

*Supply—Citizenship and Immigration*

In reaffirming these principles the government feels that it will receive the approval of the Canadian people. No immigration policy can be successful without the active support of our people.

In seeking a solution to the problems which have had an adverse effect on migration to Canada, it must be obvious that some of those problems can be resolved only in co-operation with other governments. This is the case, for instance, of restrictions imposed by most countries of emigration on the export of capital. It would be inappropriate for me to discuss at this time what may be the outcome of consultation with other countries in this regard. I can only assure the house that every effort is being made to find a way of making it easier for immigrants to obtain as much of their financial assets as possible for the purpose of establishing themselves in Canada. Several alternatives have been and are under consideration and it is hoped that at least a partial solution to the exchange difficulties will be found in the not too distant future.

For instance, our settlement service can be of great assistance. The main functions of this service consist of developing opportunities for the placement and permanent settlement of immigrants in Canada, and seeking and selecting abroad persons possessing the required qualifications or experience to take advantage of these opportunities. This service also assists in the settlement of agricultural families through the guidance of officials experienced in land settlement and who have a specialized knowledge of farming in its various branches. Such assistance is also of clear benefit to artisans and small businessmen who wish to establish themselves in rural areas.

To foster growth of Canada's population and to encourage immigration, regulations must necessarily be flexible. Under the present regulations the admission of immigrants who do not come within the categories therein described have to be admitted by special order in council. This caused administrative delays and often discouraged applicants who would have been desirable citizens of this country. The government has, therefore, by order in council P.C. 2856, dated June 9, 1950, which I hereby table, broadened the regulations governing the admissibility of immigrants. This order in council which will go into effect on July 1, 1950, supersedes P.C. 2743, but does not affect P.C. 2115.

P.C. 2856 does not affect the conditions governing the admission of British subjects as defined in P.C. 2743, citizens of Ireland, citizens of the United States and native citizens of France, who remain admissible as

heretofore subject only to complying with civil and medical requirements and being able to support themselves until they find gainful employment.

The admission of all other classes of immigrants is placed in the discretion of the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. In the precise wording of P.C. 2856 "all other immigrants must satisfy the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, whose decision shall be final that:

(a) They are suitable immigrants having regard to the climatic, social, educational, industrial, labour and other conditions or requirements of Canada; and

(b) They are not undesirable owing to their peculiar customs, habits, mode of life, methods of holding property or because of their probable inability to become readily adapted or integrated into the life of the Canadian community and to assume the duties of Canadian citizenship within a reasonable time after their entry."

In co-operation with the provincial governments it is intended to pursue surveys already in progress to determine the possibilities for the establishment of immigrants in their respective provinces.

Immigration from the British isles will be encouraged by every means possible. We have already in the United Kingdom representatives of the Department of Labour and of settlement service of the immigration branch advising prospective immigrants. A re-organization of the immigration headquarters in London is in process. In the near future it is expected that we will be able to provide free medical examination, including X-ray, to British immigrants in certain areas of the British isles. In France, new premises were secured last year and the re-organization is almost completed. Immigration from France will also be encouraged. It is also expected that we will shortly be able to provide free medical examination including X-ray for the benefit of prospective French immigrants.

To facilitate the selection of immigrants who will best fit in the Canadian economy, immigration officers serving abroad will receive special training on labour problems through the co-operation of the Department of Labour. Several officers are now receiving guidance at national employment service offices in Canada and others are being selected to commence this training shortly.

To reduce administrative delays and to make the immigration service as efficient as possible, directives from the minister will be issued from time to time to senior immigration officers in the field defining classes of persons who are admissible. Beginning the effective date of the order in council P.C. 2856, July 1, and for the time being, it is proposed to admit the following classes without reference to the minister: