

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*

A brief summary of the history of immigration is given in the 1948-49 Year Book, pp. 172-173. The following special article gives a picture of Canada's post-war achievements in the field of immigration.

POST-WAR IMMIGRATION

Canada is now well past the one-million mark in numbers of newcomers who, since the end of World War II, have chosen this country as their new place of permanent residence. As of June 30, 1954, the total number of immigrants entering since Jan. 1, 1946, was 1,043,911.

Historically, heavy immigration into Canada and periods of general progress in all fields of economic activity have often gone hand in hand. From 1900 to 1913, for example, immigrants entered Canada at a yearly average rate of nearly 200,000. During World War I, the yearly flow dropped to little more than 71,000. The prosperity of the 1919-30 period saw immigration increase to an annual flow of more than 123,000 but the depression of the 1930's resulted in drastic reduction to an average of approximately 16,000 annually. During World War II only slightly more than an annual average of 12,000 immigrants were received, but in the post-war years of expansion the annual average climbed to 120,000—an average monthly rate of 10,000 and a daily average of more than 329.

Almost one-third of these newcomers arriving in the Jan. 1, 1946 to June 30, 1954 period were British immigrants from overseas countries. Those of English origin numbered 207,325, Scottish 33,239, Irish 71,837 and Welsh 6,500, making a total of 318,901. Immigrants from overseas of northern European origins totalled 298,274, of whom 20,766 were French, 102,232 Netherlanders and 131,545 were of Germanic and Austrian origin. Those from the United States numbered 74,808. Of the remaining 351,928, there were 103,317 of Italian origin, and 58,785 were of Polish ethnic origin.

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