

### New regulations should ensure jobs for immigrants

New immigration regulations linking the entry of unsponsored immigrants more closely to the needs of Canadian employers were announced recently by Robert Andras, the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. He also announced measures to make it easier for families with adopted children and step- or half-brothers or -sisters to come to Canada together.

Sponsored immigrants (wives, husbands, children and some other very close relatives of permanent residents of Canada) are not affected.

To qualify as an immigrant, anyone intending to join the Canadian labour force must now have some evidence of meeting a Canadian need. This evidence can take any one of three forms: a firm job offer from a Canadian employer; an occupation in which there are known to be persistent vacancies in the area of Canada to which he or she intends to move; and at least one point of occupational demand in Canada for the occupation he or she intends to pursue.

The jobs offered must be steady and must meet locally prevailing conditions of work and wages. To qualify for admission, the applicant also must be able to meet any provincial or other licensing requirements for the job.

The result of the change in regulations, Mr. Andras said, would be to reduce the number of cases where people leave their homes to come to

Canada and be faced with no job, or a job not consistent with their education and training.

"In the case of nominated applicants," he said, "we have found that 53 per cent of them could have entered without even one point for occupational demand — and that the unemployment rate for nominated applicants has been much higher than the rate for all immigrants. It seemed only humane to ensure that some means existed to bring about a better match between the flow of immigration and the needs of the Canadian labour market."

"The system is not rigid," he added, "because we have introduced a new indication of need in Canada, which we are adding to the assured employment (job offer) system which has existed for many years. Where there is no definite offer, but nevertheless we know, after consultation with the provinces, that a persistent long-range shortage exists in a particular occupation in a particular part of Canada, I will designate that occupation as one for which a visa officer can award ten units of assessment. That means that even if there is no general demand for doctors, a doctor who wants to go to an area with a designated shortage can be admitted."

The new regulations also provide that sponsors and nominators must be at least 18 years of age.

### Immigration increases

Immigration to Canada is increasing once again after declining to an average annual total of some 122,000 in 1972 and 1971 from 148,000 in 1970. The number of immigrants during the first nine months of 1973 totalled 119,890, an increase of 38.1 per cent from 86,787 during the same period of 1972. The leading country (last permanent address) was the United States at 15,598, down from 16,951 during the same period of 1972. Other leading countries during the first nine months of 1973 with comparable 1972 totals in brackets were: Britain 14,405 (8,889), Portugal 8,650 (6,658), Hong Kong 7,587 (4,783) and India 5,801 (3,687).

### Colour TV sets popular

For the second successive year, ownership of colour television sets and FM radios by Canadian households increased more than any other household facility. From May 1972 to April 1973, households with colour TV sets increased from 24.2 per cent of the total to 33.2 per cent. Ownership of FM radios in the same period increased 4.8 per cent to reach a level of 67.2 per cent. These facts are revealed in the latest survey *Household Facilities and Equipment* conducted by Statistics Canada. The 1973 survey was conducted in conjunction with the April labour force survey. Some 30,000 households were included in the sample.

### Toronto student invents aid for paralyzed children

A fourth-year student of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Toronto, has invented and successfully tested a walking device for use by children suffering from the condition known as *Spina bifida*, a congenital malformation that, in serious cases, renders children paralyzed and desensitized below the waist.

Ronald Lepofsky, a student, working under the supervision of Dr. M.A. Townsend, associate professor in the Department, has designed an electrically-powered walking machine that allows a child to "walk" and turn independent of crutches or wheelchair, and has potential use in many areas of physiotherapy and rehabilitation.



Ronald Lepofsky demonstrates his "walking machine" for paralyzed children with the help of Stephen Townsend, 13-year-old son of Dr. M.A. Townsend of the Mechanical Engineering Department, University of Toronto, supervisor of the project. Stephen is not paralyzed.