Government Orders

the RCMP and other police forces in their battle with organized crime.

If we have reasonable grounds to believe that a person has committed a crime, that person would be barred from Canada.

While some civil libertarians may decry that fact, Canadians who obey the law, welcoming legitimate immigrants who just want to come here to make a new home for themselves, do not welcome people with known criminal records who want to find a new place to commit further crimes.

I am pleased as well to support the amendments to the security certificate provisions of the act. These are provisions that enhance the ability of the Solicitor General and the Minister of Employment and Immigration to exclude from Canada persons who pose a security risk.

These changes will give greater protection for sensitive information which we receive from allied governments that we use in support of certificate cases before the federal courts. The legislation will ensure that persons who are the subject of certificates cannot attempt to avoid the rule of Canada by making a claim to refugee status.

It also gives the government authority to exclude from Canada persons who are members of or associated with organizations or governments that have been involved in war crimes and human rights abuses.

We have to be able as a country to exclude individuals whose admission serves no public interest and whose very presence in Canada is offensive to the democratic values of Canadians so that we will take care of that type of individual.

I also would point out that Canadians are going to be pleased to see that under the proposed amendments criminals can no longer make a refugee claim in order to avoid extradition. We will take care of that particular abuse of our system and our openness as a country.

I am also supportive of the provisions which are aimed at curbing the activities of individuals who are more involved in migrant smuggling. There cannot be anything worse than people who set up a business to try to cheat people out of their money and land them on our shores without proper documentation. To take advantage of people like that in any country is not on. We will be able to stop that. The RCMP will play a major role in this part of the initiative.

I also want to endorse the legislative changes to the restructuring of the review and appeal mechanisms. These provisions are going to curtail the abuses in the system and defend the integrity of the program which is essential to our social and economic development.

I am firmly in support of the bill and what it does for our ability as a country to secure our borders against illegal refugees. One has to realize that this bill enhances immigration and takes on the people who would abuse the immigration system.

We have raised our levels in recent years to help us build this country and to help people who are in difficulty in other countries. I have always been in favour as an individual and as a member of Parliament of increased immigration in this country. There is no question were we to continue our current birth rates and the old immigration policies we would see our population diminish. That does not suit our purposes as a country that either looks forward or wants to welcome people who want to make a new lives for themselves.

• (1600)

I want to particularly mention policies which I believe are not shared by any of the three major parties in this House. I want to specifically refer to the policies of the Reform Party. I want to quote the Reform Party president. As I said, I am sure my colleagues in the Liberal and New Democratic parties and in my party do not support this type of comment. This is a comment from the president of the Reform Party of Simcoe North:

"We're bringing in the riff-raff of the world," says Jill Patterson, president of the party's Simcoe North riding association. "Not all of them, I'm not saying they're all riff-raff, but a lot of them are."

That is the policy of the Reform Party of Canada. I reject it out of hand.

The best way I have found to reject it is to remind people of the backgrounds of the people who built this country. It is best said by a writer named Pete McGarvey. He used to be on the radio in Toronto. In the *Huronia Sunday* of May 3, 1992 he took her on on this riff-raff thing. His words are very appropriate: