

Section 9.—Movement of Population

A short review of the rural and urban movement of population in 1941-44; the migration between the nine provinces of Canada during the decade 1931-41; and the estimated net civilian immigration by provinces, 1941-44, appears at pp. 120-122 of the 1945 Year Book.

Section 10.—Citizenship

The basic legal definition of Canadian nationality is to be found in the Immigration Act, which defines a Canadian citizen as a person included in one of three categories: (1) a person born in Canada, who has not subsequently become a citizen of a foreign State; (2) any British subject who has been domiciled for five years in Canada; (3) any subject of a foreign power who has become naturalized and has not subsequently become an alien or lost Canadian domicile (R.S.C. 1927, c. 93; 21-22 Geo. V, c. 39).

The part that Canada played in the negotiating of the Peace Treaty and the subsequent enrolment of Canada as a member of the League of Nations necessitated an enlargement of the terms of the Immigration Act. In other words, there arose the need of an official definition of the term "Canadian citizen" as distinct from "British subject"—a definition that would be internationally recognized. An Act was accordingly passed entitled "An Act to Define Canadian Nationals and to Provide for the Renunciation of Canadian Nationality" (R.S.C. 1927, c. 21).

This Act defines a Canadian national as (1) any British subject who is a Canadian citizen within the meaning of the Immigration Act; (2) the wife of any such person; and (3) any person born out of Canada whose father was a Canadian national at the time of such person's birth, or, with regard to persons born before the passing of the Act, any person whose father at the time of such birth possessed all the qualifications of a Canadian national as defined in the Immigration Act.

It will be seen from this that Canadian nationality has several bases. Any naturalized person in Canada is now recognized as a British subject in any part of the world, although there was a time when persons were admitted to naturalization in Canada who could not qualify as British subjects outside of Canada. (See also statistics of naturalization, Chapter XXXI on Miscellaneous Administration.)

Table 23 shows that, at the Census of 1941, less than 1 p.c. of the total Canadian-born and other British-born population had lost their Canadian citizenship through renunciation or marriage. Over 80 p.c. of the United States born persons in Canada, who form 2.7 p.c. of the total population, had become Canadian citizens together with 74.7 p.c. of the Continental European born, while 72.7 p.c. of those born in Asiatic countries were still aliens. Of the total population only 2.4 p.c. were aliens. Table 24 shows the citizenship of non-British and non-French racial origins as at the Censuses of 1931 and 1941.

23.—Citizenship of the Total Population, by Nativity, 1941

Birthplace	Canadian Nationals	Aliens	Not Stated	Total
Canada.....	9,475,252	12,521	35	9,487,808
British Empire (other than Canada).....	979,680	2,566	8	1,003,769 ¹
United States.....	250,929	61,427	117	312,473
Continental Europe.....	488,571	164,838	296	653,705
Asia.....	12,105	32,332	6	44,443
Other.....	2,993	519	Nil	3,512
Not stated.....	780	137	28	945
Totals.....	11,210,310	274,340	490	11,506,655¹

¹ Includes 21,515 British-born persons who have not acquired Canadian domicile.