

Racial Origins of Immigrants.—Where there is any considerable immigration into a democratic country, the racial and linguistic composition of the immigrants is of great importance. Canadians prefer that settlers 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 and prepared for the duties of Canadian citizenship. Since the French are not, to any great extent, an emigrating people, this means in practice that the great bulk of the preferable settlers 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 Scandinavians, Dutch and Germans, who readily learn English and are already acquainted with the working of democratic institutions. Settlers from Southern and Eastern Europe, however desirable from a purely economic point of view, are less readily assimilated, and the Canadianizing of the people who have come to Canada from these regions in the present century is a problem both in the agricultural Prairie Provinces and in the cities of the East. Less assimilable still, are those who come to Canada from the Orient. On the whole, the great bulk of Canadian immigration of the past generation has been drawn from the English-speaking countries and from those continental European countries where the population is ethnically nearly related to the British, though for some years there was an increasing immigration of Slavs.

The racial origins of the immigrants who arrived in Canada in the calendar years 1929-34, are shown in Table 5. In the latest year the British races contributed 47 p.c. of the immigrants, French 7 p.c., and German 8 p.c.

5.—Racial Origins of Immigrants into Canada, calendar years 1929-34.

Racial Origin.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.
British—						
English.....	43,287	24,789	9,417	6,461	4,301	3,491
Irish.....	14,478	7,876	2,748	1,886	1,316	1,021
Scottish.....	23,207	11,996	3,825	2,612	1,700	1,198
Welsh.....	3,586	1,116	371	184	126	115
Totals, British.....	84,558	45,777	16,361	11,143	7,443	5,825
Continental European—						
Albanian.....	22	33	5	-	-	4
Belgian.....	952	427	97	81	50	78
Bohemian.....	104	76	22	24	12	10
Bulgarian.....	311	353	17	16	15	5
Croatian.....	751	604	118	95	107	152
Czech.....	440	261	78	77	54	76
Dalmatian.....	7	-	-	-	-	-
Dutch.....	1,980	1,605	308	247	190	150
Estonian.....	98	87	9	1	3	2
Finnish.....	4,712	2,811	136	62	67	79
French.....	5,187	5,084	2,938	2,832	1,337	903
German.....	17,919	13,544	2,389	1,842	1,213	945
Greek.....	741	575	66	71	53	58
Herzegovinian.....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italian.....	1,514	1,327	633	435	365	375
Jewish.....	4,001	4,220	670	747	781	869
Lettish.....	83	36	2	8	3	1
Lithuanian.....	959	624	65	49	44	45
Magyar.....	5,484	3,360	530	333	506	442
Maltese.....	41	22	5	6	-	-
Mexican.....	1	-	1	-	-	-
Montenegrin.....	2	3	-	-	-	-
Moravian.....	21	5	1	3	-	-
Polish.....	6,424	5,207	680	474	410	436
Portuguese.....	28	11	5	9	5	5
Roumanian.....	400	300	48	38	38	44
Russian.....	858	1,123	111	104	82	70
Ruthenian.....	11,009	8,133	541	482	390	578
Scandinavian—						
Danish.....	3,140	1,421	175	116	82	63
Icelandic.....	35	40	10	12	10	12
Norwegian.....	3,750	1,808	262	275	144	132
Swedish.....	3,895	1,440	276	225	126	100