CANADA - A NATION OF IMMIGRANT PEOPLES (Continued from P. 2)

REFUGEE POLICY

"What is not generally recognized is that Canada has the best record of any nation in the Western world in dealing with refugees. From the admission of veterans of the Polish Army after the Second World War, we have been in the forefront, the recognized champions of humanitarianism. The 37,000 Hungarian refugees admitted since 1957 constituted the greatest number of any country in the world, and I am glad to say that this movement was a definite success. Day by day, I see the applications being made by these refugees for citizenship and I learn of the way in which they have adjusted to Canadian life. It is a courageous story and a proud

"Last year, Canada continued its policy of accepting unsponsored refugees from Europe without numerical limitation. Our normal immigrant selection criteria were relaxed, as has been the case during and since World Refugee Year, in order to permit any refugee with reasonable prospects of employment in Canada to migrate regardless of age or minor physical handicap. The educational and occupational requirements established under the new Immigration Regulations were also interpreted with special leniency in the case of these refugees. Those who failed to meet even these limited standards were considered under the private sponsorship scheme or the handicapped refugee programme.

"With the help of private organizations and individuals, the refugee private-sponsorship scheme which began in World Refugee Year was also maintained in 1962. A number of other refugees were also admitted to Canada within the ordinary immigration provisions under the sponsorship of their relatives in Canada. Action of to and ment to me

SPECIAL PROJECTS

"As well, special refugee programmes were carried out by the Government during 1962. A special authorization was granted for the admission of 50 families of stateless persons from the Middle East to be settled in Canada under private auspices. The majority of these families have already arrived in Canada and are being settled without difficulty.

"Although there were no government-sponsored movements of refugees affected by tuberculosis last year, the treatment and integration of those who had arrived previously continued with success. The three movements which took place between December 1959 and March 1961 included 325 tubercular patients and their dependents for a total of 826 persons. Most of these persons have now succeeded in establishing themselves in Canada, and I consider that, on the whole, this movement has been very successful.

'In May 1962, the Canadian Government decided to accept 100 families of Chinese refugees from Hong Kong. Some 76 families have already arrived in Canada and their settlement is proceeding satisfactorily with the co-operation of individuals and private organizations across the country. While this is a special movement, initiated against the background of the emergency in Hong Kong early last year, it must be borne in mind that Canada has, during the past 14 years, received under its normal immigration provisions approximately 25,000 Chinese immigrants from Hong Kong, most of whom had fled mainland China.

"On an experimental basis, the Government initiated plans in 1962 for the movement to Canada of a number of handicapped refugees who were capable of obtaining employment. It was expected that careful advance preparation could enable these individuals and their families to establish themselves successfully without becoming a burden to their sponsors or without the need for extensive public assistance. A number of cases are at present under consideration, and it is hoped that some families will soon enter Canada.

"In 1963, Canada's general refugee programme will be continued. Unsponsored refugees from Europe will be admitted without numerical limitation and without applying the usual immigration standards of occupation and education. The refugee privatesponsorship programme will also be continued.

'It is hoped that the experimental movement of handicapped but employable refugees under government auspices will progress satisfactorily in 1963. Naturally, although no figure has been set, the number of such cases accepted will depend on the ability of immigration settlement officers in Canada to find suitable employment and establishment opportunities. It should also be noted that approval has been granted for the admission to Canada, on the same basis as in 1962, of another 50 families of stateless persons from the Middle East

"It should be emphasized that, in addition to Canada's special refugee programmes, in which the normal immigrant selection standards are greatly relaxed, the new Immigration Regulations permit refugees anywhere in the world to apply for admission to Canada as ordinary immigrants subject to the usual standards of selection ... "

The winning lean was organized under their coach, Sergeard Tom Daughan from Daughan

ANKLO-U-S'-CANADIAN BESTAMORERS doi: box