conceivable if one processor is supplying five different Japanese customers that there could be observers from five different customers present in one plant. With 34 buyers competing for herring roe in B.C. in 1978, this can create a situation where many such advisers and observers would be required to look after the interests of the various Japanese purchasers. In fact, in 1978, 486 special visas have been issued for such observers for the herring roe and salmon roe processing operations. However, we conducted a survey of the number of Japanese nationals in each of the processing plants in B.C. We found that there are less than half that number actually present, so it is obvious that not all of the visas issued have been used.

The Department of Employment and Immigration, under the terms of the Immigration Act, has authority to issue special visas to permit entry for these people and has done so for the past six years. In the early 1970's when we first entered this market, Japanese technicians did accompany the herring seiners to advise the captains when the roe had reached the stage of maturity suitable for the Japanese market so the fishing operation could proceed. However, this function has now been taken over by the Canadian fishermen and the fisheries and marine service in the field which determines fishing times in discrete areas by maturity of the roe and abundance of herring present. This change for a time caused a decline in the number of Japanese technicians entering Canada, but this number is now escalating again due to the increased number of buyers after roe herring.

By the terms of the temporary visas issued to these people, they are to take no active part in any of the actual work conducted in the processing operation. However, to look after the interests of their employers they may be required to handle and assist in the grading of the roe, so there is a grey area involved where the plant workers' duties terminate and those of the technician commence.

The fisheries and marine service in conjunction with the Department of Employment and Immigration is conducting an investigation into the role and need for these technicians in so far as the herring roe and salmon roe processing operations are concerned. This investigation will touch on such specific points as the number of technicians that may be required in each processing plant, or by each Japanese buyer—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Turner): Order, please. I regret to interrupt the hon. member but his allotted time has expired.

• (2222)

CANADA COUNCIL—GUIDELINES FOR ALLOCATIONS OF GRANTS

Mr. Arnold Malone (Battle River): Mr. Speaker, on March 15 of this year I rose in the House to ask a question of the Secretary of State (Mr. Roberts) relating to Canada Council grants, the regulations by which they are guided and how many people had written in protest of the lack of regulations. I noted later in response to a question I placed on the order paper that the minister indicated that some 1,000 letters had been received in protest of the regulations for Canada Council grants.

The simple thing I want to make reference to at this time is the fact that we have before us a situation in which there is much to be produced by the Canada Council. While the majority of its work is excellent and it is a very serviceable kind of organization, the laxity of regulation creates a situation wherein we find what many people classify as the printing of pornographic literature, the awarding of grants for projects that many people presume to be useless. One example is the $174,000 grant to study air breathing fish on the Amazon River. That is only one example.

What most people are concerned about with the Canada Council is not the fact that it is an agency of government which gives grants, but that there appears to be no checks or balances on how the money is spent. I want to make it clear my quarrel is not with the agency but with the guidelines and regulations. What I find insulting when I look at some of the poetry supported by Canada Council grants is that when I go to the men's room in the local tavern and read what is written there, the only difference is that in large measure the stuff in the tavern washroom is of higher quality. As a taxpayer, I find it insulting that tax money goes to support things that many people find insulting. That is not what taxpayers want their money spent on.

Before the parliamentary secretary begins to feel that I am chastising only this government, I want to say that it is a problem far more afield. All governments have that problem. However, we cannot hide it under a bushel, simply saying that the matter of political interference means we have a lack of political responsibility.

In today's Ottawa *Citizen* there is a complaint about a grant of $97,000 to study ethnic and class relationships in the Peruvian Andes. It goes on to state:

> Part of the ethnic and class relationships study, it turns out, involved one of the two professors making about "20" visits to a bordello at a place called San Tuti—
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> . . . In a flash, the thing was done, with 364 voting for, 37 against. And only one congressman had the bad grace to point out that it was this appropriation that, in 1977, contained $62,300 for a study of homosexual tendencies among California seagulls.

Although such things as the CBC, CNR and Canada Council should be removed from politics, they should not be removed from responsibility. The question I put forward and am now asking the parliamentary secretary is: Surely there must be some way, when these regulations come to the surface and are brought before the public, that the minister can ask that the guidelines be reviewed? It appears to a mass of people across this country now that there is some abuse. Therefore, the regulations should come before a parliamentary committee.

• (2227)

Before sitting down I would like to ask the parliamentary secretary whether there is not some way by which he can indicate tonight what action is being taken. Many people have been protesting the lack of regulatory guidelines. Is any action