Oral Questions

going to receive others. After that, we will see if we will leave the regulations as they are or modify them.

MANPOWER

USE OF GERMAN WORKERS TO INSTAL MACHINERY AT ATLANTIC PACKAGING COMPANY—REQUEST THAT WORK PERMITS BE REVOKED

Mr. John Harney (Scarborough West): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. In view of the fact that work permits have been issued to some German workers to instal machinery at Atlantic Packaging in Scarborough, and considering the painful fact that there are now about 80 qualified millrights out of work in Toronto, will the minister have these permits revoked so that skilled Canadian workers can have access to these jobs they have full right to?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, I am informed that these tradesmen came to Canada for a short time to instal a particular piece of specialized equipment which had been purchased overseas. In fact, their part in the installation was contained in the contract price and because of this they were exempt from the requirement of manpower clearance. They did, however, require and receive employment visas.

• (1450)

Mr. Harney: In view of the fact I have the same information from the pages of the Globe and Mail, can the minister assure the House that he will cause an inquiry to be made into this situation on the grounds that a contractual basis between a private company in Canada and a private company in Germany should not be cause enough to ignore the rights of workers who are skilled and competent?

Mr. Andras: Mr. Speaker, I will be glad to give the representation consideration.

IMMIGRATION

ARREST OF CERTAIN PERSONS IN TORONTO—NUMBER REGISTERED PURSUANT TO NEW REGULATIONS

Mr. Lincoln M. Alexander (Hamilton West): Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question. It is more or less a related question. It is still in the same area.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Speaker: Order, please.

Mr. Alexander: It is a supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. The Chair will recognize the hon. member for a supplementary question, a related question or, if he wishes, one that is not related at all. After that, we will then have to call orders of the day.

[Mr. Marchand (Langelier).]

Mr. Alexander: Can the minister now bring us up to date with regard to the arrests in terms of numbers as of now and, further, can he give some indication as to the numbers who have registered to date pursuant to the new regulations?

Hon. Robert K. Andras (Minister of Manpower and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, 34 persons were arrested and detained in Toronto last week, all of whom had not been considered bona fide non-immigrants at the time they sought admission to Canada. All had been released previously under bond which carried the requirement and condition they would appear at a specified later date for a special inquiry, but all of those arrested had failed to so appear. They were arrested while attempting to register for employment visas and detained under Section 17(2) of the act. Inquiries will be held this week.

One person was arrested in Montreal. This man had previously been ordered deported and had appealed unsuccessfully to the Immigration Appeal Board. He said he would take voluntary departure but failed to do so. That is the sum total of the number of arrests to date that my information now indicates. I do not have full details on the number who have registered, but during the period February 26 to March 31 it was slightly under 10,000 people.

PUBLIC SERVICE

REQUEST THAT GOVERNMENT ADOPT POLICY OF EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, my question is supplementary to the one raised by the hon. member for Dartmouth-Halifax East. It is a very important question. I direct it to the President of the Treasury Board. In the interest of settling the dispute which is under the jurisdiction of the minister and could very seriously curtail activities on both coasts and in the interest of equality of opportunity for all Canadians, especially those in the federal jurisdiction, is the minister prepared to announce that it is government policy to pay Canadians under federal jurisdiction equal pay for equal work regardless of the part of Canada in which they may be located?

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Mr. Speaker, the quick answer is no. What the hon. member has suggested is, I think, producing local dislocations in pursuit of some unattainable objective.

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct a supplementary question to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion. In view of the fact the minister is responsible for problems in areas of regional disparity, what has his advice to the government been in areas under Treasury Board jurisdiction where the issue of inequality of pay for equal work in different parts of the country is involved?

Mr. Speaker: Order, please. I would not think a question in those terms is in order. Before calling orders of the day,