

Immigration Act

Accordingly, the bills presently shown to have a "text received" include, as a "text", instructions ranging from a short paragraph of instructions for which a draft has yet to be prepared, to the text of a draft bill. It seems to me that this fulfils the requirements of the order of the House adopted with unanimous consent on April 3, 1981.

Hon. members will appreciate that the process of drafting a bill includes research, the extent of which varies a great deal from one bill to another, and that the bill may run through many drafts before it is approved by the member for printing and distribution. Furthermore, after all the research is completed and material is compiled, the actual drafting time will vary depending on the complexity of the subject matter. Accordingly, the stage at which these bills with the notation are in the drafting of process ranges from the research stage and, in respect of nearly one half of those bills, to the stage of a first or a second draft of the bill which has been sent to the member for his approval or further comment.

Finally, hon. members will also appreciate that many bills are also introduced after the draw, and these bills have undergone, or are going through, the process just described concurrently with the bills which were in the draw.

The point of order of the hon. member for Vaudreuil in effect directs our attention to the present practice in respect of the draw for precedence in debate for bills at the beginning of the session. Of the 392 bills in the draw this session, over 200 were not drafted and thus contravened Standing Order 69 which reads:

No bill may be introduced either in blank or in an imperfect shape.

While it is too late for this session to conform to Standing Order 69, members are now put on notice that in the next session only those bills which have been drafted will be permitted in the draw. For the moment, however, the hon. member may be assured that there has been compliance with the decision of the Chair of February 19 and with the order of the House of April 3, 1981, and that drafting and the printing of these bills is taking its normal course.

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IMMIGRATION
MEASURE TO AMEND

Mr. John Gamble (York North) moved that Bill C-258, to amend the Immigration Act, be read the second time and referred to the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration.

He said: Mr. Speaker, Bill C-258 is designed to amend the Immigration Act in a number of specific technical ways. Prior to dealing with the sections of the act sought to be amended, I wish to address in a general fashion the motives and intentions underlying the preparation of the bill. We in Canada, by the grace of God and the hard work, sacrifice and enterprise of our ancestors, are among the most fortunate people on earth. While it is true that today matters might be improved over

what we currently feel and find in society, Canada is still a haven of freedom and liberty in a world of autocratic and dictatorial regimes where individual liberties are subjected to regular denial. Our land mass is rich in resources and, assuming they can be extracted and harvested in a manner beneficial to our population, all Canadians should prosper.

Our most precious resource, however, remains the people of Canada, numbering slightly in excess of 24 million, who have an abiding respect for law and order and are not given to violence. The vast majority of Canadians believe that they should earn their own living, should not depend upon the state for handouts, but should support their families, build their homes and communities, and attend to the needs of our senior citizens and others who through no fault of their own are unable to care for themselves.

Who are the people who are to enjoy this land and the company of Canadians? They are Canadians themselves and those whom we as Canadians choose to welcome into our midst. Canada is our home, and we will invite into our home those whom we choose and reject those whom we find objectionable for one reason or another. Those reasons are to be determined by us. In determining what those guidelines might be, I should think we would have regard to some of the remarks I made earlier.

This Parliament, as a repository of the public will, has passed the Immigration Act to codify the rules for admission, and Bill C-258 is designed to eliminate some of the abuses which we have seen recently inflicted upon Canadians by those who choose, against our will, to enter Canada. Some of the serious problems relating to entry into Canada against our wishes cannot be legislated but can only be remedied through a more alert scrutiny of visitors and immigrants by immigration officials. I find it repugnant to my sense of national pride that a member of the Baader-Meinhof gang of German terrorists should be apprehended in North America, not while entering Canada but by United States immigration officials while leaving Canada and endeavouring to gain entry into the United States. Our passports are reputed to be easily forged, and visas obtained abroad in some cases are acquired with the same difficulty that would attend the purchase of an airline ticket. I would hope that administrative practices within the immigration branch of the Department of Employment and Immigration might be improved to prevent Canadians from being confronted with international terrorists and others who fall into the category of objectionable aliens who have chosen, without our consent, to enter our country.

Finally, I should like to deal specifically with the bill itself. Its main thrust is to expedite deportation of illegal immigrants and to eliminate certain practices which have developed to circumvent the provisions of the act. Specifically, Clause 2 of the bill would amend Subsection 32(6) of the act by adding the following categories of persons to whom a deportation order might apply. In this case I point out that it is simply a matter of adding categories rather than specifically changing the meaning of Subsection 32(6). In the first instance, those persons who, if they were applying for entry into Canada,