell the hon. member and the House that no, we do not have any predetermined idea that this has to be done or how it would be done. I believe I have said on occasion that this is an area that has to be explored. I hope the hon. member would agree that I cannot be muzzled in any response that I would be called upon to make in reply the questions about these matters.

Mr. Epp: A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Do I take it that the minister was expressing different options as opposed to specific policy decisions that have already been taken?

Mr. Andras: Yes, Mr. Speaker. The only firm commitment that has been made by me on these matters is the statement of the four assumptions that we suggest we would like to hold to—the non-discriminatory aspects of our immigration policy, the family reunion, refugee considerations, and dovetailing of the assessment of entry to Canada with economic, social, linguistic and cultural matters, all of which have been stated quite frequently and were in fact contained in the green paper.

SUGGESTION FOREIGN WRESTLERS ENTERING CANADA
WITHOUT WORK PERMITS—GOVERNMENT POSITION

Mr. Steven E. Paproski (Edmonton Centre): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the consistently high unemployment rate in Canada, and in view of the fact that