

CHAPTER VI.—IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION*

CONSPECTUS

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Section 1.—Statistics of Immigration

In 1851 the population of Upper and Lower Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick totalled 2,312,919 and in 1941 the population of the Dominion was 11,506,655. During that period no fewer than 6,703,891 persons were admitted as immigrants, not all of whom stayed in the Dominion, for numbers eventually found their way to the United States while others returned to the land of their birth.

The War of 1939-45 did not affect immigration to the same relative extent as did the War of 1914-18. The year 1913 witnessed the greatest immigration in Canada's history, 400,870 persons having been admitted; the greatest number admitted during a war year was 72,910 in 1917. At the outbreak of war in 1939, Canada had been going through a period of restricted immigration and the figures showed a decrease each year from 1939 to 1942. However, the trend changed during 1943 and the number of immigrants admitted in 1945 showed an increase of 32 p.c. over 1938, the last complete pre-war year. The reason for this increase lies in the movement to Canada of dependents of the Armed Forces and not to any fundamental change in immigration policy, see p. 182.

Full information regarding the immigration regulations may be obtained from the Immigration Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa. (See also p. 110 of the 1941 Year Book.)

About 65 p.c. of Canada's expenditure on the encouragement and control of immigration was spent in the three decades 1901-1930. Expenditures for the five latest years will be found in the Public Finance Chapter of this volume, while yearly details may be obtained from the "Public Accounts", published annually by the Department of Finance.

Subsection 1.—Growth of Immigration

The wide fluctuations in the immigration movement since 1891 are shown in Table 1. The heavy movement between 1902 and 1914 was cut down severely between 1915 and 1918. Beginning with 1931 the figures have been the lowest since 1893.

* Revised under the direction of A. L. Jolliffe, Director of Immigration, Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa.