

*Immigration Act*

persons who hope to gain permanent admission but who are unwilling, for their own reasons, to follow established immigration procedures which would involve applying for immigrant visas abroad.

They hope to gain a special advantage for themselves over their compatriots by securing temporary entry to Canada and then demanding permanent residence. These practices are not restricted only to persons who enter without non-immigrant visas, but the concessions granted can make Canada vulnerable unless careful control is exercised. And it seems to me that most of these cases of deportation stem from this group of visitors, who come to Canada as visitors. In most cases they are visiting relatives and then they apply for permanent residence.

To administer the legislation related to the admission of immigrants, the government has established quite extensive facilities abroad. In some areas the Department of Citizenship and Immigration has its own visa officers and in other regions it has co-operative working arrangements with the Department of External Affairs and British posts to service prospective applicants in their country of residence.

All this is designed to provide for the pre-examination of prospective immigrants where the necessary background inquiries can be made. To attempt to complete this task in Canada on any general scale would lead to administrative chaos and loss of effective control of the immigration movement. In brief, control, not only of individual admissions but of the over-all movement, is dependant to a substantial degree on the immigrant visa or its counterpart, the letter of pre-examination.

In order to establish the fact that we have competent officers in charge of these examinations, let me give the house an example of their qualifications which, I am sure, will be of interest to all hon. members. Senior officers in charge of posts abroad are required to have the qualifications, experience and demonstrated ability to administer a post, including the supervision and direction of other officers engaged in visa offices and informational activities. As a means of improving the calibre of the staff abroad a new class series has been approved for the overseas service, with the mandatory requirement of university graduation for appointment to the career service.

These qualifications require university graduation and a minimum of four years experience, two of which must have been in a responsible capacity overseas as a visa officer or in the counselling or informational areas of work, plus a broad general knowledge of Canadian government, economy, geography,

society, people and institutions, and possessing an ability to assess, counsel and deal satisfactorily with people under all circumstances, including competence in dealing with groups, ability to participate in public meetings, film shows and speaking engagements.

Prior to posting abroad, all officers receive intensive training in the specialized fields related to the assigned post and are given an extensive tour of Canada, including discussions with responsible officials in government, industry and business on every aspect of the Canadian economy, to equip them to provide factual information to potential newcomers.

I might add that members of the legal profession are called upon to act in particular situations as special inquiry officers at each regional headquarters under the following conditions: (a) when indications are that the case may be contentious; (b) cases where an inquiry has commenced with an immigration officer and subsequently develops into a contentious case; and (c) almost all cases where the appellant is represented by counsel.

Where an immigration officer in the field becomes aware of a person who may be deportable under section 19 of the Immigration Act, an investigation is made and a report, with related documents, is forwarded to the immigration branch headquarters. If the director, immigration branch, considers that the situation warrants it, he orders an inquiry to be held.

Where an appeal results from an order of deportation following an inquiry or further examination, it is dealt with directly by the immigration appeal board. The appeal board is headed by a member of the legal profession who is a Q.C., and the other members are senior officials.

When the board reaches a decision its findings and recommendation are referred to the minister and the case is reviewed on his behalf by a senior immigration official to determine if the outstanding order is to be implemented or if proceedings are to be deferred. If the minister decides that deportation is to be carried out, administrative arrangements are made under the supervision of the head, deportation section, admissions division, branch headquarters.

The immigrant visa or letter of pre-examination are the only effective means of control and their lack must be sufficient reason for deportation if efficient administration in the national interest is to be maintained. The alternative is to re-instate the non-immigrant visa requirements and in the case of all visitors, conduct a rigorous and searching examination to determine whether, in all respects, they can meet the requirements of