

*Supply—Manpower and Immigration*

therefore you lose out because of that. In my opinion this is a very unsatisfactory aspect of the points system.

I should like to ask the minister one question. Has the legislation establishing the new immigration appeal court been proclaimed and is it in effect now? I have seen announcements of appointments to the new court but so far as I am aware the act has not been proclaimed. It must be a number of months now since parliament passed that act, and although we did not feel it was perfect we thought it was an improvement. I should like to see it proclaimed and carried into effect. Perhaps I am smarting a little as a result of recent treatment, but with all respect to the present immigration appeal board I think it is high time the legislation was proclaimed so that we could ascertain how the new appeal system works. I hope the minister will mention that point.

• (4:30 p.m.)

As I say, Mr. Chairman, I think it is a little early in the day for us to be sure how these new regulations and the points system of assessing applicants are going to work. The points system is fairly complicated. For example, you must have so many points to qualify if you are unsponsored, you must have so many points if you are nominated by a relative, and I do not think you have to have any points at all if you are sponsored by a close relative. This may work very well but I think we must wait and see before we can be sure we have found the real solution.

However, I suggest to the minister that he must not rest at this point. In the white paper on immigration which was published in October, 1966, I believe, and hailed as a new charter of immigration policy, a number of suggestions were made that could be implemented by administrative action, and some administrative action has been taken. There were others which could be dealt with by changes in the regulations, and some of the regulations have been changed. However, a very large number of the suggestions made in the government white paper and a very large number of the suggestions made to the joint committee on immigration can only be dealt with by legislation.

On December 16, 1966 the assistant deputy minister of immigration put before the special joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons on immigration a list of proposals contained in the white paper requiring amendments to the Immigration Act. I suggest that the minister take a look at these

[Mr. Brewin.]

and tell us why at this stage we have not at least a revised immigration act in draft form. One year has passed since the white paper was published and these specific changes to the act were suggested.

It is pointed out in the white paper, and very eloquently and justly in my judgment, that the international implications of Canadian immigration policy are important. The following sentence appears at page 17, paragraph 38, of the white paper:

Any discrimination, in the selection of immigrants, creates strong resentments in international relations.

Then in the next paragraph:

More will be done to maintain and improve international relations by removing the last vestiges of discrimination from immigration legislation and regulations—

One of the first matters mentioned under the international implications of our immigration policy is the removal of the last vestiges of discrimination from immigration legislation, which the white paper points out is very important to our international relations. Yet, Mr. Chairman, there continues to exist on the statute books a provision in the Immigration Act which confers authority on this parliament to do precisely that, namely, to discriminate in respect of immigration. Let me read section 61:

The Governor in Council may make regulations ... respecting

(g) the prohibiting or limiting of admission of persons by reason of

(i) nationality, citizenship, ethnic group, occupation, class or geographical area of origin;

(ii) peculiar customs, habits, modes of life or methods of holding property,

(iii) unsuitability having regard to the climate, economic, social, industrial, educational, labour, health or other conditions or requirements existing, temporarily or otherwise, in Canada or in the area or country from or through which such persons come to Canada—

As I say, Mr. Chairman, this legislative authority to discriminate on ethnic or, to put it bluntly, on racial grounds and on these other grounds of discrimination remains in the statute books of this country. I brought in a private member's bill when I first became a member of the house to amend the Immigration Act in this respect, and I was always told—

**Mr. Wahn:** Would the hon. member permit a question?

**Mr. Brewin:** Certainly.

**Mr. Wahn:** The hon. member has indicated that this section of the Immigration Act