

the world have an opportunity to immigrate to Canada if they demonstrate their suitability for life in this country and are likely to become established without hardship to themselves or disruption to the communities in which they settle.

The core of Canada's immigration policy is contained in the Regulations introduced with effect from Feb. 1, 1962. Those persons who are eligible to apply for permanent admission to Canada are specified. They include anyone, regardless of origin, citizenship, country of residence or religious belief, who is personally qualified by reason of education, training, skills or other special qualifications to become satisfactorily established in Canada. In practice, the personal qualifications and attributes of the applicant for admission are related to the needs and interests of Canadian society in any of its diversities—economic, social or cultural.

Other provisions of the Regulations enable the families of persons approved for admission under these terms to accompany them. When in Canada, a permanent resident may bring his spouse and dependent children as well as certain other close relatives to Canada. Except in some circumstances, no special criteria apply in the case of these immigrants. All immigrants must be in good health and of good character and be in possession of such documentation as the Regulations prescribe. Sponsors must be able to provide adequate care and maintenance for those for whom they apply.

In addition, Canada has on many occasions since the end of World War II sanctioned the entry of thousands of refugees. This is a humanitarian movement and is tangible evidence of Canada's recognition of its responsibilities in the international community. A conservative estimate of the number of refugees admitted since 1945 is 300,000.

The Immigration Branch of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration administers the Immigration Act and Regulations. Twenty-nine visa offices are located abroad at London, Liverpool, Leeds, Bristol, Glasgow, Belfast, Dublin, Paris, Brussels, Berne, The Hague, Copenhagen, Cologne, Berlin, Hamburg, Munich, Stuttgart, Vienna, Oslo, Stockholm, Helsinki, Lisbon, Madrid, Rome, Athens, Cairo, Tel Aviv, New Delhi and Hong Kong. Four offices in the United States—at New York, Chicago, San Francisco and Denver—furnish information and counselling but do not issue visas. Personnel at all posts are kept in close touch with economic conditions in Canada and thus are able to advise immigrants regarding prospects for successful settlement. Examination of immigrants and visitors is carried out at 551 ports of entry on the Canadian coasts, at points along the International Boundary, at certain airports and at certain inland offices.

A primary objective of the immigration program is satisfactory settlement. The Federal Government assists immigrants in establishing themselves in the Canadian community through the work of the specialized settlement officers of the Immigration Branch, the Canadian Citizenship Branch, the Canadian Citizenship Registration Branch and other government agencies, and co-operates closely with several voluntary agencies having the same objective.

Section 2.—Immigration Statistics

Table 1 shows the number of immigrants arriving in Canada in each year since 1913, the peak year of immigration into the country. Table 2 shows the number and distribution of immigrants in the population of Canada on the latest census date, June 1, 1961, by period of arrival.