

The Canadian project has already accepted all the TB cases, located in refugee camps in Italy, Austria and Germany, who have indicated that they wish to come to Canada and who come within the broad criteria established for the programme. In fact, a number of TB cases from groups living outside the refugee camps have been declared eligible, although priority has been given to cases in camps.

Criteria of Selection

Initially the selection criteria were worked out for this project in consultation with the High Commissioner for Refugees and were very liberal. It was made clear to the High Commissioner for Refugees that we would accept refugee families with members who had the most advanced stages of TB and we were even prepared to accept heads of family with incurable TB. The High Commissioner was told that European refugee families would be accepted without regard to ethnic or religious background. Furthermore, physical handicaps such as an amputation would not necessarily bar a family from being selected.

We did suggest to the High Commissioner, in connection with the original 100-family movement, that for the time being we would select families with only one TB case in the family in order that as many refugees as possible might be admitted to Canada within the initial quota of 100 TB cases. It was stipulated, however, that this was not a definite limitation and that we would be prepared to alter this position if it appeared advisable to do so. As it turned out, the conditions of eligibility under the extension were explicitly altered to include families with more than one TB case as well as unmarried refugees with TB. In implementing the scheme the High Commissioner did nominate a number of cases with only moderate tuberculosis. This apparently reflected his view that some of the less severe cases should be given a chance to emigrate to Canada.

The major restriction which Canada did place on eligibility was that mental cases, criminal cases, and persons suffering from serious contagious illnesses (other than TB) would not be accepted. There was an obvious reason for imposing this limitation.

I think it is clear that the Government has given substantial support to the WRY programme and, from the official reports which I have seen, I think there is no doubt but that Canada's effort compares very well with those of other governments. Although we have reached the end of WRY, the Government will continue to support programmes of assistance to refugees. The Government will continue its substantial contributions to the regular budgets of the United Nations