

turn it into some kind of yes and continue this slur which is uncalled for.

ILLEGAL MOVEMENT OF ALIENS FROM CANADA INTO UNITED STATES—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. William Skoreyko (Edmonton East): I have a supplementary question, Mr. Speaker, for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. Does the government intend to take any action to meet the situation referred to in confidential American Department of Justice and FBI reports recently leaked to the press about the continuing problem of substantial movement of aliens from and through Canada into the United States?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I have indicated a number of times before in the House that Canadian authorities, both within the department and elsewhere, co-operate in every way possible in acting on a whole variety of illegal activities, and this conduct is continuing.

Mr. Skoreyko: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I will return to the hon. member in a moment. I think we should try to limit supplementaries until we get the first round of questioning out of the way.

[Later:]

Mr. Skoreyko: Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the one I originally directed to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. As the minister has been unable to secure approval from his colleagues for amendments to the immigration laws promised in the Speech from the Throne in October, 1970, will he co-operate in bringing the matter referred to before the appropriate standing committee and include in that reference a draft of the bill which cabinet refused?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, the question of any changes in legislation which have been required more to meet the problems of the appeal board has really nothing to do with this question of the control of visitors in our country. I do not think any of us would like to suggest measures which would in any way limit the relative freedom we extend in this country for visitors to come here. I know this can be a source of certain problems, but it is also a source of many advantages.

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COMMUNICATIONS

BELL CANADA RATE INCREASE APPLICATIONS—GOVERNMENT ACTION

Mr. David Lewis (York South): Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Communications. Is he aware of two applications for rate increases made by Bell Canada to the Canadian Transport Commission, one called a principal application to increase revenues by \$78 million and the other an interim application for an increase to come into effect on January 1, 1972, and for which no hearing is planned? If he is aware of these two applications, what steps is he taking to make sure that the

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interim increase at least will not be granted to this well known, penurious organization?

Hon. Robert Stanbury (Minister of Communications): Mr. Speaker, the hon. member knows, I think, that under our statutes the responsibility for making decisions on such applications is that of the Canadian Transport Commission and that the Minister of Communications cannot give any direction to that commission.

Mr. Lewis: Perhaps the Minister of Communications has not had occasion to read all the relevant sections of the act.

An hon. Member: Don't lecture.

Mr. Lewis: Since under the act the Governor in Council is given authority to require the commission to give it all information, to supply it with all applications and to require information from the corporation asking for rate increases, has the minister taken any steps at all or is he planning to take any steps to look into this outrageous demand by Bell Canada for an interim increase to come into effect without a hearing?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The minister may reply briefly. However, the hon. member will appreciate that that was more a speech than a question. In any event, I suggest the minister should reply.

Mr. Stanbury: Mr. Speaker, I am certainly interested in these applications, and the Department of Communications is certainly examining all available information concerning them, but that was not the hon. member's original question.

Mr. Lewis: Will the minister at least suggest, if he will not request of the Canadian Transport Commission, that the commission should not agree to any increase in rates by Bell Canada, not even on their interim application, unless there is a hearing?

Mr. Stanbury: Mr. Speaker, I think the Canadian Transport Commission will no doubt take note of that representation.

Mr. Lewis: You should make it. That is what the minister is there for.

Mr. Stanbury: I think the hon. member should go back and look at the act again.

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MANPOWER

[Translation]

LOCAL INITIATIVES PROGRAM—MEASURES TO INCREASE MAXIMUM WEEKLY REMUNERATION IN QUEBEC—FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION

Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue): Mr. Speaker, I should like to put a question to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration in connection with the local initiatives program in effect during the winter.

In the Quebec construction field, weekly wages of \$150 are compulsory under an order in council. Is the minister