

A system of pre-examination abroad has been in operation for many years and serves several purposes. It helps to eliminate those who are evidently unable to meet entry requirements before they embark and thus avoids the hardship that would result from rejection at the Canadian port. It makes possible more adequate selection, better regulation of the flow of immigrants in the light of seasonal and other variations in employment conditions and of course facilitates rapid processing of immigrants at Canadian ports.

The main objectives of the examinations are to determine that a person is in an admissible category with respect to his physical and mental health, his moral character, his status from the point of view of security, his employability with respect to the state of the labour market in Canada. Where a family is migrating all members must be examined at the same time, whether the head of the family precedes them or not, to avoid the risk of breaking up a family if one member were to be rejected. Winter unemployment because of the severity of the climate has long been a feature of labour conditions in Canada. The general aim, therefore, is to discourage the arrival of immigrant workers during the winter months. More recently, however, efforts have been made to bring in during this period those types of workers who are not affected by this seasonal slackening.

Sect. 18 of the Regulations provides that every person seeking to enter or land in Canada, except immigrants who are citizens of the United States, must be in possession of an unexpired passport issued by the country of which he is a subject or citizen. A travel document or a certificate of identification may be accepted for a stateless person or a refugee and for a woman who has become a British subject by marriage to a British subject domiciled in Canada. In addition, a valid and subsisting immigrant visa is required of all persons other than British subjects and citizens of France within the meaning of the Act, citizens of the United States, or persons who are legally admitted to the United States for permanent residence.

While British subjects and citizens of France within the meaning of the Act and citizens of the United States have not in the past been required to pass medical pre-examinations, though it was urged that they do so as a measure of facilitation, British subjects and citizens of France within the meaning of the Act are now required to have a prescribed medical certificate. Citizens and legal residents of the United States must now be in possession of a letter of pre-examination prescribed by the Minister.

The Immigration Act provides (Sect. 69) that the Department may make loans to immigrants to help defray the costs of transportation to Canada, from the port of entry to their destination and for their living expenses *en route*, the total outstanding amount not to exceed \$12,000,000. Such assistance, granted at first to heads of families only, has since been extended to include also family members and single persons. Loans are made on a repayment basis over a maximum period of 24 months. The record of repayment of these loans has been highly satisfactory.

The Regulations (Sect. 16) provide also that an immigrant shall not be admitted to Canada if he has received financial assistance from an organization, groups of persons or a person not accredited for this purpose by the Minister. Groups which, with official approval, have assisted immigrants since World War II include a number of church and voluntary organizations and some employers in need of workers, usually on a recoverable loan basis. However, most immigrants come without such assistance or are helped by relatives.

*Rejection and Deportation.*—As previously stated, immigration into Canada is not a matter of right and the Act defines two procedures of exclusion—rejection and deportation. Where a person applying for entry cannot be properly examined because of illness, the effects of alcohol, drugs or other cause, the examination may be deferred or the immigration officer may make an order for rejection. A person so rejected may, without prejudice, present himself subsequently for examination. With respect to deportation, however, unless an appeal is allowed, a person against whom a deportation order is made shall not be allowed to remain in Canada or, if deported, shall not be re-admitted without the consent of the Minister.