



CANADA

CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION • DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS • OTTAWA, CANADA

Vol 22 No. 38

September 20, 1967

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NEW IMMIGRATION RULES FOR CANADA

Manpower and Immigration Minister Jean Marchand recently announced new Canadian immigration regulations that would be applied universally, give increased recognition to family relations and be more closely attuned to Canada's economic needs. They will go into effect on October 1.

For the first time, the principles governing the selection of immigrants are described in detail in the regulations. An assessment system will permit immigration officers to apply the same standards in the same way to potential immigrants from all areas of the world.

OTHER MAIN PRINCIPLES

The regulations formally confirm the right of Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada to bring their dependants to Canada.

The privilege of citizens or permanent residents of applying for the entry into Canada of more distant relatives is extended to all areas of the world and new classes of relatives become eligible for this assistance. In the past, there have been geographical limitations on certain categories of relative.

By linking selection standards to conditions in Canada, the new regulations seek to ensure a flow of immigrants closely related to the economic and manpower requirements of Canada.

"With these regulations," says Mr. Marchand, "I believe we can abolish discrimination, pay more regard to the claims of family relationship, act with both greater efficiency and greater compassion than in the past and, through an expansionist immigration

policy, serve the manpower needs of our growing Canadian economy."

The regulations, which are authorized by Order-in-Council, put into effect a policy proposed in April by Mr. Marchand to the Parliamentary Committee studying the White Paper on Immigration. The Committee recommended that the policy be implemented as soon as possible.

CATEGORY OF IMMIGRANTS

The new immigration rules make a clear distinction between dependants and relatives entering the working force. Thus there will, in the future, be three categories of immigrant: "sponsored dependants", "nominated (that is, non-dependent) relatives"; and "independent applicants", who are neither sponsored nor nominated.

For immigration purposes, dependants are defined as husband or wife, fiancé or fiancée, unmarried sons or daughters under 21, parents or grandparents over 60 (or younger if they are widowed or unable to work), and orphaned brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces or grandchildren under 18. Provision is also made for adopted children and, in cases where the only dependant is a husband or wife, for the nearest living relative.

SELECTION STANDARDS

Sponsored dependants will be admitted to Canada provided they are in good health and of good character. Independent applicants have to meet certain standards under an assessment system based on the following factors: