

*Government Orders*

I would like to know how many cases he has approved on that ground. Every one that I have put forward—and I have documented them very carefully and very sincerely—has been turned down and I am sure other members had the same experience.

I do not think he is being at all generous or compassionate to people who have been here several years. Many of them were in the backlog, and I mentioned the people from Poland in particular.

Turning to my final point, I think the minister mentioned that the number of 250,000. We agree with that. We support the government. We think we should be taking as many people in Canada as we can possibly take, but it should be a fair policy as I said earlier. It should not just favour wealthy entrepreneurs.

**Mr. Dennis Mills (Broadview—Greenwood):** Madam Speaker, to the member of the New Democratic Party on the same question of entrepreneurship, in my province I happen to know that the NDP will say one thing but will practise another.

In this particular area right now in the province of Ontario we are welcoming entrepreneurial immigration to this country. I agreed with a lot of the things the hon. member said in her speech about these cases where we would like to have a much more aggressive humanitarian spirit in the department.

I do not want to get into that, but I think of the thousands and thousands of jobs that have been created in the province of British Columbia by Japanese entrepreneurial investors and by Chinese entrepreneurial investors. They do not just come here and invest their money and it sort of sits there. They buy into housing projects and into ski lodges which creates jobs.

I know in the province of Ontario right now our premier—and I salute him for it—is travelling the world trying to pull in investment capital and entrepreneurial immigrants so we can reprime our manufacturing industry.

Why is the NDP putting a stigma on a wealthy entrepreneurial immigrant who wants to come to Canada for the express purpose of creating jobs of which we are in such dire need right now?

By the way, I might also say to the hon. member of the New Democratic Party that a lot of these successful, to use her expression, wealthy entrepreneurial people are

craftsmen and skilled people in their own right. They may have started poor or started small, but they grew through their skill and their wealth. Why the NDP is against bringing in that kind of person or why it is not encouraging them is a mystery to me.

**Ms. Mitchell:** Madam Speaker, I think my hon. Liberal friend is not reading this bill or the explanation of this bill correctly.

In my speech I asked why stream one would fast-track and give unlimited numbers to wealthy investors, and yet at the same time stream three would place strict limits on the number of applicants who were business entrepreneurial and independent immigrants. Why should one have top priority, his friends obviously? We need entrepreneurs. I am not saying we do not need them, but why should they be given much higher priority and much quicker processing than those in stream three which will have strict number limitations and be processed much more slowly? It is a reverse of what I think was Liberal policy when they were government.

I am surprised that the hon. member who has been up on his feet so much today would not understand that. It is the priority in government that we are objecting to. It is not a stigma on any particular group. It is fairness we are talking about.

• (1640)

**Mr. Dennis Mills (Broadview—Greenwood):** Madam Speaker, before I begin my debate, I would like to respond to the member from the New Democratic Party. My point in bringing to the attention of the House and of the member the reason we encourage and promote entrepreneurial immigration to this country was not just because we were trying to give somebody preferential status. It has always been for me, and I think for most members of this House, a linkage to direct job creation almost instantaneously.

Sometimes we refer to wealthy people whom the NDP seems to think are always getting preferential treatment. These same people come here and invest literally hundreds of millions of dollars. In the process of doing so they like to see what they are investing in and where their money is going. In my judgment if it means that it can save some Canadian jobs or save some Canadian companies from going under or going bankrupt, if it responds that way, I think we should be sensitive to