

Supply—Citizenship and Immigration

that in my opinion so-and-so, though he had a criminal record, has been rehabilitated, and we do that occasionally, but not in the case of people with recent criminal records that have come to our notice. Of course, every so often somebody does get into the country who has a criminal record and we discover it afterwards. We sometimes try to deport them and sometimes we meet with great obstacles in doing that.

Mr. Herridge: Sometimes you pass orders in council to let them stay.

Mr. Pickersgill: I do not think we have to pass orders in council to let them stay, sir.

Mr. Brooks: With reference to the location of immigrants coming to Canada, what determines the province or the particular section of country in which they decide to live? Does the immigrant himself ask to go to that particular section or does the department act in a way to steer or direct them to certain parts?

Mr. Pickersgill: Well, sir, in the case of sponsored immigrants and in the case of British immigrants who do not have to be sponsored at all but who can come here freely, they pretty nearly always have a specific destination in mind and go there; but in the case of a lot of immigrants who are brought here for open placement, that is to say, to look for work, we do try to steer them to the places where there is work in the kind of occupation for which they are fitted, and that is really the only criterion. It has been argued that the extreme west of the country was rather discriminated against because of the extra cost of transportation.

Mr. Brooks: What about the extreme east?

Mr. Pickersgill: Well, after all, the extreme east has the first "go" at them, and particularly the city that is very near the hon. gentleman's constituency where a large proportion of the immigrants have been coming in during these last few months. I am pleased to say that quite a number of them are staying in the hon. gentleman's province.

Mr. Brooks: Despite the report?

Mr. Pickersgill: But in the case of the western provinces it is quite an additional cost to the immigrant and we did feel when we were establishing this special air bridge to Canada this year that by establishing the same fare to Toronto, Winnipeg, Edmonton and Vancouver we were ensuring a somewhat better distribution than formerly. This was an executive act of the government for which I have to take the primary responsibility and I do hope hon. members on both sides of

the house will approve of it, even the hon. gentleman who represents Malton!

Mr. Fulton: Mr. Chairman, the minister alluded a moment ago to the difficulty of permitting next of kin to come to Canada where there were no inspection facilities in the country from which it is sought to bring them. I am sure all hon. members will recognize that you cannot generalize too freely about such cases but there has been one in the press recently concerning the next of kin of some Hungarians who themselves were not admitted under the refugee movement and who have been here for some time but who now want to bring their daughter to this country.

Mr. Pickersgill: They are not Hungarians.

Mr. Fulton: They are Greek, are they not?

Mr. Pickersgill: Yes.

Mr. Fulton: The daughter having fled Greece is now in Hungary.

Mr. Pickersgill: The hon. gentleman will find all the details in the *Globe and Mail*.

Mr. Fulton: Why is it not possible in cases such as this—there cannot be too many cases just like this—

Mr. Pickersgill: I know of no other case like this; it is unique.

Mr. Fulton:—where the circumstances are unique and there is an obvious hardship to permit a person whom it is desired to bring to Canada to come here for inspection without the normal clearances that are ordinarily required? Shipping companies would not normally be permitted to bring such a person without clearance from the department. The clearance cannot be given because there are no facilities in Hungary for the examination. Why would it not be possible to make a special exception in such a case giving an immunity to the shipping company if they bring a person to Canada so that she may be examined here where in all probability it will be found she will be a suitable immigrant and be permitted to land?

Mr. Pickersgill: To the best of my knowledge this case is unique. There may be another case where two Greek parents are in Toronto and a daughter age 27 is in Hungary but it would surprise me if that set of circumstances happened to be duplicated.

The essential document that is required to get out of Hungary is a passport or some similar document from the government of Hungary enabling the person to leave. We have never had any evidence whatsoever that this young woman had such a document or would be able to get it, and I have taken