return home; the "new" ones from eastern and southern Europe would be most likely to become naturalized Canadians, and in spite of restrictions, they would continue to come.

The Ukrainians, who would become Canada's fourth largest ethnic group (after the British, the French and the Germans), began coming in large numbers by the turn of the century. Between 1907 and 1916 over 60,000 arrived; between 1917 and 1925 there was an ebb with only 3,670; but between 1926 and 1930 there were 45,361. Almost all went west to the Prairies and chopped down trees (or planted them), plowed land and built farms.

Still, the age of legislative restrictions had arrived, and in the recession after World War I, new limitations were added. The Chinese, who had been kept out by "gentlemen's agreements" for decades, were specifically excluded, and in 1923 the Immigration Act was amended to limit Asian immigrants in general to "bona fide agriculturalists, farm labourers, female domestic servants" and their immediate dependents. A second amendment put the same restrictions on all other immigrants except those from an expanded list of most-favoured nations — the United States, Great Britain, Ireland, Newfoundland, New Zealand, Australia and the Union of South Africa.

The policy of selection by country of origin continued through the years of the Depression and World War II, but after the war a great broadening took place. In 1947 Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King was still counselling Parliament that "the people of Canada do not wish to make a fundamental alteration in the character of our population," but in fact fundamental policy changes were underway. In July 1946 the doors were opened to single men who were ex-members of the Polish armed forces and who agreed to work on Canadian farms for at least two years. An arrangement was made to admit some 15,000 Dutch farmers as farm labourers with the understanding that they would buy farms as soon as they were able to get their money out of the Netherlands.



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Over the years a great many Canadians have gone south and a great many Americans have gone north. In some decades the main movement has been in one direction, in some the other. Between 1897 and 1930 one-and-a-half million Americans went to Canada, with a notably heavy flow of 340,423 emigrants from 1910 through 1912. In the late 1960s and early 1970s the flow was greater from the United States to Canada, but in recent years it has shifted again. In 1977 there were 12,888 emigrants from the United States to Canada and 20,663 from Canada to the United States. (Some of those going south from Canada are persons who earlier migrated from other countries to Canada.)

United States farmers heading north around 1920.

