

reach all ages, all nationalities, and in advising them on, and educating them in, our way of life in Canada. Immigrant services are necessary—some may not like the expression—in order to integrate people into our society in general terms. I stress that some people like to hang on to their cultural backgrounds, and this is understandable. In this regard I understand the Secretary of State (Mr. Faulkner), through the work of Dr. Frieda Hawkins, is undertaking a study.

Mr. Stanbury: This has been going on for some years.

Mr. Alexander: Since 1971. Right now she is on the verge of holding consultative meetings arranged between municipalities, the provinces and the federal government, not to mention social agencies and various other groups, in order to arrive at the necessary recommendations that will be submitted to the government so that it may have some inkling of what is required by way of immigrant services.

The minister must crack down on unscrupulous profiteers, on agencies that misrepresent opportunities here in Canada. Self-styled immigrant consultants have to be checked. Even some lawyers were charging exorbitant fees for nothing whatsoever. We all hope that this sordid mess that was brought upon us by the government through its perpetuation of the system that has been in existence since 1967 will be cleared up. We intend to support the minister in this regard, but let me say that if we see any hanky-panky, any harassment, or any overzealousness that would lead us to believe there was some question of the minister's sincerity, he can expect to hear from the official opposition.

Mr. John Gilbert (Broadview): Mr. Speaker, all of us are anxious to have third reading of this bill tonight. In the last 25 years the volume of immigrants to Canada has caused a change in Canadian society. It has brought forth greater richness in culture, in language and in productivity. Just recently in Toronto we saw a caravan program which depicted the many nationalities that have come to this country. It gave examples of the different foods, cultures and personalities. It was a rich experience for Toronto. As the hon. member for Hamilton West (Mr. Alexander) said, this display program has been shown in other major cities.

Even the small towns where many of the immigrants settled have benefited from them. Of course, their arrival caused strains on the educational system, not to mention the housing problem and the unemployment problem. That is why I hope that the minister, when he brings forth legislation in the future dealing with immigration problems, will consult and co-operate with the provinces, because in the final analysis the weight of these problems falls on the provinces and municipalities.

The hon. member for Hamilton West was quite right in saying that not only must we bring in new immigrants but we must provide services for them. We want them to take their rightful place in society. They have to learn the language and the skills which we have in this country.

Bill C-197 has been introduced to correct an honest mistake that the government made in allowing visitors to come to Canada and permitting them to apply for landed status from within Canada. As I say, it was an honest

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mistake based on the conviction that people should come to Canada, test the community, and then, if they were satisfied, apply. But this right was grossly abused, and as a result there are 17,000 cases now before the appeal courts.

We have had studies on immigration, and we have had recommendations, but they have not been translated into legislation. I hope that the minister regards this as a first step to the development of an immigration policy that brings many people to Canada. At the moment there is a common thought and feeling that any person over 45 years of age who is unskilled stands a very poor chance of coming to Canada and being part of the community. This appears on the face of it to be grossly unfair. We appear to be looking for young people and for skills, and sometimes we drain from underdeveloped countries people who may be able to make a good contribution within their own country.

● (2150)

I hope we have the charity to embrace people from different countries and cultures even though they have not the absolute requirements that we think they have at the moment. I think the minister has a philosophy that can embrace that type of thinking. We should see if we cannot bring to Canada a greater variety of people, rather than adhere to the strict policy we have at the moment of looking to young people with skills.

I look forward to legislation in the near future after more study of these problems and consultation with the provinces, so that we can be justly proud of any immigration policies that we have.

Motion agreed to and bill read the third time and passed.

Mr. Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre): Ten o'clock.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): There seems to be a disposition that we call it ten o'clock and proceed with the adjournment debate. Is this agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

[English]

A motion to adjourn the House under Standing Order 40 deemed to have been moved.

NATURAL RESOURCES—STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF
REGIONAL ECONOMIC EXPANSION THAT MORE
PROCESSING MUST BE DONE IN CANADA—GOVERNMENT
POSITION

Mr. Elmer M. MacKay (Central Nova): Mr. Speaker, on March 29 of this year I asked the right hon. Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) whether his government intended to respond to the need to establish machinery to work out a co-ordinated resource processing and export strategy for this country, and whether there was any suggestion of a