

Mrs. Beion



PRESS RELEASE

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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It has come to the attention of the Department of External Affairs that a notice has been published in Novo Vreme, a Bulgarian-language weekly in Toronto, on behalf of the Legation of Bulgaria in London, England, to the effect that all Bulgarian citizens living in Canada must register with the Consular Section of the Bulgarian Legation in London. The notice said that this was in accordance with the decree No. 425 of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, published in issue No. 69 of the State Gazette of March 25, 1948, and the regulations applying to all Bulgarian citizens living outside the confines of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. All Bulgarian citizens living in Canada were requested to communicate their addresses to the Bulgarian Legation in London so that they might be supplied with forms and instructions.

The Canadian Government regards any registration of Bulgarian nationals under this decree to be entirely voluntary and recognizes no obligation on the part of any resident of Canada to register.

The Government hopes that the Bulgarians who are making their permanent home in Canada will seek Canadian citizenship, just as other immigrants from Europe have become Canadian citizens. The Canadian Citizenship Act gives assurance to anyone who comes to this country with the intention of making a permanent home here, that he may readily become a naturalized Canadian citizen and secure the rights and privileges which belong to natural-born Canadians.