

*Supply—Citizenship and Immigration*

[Text]

**Mr. Brewin:** I intend to make a speech notable for its brevity. I should like to endorse very heartily and warmly the suggestion made by the hon. member for Peace River. I believe the existence of a small parliamentary committee which could review all these immigration cases would, if adopted, be of great benefit to Canada. I think such a committee would assist the minister in the difficult task of administering this department and I urge that it should be adopted.

The other thing I want to say is this. The minister told us that in respect to various amendments of procedures which have been discussed earlier in the house and in this committee, he is consulting a lawyer from Toronto, Mr. Joseph Sedgwick. I do not suppose it is reasonable for us to expect that the details of possible changes in the act or in the regulations can be discussed until Mr. Sedgwick has given his advice to the minister. However, I should like to ask the hon. gentleman whether he has yet received Mr. Sedgwick's report; if not, when he expects to receive it, and whether it will be made available to members of the house who are much interested in radical reforms in immigration procedures.

[Translation]

**Mr. Chapdelaine:** Mr. Chairman, I should just like to add a few words in support of the remarks made by the hon. member for Vancouver East (Mr. Winch) concerning the administration and the work of citizenship and immigration officials.

I think there is something quite wrong with the department, especially since the present minister took over. One has the feeling that there is no close co-operation between him and his subordinates.

I am thinking of a case I handled in the riding of Sherbrooke where a certain Mr. Zago has been trying for over two years to get his mother, brother and sister admitted to Canada. At present, those people are in Lebanon and I have been looking after the case personally for more than a year, that is since August, 1963. However, the moment the new minister took over my case was dropped and no one seemed to look after it any more.

I had to write to the department and hand over all my previous correspondence with the officials. It was the same as if there was no file any longer. In fact, I learned recently that the file pertaining to Mr. Zago was in Vienna and that there was nothing more to do.

I did not intend to raise a particular case in the house, because I know that the minister

has many of them to consider, but as there were no developments, I decided to do so.

In my opinion, these people are eligible for admission to Canada, because the person who sponsors them is a prominent citizen of the city of Sherbrooke, where he operates a flourishing business; he would like his mother, as well as his brothers and sisters to come to live in Canada.

I feel that this delay might be due to a lack of co-operation within the department. Should it be due to a shortage of staff, as the hon. member for Vancouver East (Mr. Winch) said a while ago, it would be a most opportune time to increase it so that the requests sent to the department should be reckoned with or at least dealt with in some way, for most of the time when we write to the department we have to wait months before getting an answer, even an acknowledgment.

Mr. Chairman, I wished merely to support the observations of the hon. member for Vancouver East, when he said that there was at present a lack of diligence or care in the Department of Citizenship and Immigration in regard to the requests we are sending them.

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**Mr. Ormiston:** Mr. Chairman, I hope I can be just as brief as the hon. member for Greenwood. I would like to thank the minister for the information he has given me previously in reply to questions I have asked. I know he has not yet secured all the information which he requires, but I would appreciate it if in his subsequent remarks he would tell me under what section of the Immigration Act the two American strike directors were admitted, or under what regulation, in order that I may pursue this matter if necessary.

[Translation]

**Mr. Latulippe:** Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a few comments regarding immigration and ways to increase Canada's population.

Should Canada endeavour to increase our population? I think everyone knows the answer to that.

If our population increased we would have more consumers for, as we are all aware, there is no lack of production in Canada. As a matter of fact, the value of production reached \$46 billion in 1963 and we barely consumed \$3 billion worth. Which means that there is surplus production to be consumed and that Canada can admit additional consumers.

As for immigration, in my opinion the population should be in the first place increased within the country by encouraging