

are now in sad plight, and are looking for opportunities to start life anew. Such people cannot be found by office men in Ottawa, much less scrutinized and assorted. They must be searched out by agents of our Government operating in the localities where they are to be found. If Canada is to secure those who are likely to prove the greatest assets, we must take the initiative; we must go to them, and if their migration is to be a success for both themselves and Canada they should be guided and assisted, and in some degree supervised, until they have become established. In this way we may prevent our immigration being offset and its population benefits destroyed by emigration, as has been the case so markedly in the past.

### RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Immigrants who come to Canada on the responsibility of relatives or friends already here enjoy a real advantage over those who arrive as complete strangers. The right to bring relatives and friends here is a privilege which our Government may well extend to Canadian citizens. This principle has already been recognized by the Government in an Order in Council dated the 28th May, 1946, P.C. 2071.

Successive Orders in Council passed in 1931, 1937 and 1944, have so altered the administration of the Immigration Act as to prohibit the landing in Canada of immigrants of all classes and occupations, with certain very limited exceptions, and to these exceptions the Order cited has added the following paragraph:

- (a) The father or mother, the unmarried son or daughter eighteen years or over, the unmarried brother or sister, the orphan nephew or niece under sixteen years of age, of any person legally admitted to and resident in Canada, who is in a position to receive and care for such relatives. The term "orphan" used in this clause means a child bereaved of both parents.

The Committee sees no good reason for the exclusion of married sons and daughters, brothers and sisters and of nephews and nieces whether orphaned or otherwise and whether under or over sixteen years of age. These are but technicalities, giving the impression of a grudging opening of the door. What really counts is whether the prospective immigrants are healthy, willing to work and capable of taking their part in Canadian life, in which case the fact of relatives already here, assuming responsibility and guaranteeing assistance is an advantage to the immigrant so great as to justify a priority, and to this consideration is to be added the freedom which we should give to our own citizens to extend the hand of fellowship to their unfortunate relatives and friends abroad. Such privileges might well be extended to friends as well as relatives. The admission of such people so soon as shipping is available will no doubt constitute our first post-war migration to this country. With the assistance of their Canadian connections, they can be easily assimilated into the Canadian economy and present no problems of absorption.

### ORGANIZATION DISBANDED

The Order in Council has meant nothing to date, however, for practically no immigrants are being admitted whether relatives or otherwise, nor are any steps being taken with a view to future admission.

When the war broke out in 1939, Canada had Immigration Officers in Europe capable of making medical and other inspections at Paris, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Hamburg, Danzig, Gdynia and Riga; there were also officers at Hong Kong, as well as inspectional offices at London, Liverpool, Glasgow and Belfast in the United Kingdom, assisted by a Canadian roster of British medical doctors at points throughout the United Kingdom.