

chief means of reinforcing population and populating the vast waste spaces of Canada. Under such conditions the racial and linguistic composition of that immigration becomes of paramount importance. Canadians generally prefer that immigrants should be of a readily assimilable type, already identified by race or language with one or other of the two great races now inhabiting this country. Since the French are not to any great extent an emigrating people, this means that the acceptable immigrants who come to Canada are those who speak the English language—those coming from the United Kingdom or the United States. Next in order of readiness of assimilation are the Scandinavian and Dutch immigrants, who readily learn English and are already acquainted with the working of free democratic institutions; a few years ago most Canadians would have included the German immigrants in the same category. Immigrants from Southern and Eastern Europe, however desirable from the purely economic point of view, are less readily assimilated, and the Canadianizing of the people from these regions who came to Canada in the first fourteen years of this century is a problem both in the agricultural Prairie Provinces and in the cities of the East. Less assimilable still, according to the general opinion of Canadians, are those immigrants who come to Canada from the Orient.

In view of the new census, it is desirable to consider briefly the immigration which has taken place since 1911, according to origins. In the nine years from April 1911 to March, 1920, the total number of immigrants was 1,664,359, of which 564,202, or 33·9 p.c. came from the United Kingdom, 700,039, or 42·06 p.c. from the United States, and 400,118, or 24·04 p.c. from other countries. These nine years fall naturally into two periods—the pre-war period from April, 1911 to July, 1914, inclusive, or 3½ years, and the war and reconstruction period from August, 1914 to March, 1920, 5¾ years. In the first period, immigrants from other countries than the United Kingdom and the United States reached the very large number of 368,428 in a total immigration of 1,247,178; in the second they numbered only 31,690 in a total of 417,181, or taking the figures for the five fiscal years 1916 to 1920, only 28,371 in a total of 378,023. The number of immigrants to be assimilated has thus not markedly increased in the past five years, but the problem of assimilating the pre-war immigrants from these countries remains. A noteworthy effort to solve this problem, so far as the younger generation is concerned, is now being made by the Departments of Education of the three Prairie Provinces.

**Recent Immigration.**—For the fiscal year ended March 31, 1920, (the first full year of peace), the number of immigrants arriving in Canada was 117,336, more than doubling the 1919 figure of 57,702. In the preceding war years the numbers had been 79,074 in 1918; 75,374 in 1917; 48,537 in 1916; as compared with 144,789 in the fiscal year 1915 (partly a war year), and 384,878 in 1914, the year before the war broke out. Of the 1920 immigrants, 59,603, or 51 p.c. came from the United Kingdom, 49,656, or 42 p.c. from the United States, and 8,077, or 7 p.c. from other countries. As shown by Table