

CHAPTER IV.—IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP

CONSPECTUS

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NOTE.—The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found facing p. 1 of this volume.

PART I.—IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION

Section 1.—Immigration

Immigration to Canada since early times has been spasmodic, being high in periods of rapid development and prosperity and dropping off during wars and in periods of economic depression. A brief summary of the history of immigration is given in the Year Book 1948-49, pp. 172-173.

Subsection 1.—Immigration Policy and Administration*

Policy.—The present policy of the Federal Government is to foster the growth of the population of Canada by the encouragement of immigration and, by necessary legislation and vigorous administration, to ensure the careful selection and permanent settlement of such numbers of immigrants as can be absorbed advantageously in the national economy. In line with this policy, the regulations were amended on July 1, 1950, to include—in addition to certain British subjects, citizens of France, citizens of the United States, and non-immigrants who served in the Canadian Armed Forces—any European immigrant who complies with immigration regulations and can satisfy the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration that he is a suitable immigrant, having regard to the climatic, social, educational, industrial, labour or other conditions or requirements of Canada, and that he is not undesirable owing to his probable inability to become readily adapted and integrated into the life of a Canadian community and to assume the duties of Canadian citizenship within a reasonable time after his entry.

On Sept. 14, 1950, German nationals were removed from the enemy alien category and have since been admissible as immigrants on the same basis as other Europeans. Regulations governing Asian immigration were also widened. An Order in Council of Dec. 28, 1950, provided for the admission of husbands of Asian origin in addition to the wives of Canadian citizens legally admitted to and resident in Canada. The age limit for unmarried children was raised from 18 to 21 years.

* Revised in the Immigration Branch under the direction of Laval Fortier, Deputy Minister, Department of Citizenship and Immigration.