Inquiries of the Ministry IMMIGRATION

TORONTO—WAITING PERIOD BEFORE UNITED STATES CITIZENS CAN OBTAIN WORK PERMITS

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct this question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the impending strike at the Toronto Star and the possibility of the importation of strikebreakers, what is the waiting period for United States workers and students before they can obtain work permits for employment in the city of Toronto?

Mr. Speaker: It seems to me this question has a familiar ring. I have the impression the hon. member asked a similar question yesterday and there were procedural difficulties, but it might be simpler to allow the minister to answer rather than have the question asked every day.

Hon. Ofto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the ordinary practice is for a person coming into this country as a visitor or in some other such capacity to be required to obtain written permission before taking employment. In respect of very special jobs this is not difficult. In other cases there is a referral to the Canada Manpower Centre to see whether there is a shortage of that kind of worker in Canada. But in the case of a strike as far as manpower is concerned no referral would ordinarily be made.

[Translation]

FINANCE

QUEBEC—ALLEGED LOSS OF FEDERAL GRANTS FOR EDUCATION

Mr. Roch La Salle (Joliette): Mr. Speaker, I want to direct a question to the hon. Minister of Finance.

Last week, I pointed out to the right hon. Prime Minister that Quebec had lost \$300 million in federal grants under the fiscal arrangements legislation at the postgraduate level. I should like to ask the hon. minister whether he is ready to answer this question since the Prime Minister was going to bring it to his attention.

[English]

Hon. E. J. Benson (Minister of Finance): Mr. Speaker, I must assume that the program referred to by the Quebec Minister of Education, under which, according to press reports, he claims Quebec has lost \$300 million, is the federal post-secondary education fiscal transfer program authorized under Part II of the Fiscal Arrangements Act. Generally speaking, under these arrangements the federal government transfers to the provinces fiscal resources equal to 50 per cent of post-secondary education operation costs. Three provinces, Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick are on a 1967 per capita basis of \$15 which has been escalated since that time at the national annual rate of growth of post-secondary operating costs.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I regret to interrupt the minister but it seems to me this kind of question, as appears from the answer, should normally be placed on the order paper.

[Mr. Jamieson.]

YOUTH

OVERSEAS STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM—APPLICATIONS
RECEIVED AND APPROVED

Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition): Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask the Minister of Manpower and Immigration a question about the student exchange program between Canada and certain European countries. Can the minister now say how many Canadian students have been placed abroad, as opposed to the figure of 1,500 he indicated to me a week or two ago, out of a prospective total of some 3,000? Also, can he tell me how many students from European countries have been placed in employment in Canada under this program?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the figure I gave the Leader of the Opposition the other day was in relation to the known job offers made to students by host countries. This figure as of June 11 stood at 1,865. I would want to look at the up to date figure in respect of the incoming movement of students and furnish it to the hon. gentleman.

Mr. Speaker: I believe the hon, member for Fraser Valley West has a supplementary question to the previous question once removed.

IMMIGRATION

DENIAL OF ACCESS TO UNITED STATES TO CANADIAN ENTERTAINERS WISHING TO PERFORM THERE

Mr. Mark Rose (Fraser Valley West): Mr. Speaker, my question deals with immigration. However, it does not relate to the matter of strikebreakers raised by the hon. member for Broadview. In view of the report that yet another group of Canadian peformers and entertainers has been denied access to the United States because of United States immigration laws, can the minister tell the House whether he has recently approached the United States authorities to try to obtain for Canadian entertainers who desire to entertain in the United States treatment equal to that accorded United States entertainers who wish to come into Canada?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Not very recently, Mr. Speaker. This subject was a matter of discussion between the two governments without very much progress being made in terms of access into the United States for our performers. We are in the process of reviewing our policy in respect of access into that country for people from other countries.

Mr. Rose: I have a supplementary, Mr. Speaker. This is a very serious problem. Every time we ask this question we get the same answer. In view of the apparent reluctance or perhaps even down right refusal by the United States to authorize at least a reciprocal arrangement in this vital cultural area, is the minister prepared to take