

tion's inability to maintain a steady economic growth in its member countries or in the countries that are united under its aegis. Mr. Speaker, as I said a while ago, all countries are suffering from inflation. In Canada, we have inflation; some people advocate a price and salary freeze. This was tried in certain countries. In others, it was abandoned. But in any of the member countries of that organization, it will be noticed that inflation is more devastating there than in Canada. In France, for instance, a black and white television set, which costs here \$175 or \$180, costs over there \$425. In other countries, it is still worse. It is the same in every field.

Mr. Speaker, the Cr ditistes have been claiming for a long time that a monetary reform should not be superficial only. To change four quarters for ten dimes may represent a reform but it only adds up to a dollar just the same.

Therefore, what we suggest is a basic reform: that all new credits be debt free. It is the debt-money system. Debts have lead the various nations to this situation, including Canada. The currency created should be free of debt and interest. Thus, if the Minister of Finance (Mr. Turner) lends me \$10, I will give him back \$10.50, including 50 cents interest. This is quite normal, because he agrees to lend me money. But the financial system is lending us something that it does not own. It cashes in on our properties, our assets, our country and requires from us that we pay a tribute, an interest on our properties. This is the kind of reform that we must achieve as soon as possible, Mr. Speaker, in order to free not only other countries but also our own, Canada.

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[English]

## IMMIGRATION

### REPORT ON ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM

**Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration):** Mr. Speaker, I believe hon. members of the House would be interested in a report on the immigration adjustment program which was approved by Parliament earlier this year and created by the amendment to the Immigration Appeal Board Act. This has, since last June 18, enabled thousands of persons in this country, both legally and illegally, to come forward and obtain landed immigrant status without fear of being prosecuted for having violated the immigration laws so far as their method of entry or style of staying here is concerned. The opportunity given to them under the said program ends at midnight tonight under the legislation to which I have referred.

I am pleased to say that thousands of lives have taken on new meaning as a result of this opportunity. By the time our offices closed last night, the immigration offices—and they were open yesterday across Canada—once the dependents of the applicants are taken into account, 45,180 persons will have been registered for this opportunity. To this, of course, must be added the results of today's activities. To indicate that this response has been a national one, these are the numbers of registrations of persons involved by region: in the Atlantic region, 3,036; in Quebec, 7,355, in Ontario, 25,169, in the Prairies, 5,008, in

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the Pacific, 4,612, for a total of 45,180. I am sure that members will understand that it has not been possible to process all these cases as they are received.

• (1440)

Only the registration must take place by midnight and we have given that priority. Nevertheless, I am able to say that 16,940 cases involving 21,996 persons have already been favourably assessed and the persons concerned will be landed subject to completion of the normal medical and other immigrant requirements.

There has been some suggestion in the media and from other sources that these results may be disappointing to the government and that the number of persons eligible for the program is far higher than the number of those who have, in fact, registered. Uninformed guesses have been made regarding the number of people who may be in Canada illegally. These unfounded speculations relate to a range anywhere from 50,000 to 200,000 people. I hasten to make it clear that at no time to my knowledge has the government given any estimate of the size of the group that might benefit from the adjustment program.

**An hon. Member:** You do not know.

**Mr. Andras:** That is quite correct. We do not know, and we could only make such a suggestion if we had a system of registering at ports of entry every one of the 38 million non-Canadians who come into Canada each year and re-registering each one again on departure. Such a tight system of control, I suggest, would be abhorrent to the Canadian people and would do tremendous injury to our important tourist industry.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Andras:** Instead of indulging in speculation on the number of people who might qualify, the program might better be judged on whether or not the potential registrants were made aware of their opportunity. I am satisfied that the message did indeed get across and that there are very few who did not hear it. Our advertising campaign was one of the most extensive ever used by my department. We employed radio, television, the press, posters in traffic locations, halls, and transit systems. Advertisements appeared in all of the English and French dailies and in the ethnic press as well. Broadcasts were made in almost every language heard on Canadian streets.

However, the paid campaign was only part of the publicity campaign. Wide news coverage of the program and of individual cases was given on news reports, on radio broadcasts and television specials. My officials and I appeared on numerous programs and attended hundreds of meetings. Leaders of the ethnic and other community organizations gave the program the strongest support, and many members of this House from all parties also placed their support and influence behind the program, for which I must express my most sincere appreciation. In short, the adjustment program not only received national support but also active participation by thousands of persons who encouraged those eligible to come forward.

The effect of the advertising and the public support was indicated in a Gallup poll which we commissioned in the