

The way to deal with that is through an appropriate appeal process.

It could also be dealt with through a proper use of the provisions of section 114, which allows the minister to admit people for humanitarian and compassionate reasons. However, unfortunately this minister—and I still have not got a good answer from him—has virtually closed down the use of that provision to admit people on humanitarian and compassionate grounds. It is now more limited under his ministry than it was under the two former Conservative ministers, the hon. member for St. Paul's and the hon. member for Roberval. They used those provisions to a greater extent than he has. Now people turned down by the refugee board who, because their case is deserving, should be admitted under the humanitarian compassionate clause are not being admitted at all. Nothing is being done about that at all.

Last year only 23 out of 3,485 cases in Ontario and Quebec were accepted under those provisions. That is very, very few.

Another major matter that is not being dealt with, and it may be dealt with in the future but the minister has not taken steps to deal with it yet, concerns the many individuals and families who have gone before the refugee board and been turned down as refugees because the conditions in their countries have changed. A lot of them are from eastern Europe, from Poland, Czechoslovakia, East Germany and the Soviet Union.

They have waited for two to three years to get their case before the board. They were legitimate refugees when they fled. They severed their ties in the countries which they left and came here. As a result of the slowness and the inefficiency of our system they have had to wait. Finally, they get before the board and are told: "No, you are not a refugee, your country, Poland, is now a democracy". Many of these people have established themselves in this country, have had children here, have married here, and yet they are being forced back to those countries.

The NGOs and many other people have asked the minister and the government to do something about that, to have more fairness and humanity. These people,

many of them, have severed their ties in their countries of origin and were refugees when they came. It is not their fault they were not admitted as refugees. It is our fault as a country for having such a poor system.

The minister in the bill takes steps to regulate and place a greater burden on the transport companies, but he has done nothing yet to control, regulate and monitor immigration consultants and agents, and they do require regulation and monitoring.

• (1710 )

While there are some good ones in the field there have been a lot of bad ones and that has been admitted. They have exploited many immigrants.

Again, I do not understand why the minister did not take this opportunity since he is opening up the act to do something about these consultants and agents.

Mr. Speaker, you indicate to me my time is coming to and end. There is much more that could have been said. In the last few minutes I would like to simply say again this is a very complex bill. I think to call the debate today is premature and it is worse still to close down the debate by closure on Monday night.

I want to tell the government that although there are some good things in the bill and there are some bad things, because there are so many things we have not had a chance to analyse and consult on what may be bad or good, we do not know, we refuse to vote favourably for this bill at second reading.

Not only will we vote against the bill at second reading but we will move that consideration of the bill be put off until a later time.

I also want to say to the minister that I hope if the bill is rammed through at second reading and sent to a committee he will have some fair consideration of the NGOs in the field. They, unlike the minister and his staff, will not be ready to appear before any committee within two or three weeks. They need to consult, to analyse. Many of them have volunteers. I am thinking of the ethnocultural communities, the voluntary refugee assist and support groups. They will not be able to come before us that quickly. You have to give them time to prepare themselves.