

She outlined the changes and said that they might, in some circles, be interpreted as being anti-British. Advance notice of them should be given to the U.K. and certain other governments.

Revision of the regulations could be made in advance of revision of the Immigration Act and would permit the removal of the first of the two main points of criticism of immigration policies and practices. These were that there was racial or colour discrimination and that there was no provision for appeals to the courts. The second criticism could only be met fully by an amendment to the Act. In the new regulations there were extensive changes dealing with the responsibilities of transportation companies.

Referring to Regulation 20, discussed in paragraph 9 of the document, she said this was the heart of Canada's immigration law and, in its present form, provided the main source of criticism that Canadian immigration law had within it concealed elements of discrimination. The present 20(a) and (b) listed the countries from which immigrants might come to Canada freely on the basis of their training, skills, etc., without reference to their having close relatives in Canada and all the countries so selected had a predominantly white population except South Africa. The new draft attempted to eliminate this discriminatory feature by omitting all reference to questions of nationality, geography or regions of the world, with the sole exception of Canadian citizens. The new regulation put primary stress on selection based on skills and qualifications.

An explanatory memorandum had been circulated, (Minister's memorandum, Oct. 16, with attached Regulations – Cab. Doc. 383-61).

17. *Mrs. Fairclough*, in answer to some concern that was expressed that the new regulations would no longer permit adult or married children to come to Canada with their parents, which might mean the separation of families and would restrict immigration from Italy, Greece and Portugal, said such persons could apply in their own right or could be admitted as exceptional cases by order in council.

She went on to say that male fiancés had been a serious problem for years. They would be admitted henceforth only if they had the requisite skills and training, and if they were applied for by a female fiancée in Canada who was a Canadian citizen. This restriction was necessary because the present regulation was being abused.

In general, the same argument applied to brothers and sisters. They were now admissible as close relatives, but henceforward they would be required to apply in their own right and must possess necessary skills and training. This would restrict immigration from countries such as Italy, Greece and Portugal.

18. *During the discussion* the following points were made,

(a) It was stated that the Immigration Department would probably require more staff and officers abroad to apply the new tests of admissibility.

(b) Special attention would have to be given to the agreements Canada now had with India, Pakistan and Ceylon on quotas from those countries.

(c) Some urged strongly that attempts should be made to put into the regulations, pending a revision of the Act, some provisions improving the appeal procedures and other procedures to make them conform more closely to the spirit of the Bill of Rights.

(d) Some said that the requirement for trades and skills would restrict immigration from Italy, where only the unskilled workers sought to emigrate. Others thought that this was desirable because these unskilled workers could usually find employment in a limited field only and were in fact widely unemployed now in Canada.