



CANADA

CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION • DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS • OTTAWA, CANADA

Vol. 13 No. 9

February 26, 1958

CONTENTS

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Economic Effects Of Immigration | 1 |
| Work Ships Ordered | 2 |
| Armed Forces Vote | 2 |
| Canadian Commodity Production | 3 |
| Tribute To Canadians | 3 |
| Radio Sales Up | 4 |
| Record Retail Sales | 4 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Postdoctorate Fellowships | 4 |
| Commonwealth Conference In Montreal | 5 |
| Canada-India Agreement | 5 |
| Yukon Health Service | 5 |
| Scouting Flourishing | 5 |
| To Improve Eastern Salmon | 6 |

ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF IMMIGRATION

The effect on the Canadian economy of an influx of more than a million and a half immigrants in little more than a decade is quite impossible to assess in precise terms, but there can be little doubt that it has been important, the Department of Citizenship and Immigration states in a reference paper entitled "Canadian Immigration".

The first obvious advantage is the fact that an increased population spreads more widely the overhead costs of government, education, railways, highways and other public utilities. An expanded domestic market makes possible more effective use of existing capital equipment, more efficient methods of production. It makes the country less vulnerable to world market conditions.

As workers, Canada's post-war immigrants have made an invaluable contribution to Canada's industrial growth and resource development. In the first five years after the war, immigrants supplied fully half the number of new workers required to meet the demands of an expanding economy. In the succeeding five years they numbered more than the whole increase in the working force - thus overcoming what would otherwise have been a decline brought about by the ageing of the working population and by the lower participation of Canadians in the labour force.

Immigrant workers as a group are more mobile than native-born workers. Having no deep roots in the beginning they have found their way to the areas of greatest need and

thus have played a large part in major projects in remote districts, harnessing hydro power, constructing highways and railways and opening up mines.

The majority of immigrants are in an age group that places them at the beginning of their most productive period. Thus they help to maintain in better balance the age distribution of the population as a whole. The adult immigrant brings with him an education and training paid for by the country of emigration, which immediately becomes an asset in his new country. Immigrant engineers and other professional and technical workers have played no small part in Canada's post-war development. It is estimated that from 1951 to 1955, for every three students in professional technical fields graduated in Canada, two had come to this country as immigrants.

A considerable proportion of Canada's post-war immigrants have established themselves in agriculture, offsetting to a significant extent the impact of the traditional exodus of young farm people to the cities. Many have been experienced agriculturists whose knowledge and skill have helped maintain, increase and even improve agricultural production.

Apart from their knowledge and skills, immigrants have brought to Canada very considerable amounts of capital. A total of more than \$873,000,000 was imported by immigrants from 1946 to 1956 inclusive - \$650 millions in cash and over \$273 millions in settlers' effects. In 1956 alone, immigrants brought in