

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 .1 of this volume.

PART I.—IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION

The standard material appearing in each Year Book under the heading of "Immigration Policy and Administration" is superseded in this edition by a special article which deals in detail with the history of immigration and the Immigration Act and Regulations.

DEVELOPMENTS IN CANADIAN IMMIGRATION*

The process of settlement in what is now Canada has been slow and discontinuous, its cyclical pattern formed by geographical factors and no less by internal and external political and economic circumstances which created periods of desire for and availability of settlers and immigrants.

Canada has four clearly defined east-west geographical regions, separated by topographical barriers and distinguished with respect to soil, forest cover, elevation, climate, resources and natural lines of transportation and communication. In the history of settlement, people did not move easily from one region to another but it is significant that, with the development of water and land transportation facilities, settlement eventually took place from east to west in defiance of the logic of geography.

These four regions are extensions northward of the far deeper regions that dominate the topography of the United States. They engendered similar processes of settlement, similar economic activities and life in both countries, though the peoples inhabiting them developed separate national existences. Such geographic and economic similarity, however, assisted a relatively free exchange of people across the political boundary.

The relative difficulty that Canada has encountered in attracting and holding both immigrant and native-born people may also be explained by considering the settlement of Canada and of the United States not as parallel but as integral processes. What is

* Contributed by the Department of Citizenship and Immigration.