

CHAPTER IV.—IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP

CONSPECTUS

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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*

The history of immigration and the Immigration Act and Regulations is dealt with in detail in a special article entitled “Developments in Canadian Immigration” appearing in the 1957-58 Year Book at pp. 154-176. Supplementing that material is an article on the “Integration of Postwar Immigrants” at pp. 176-178 of the 1959 edition.

Section 1.—Immigration Policy and Administration

Since the end of the Second World War it has been the policy of the Government of Canada to stimulate the growth of the population by selective immigration. Efforts are made to choose immigrants of prospective adaptability to the Canadian way of life and to admit them at such times and in such numbers as employment conditions warrant.

Federal immigration policy is governed by the provisions of the Immigration Act and Regulations. With effect from Feb. 1, 1962, the Regulations, which include the provision for permanent admission to Canada, were revised to place primary stress on education, training and skills as the main conditions of admissibility, regardless of the nationality or country of origin of the applicant. Persons qualifying on these grounds who have sufficient means to establish themselves in Canada or are coming forward to approved employment, or with suitable plans for self-establishment in Canada, are admissible. This means that any suitably qualified person from any part of the world can be considered for admission to Canada entirely on his own merit, without regard to his race, colour, national origin or the country from which he comes. Similarly, if a person has the requisite skills and potential ability to establish himself in Canada, he or she may also be sponsored by a parent, parent-in-law or fiancé(e) already in Canada, provided the sponsor is a Canadian citizen. The Canadian sponsor must be able to provide care and maintenance for such immigrant until the latter is able to look after himself. The sponsorship at the Canadian end takes the place of the requirement that the immigrant himself must have sufficient means or, alternatively, firm employment or self-employment opportunities. All immigrants must be in good health and of good character and be in possession of such documentation as the Regulations prescribe.

* Sections 1 and 2 of this Part were revised under the direction of the Deputy Minister, Department of Citizenship and Immigration, Ottawa.