

**BRITISH LEAD IMMIGRATION UPSWING**

Immigrants to Canada in the nine months ended September 30 outnumbered by 863 the total of new settlers who arrived in this country during all of 1955. Exact totals for nine months of 1956 and all of 1955 were 110,009 and 109,146.

An increase of nearly 24,000 over the total of 86,607 immigrants recorded during the first nine months of 1955 was accounted for in large measure by a jump of more than 10,000 in numbers of newcomers of British origin from overseas, the comparative totals being 34,734 and 24,032. Newcomers of German origin numbered 16,971, as against 15,512 in the first nine months of 1955; immigrants of Italian origin 19,708 as against 15,512, and arrivals from The Netherlands 6,768, compared to 6,367 in the corresponding period a year ago.

Of the total of 110,009 immigrants, 63,026 went into the labour force, with 20,246 going into manufacturing, mechanical and construction classifications; 8,975 into service occupations; 6,743 to clerical jobs, and 6,001 into agriculture. Among the workers were 6,651 with professional qualifications. During the first nine months of 1955, a total of 47,595 workers entered this country.

More than half the immigrants--61,205--decided to settle in the Province of Ontario, with 21,214 giving Quebec as their province

of destination, and 12,352 travelling to the west-coast province of British Columbia. Nearly 13,000 chose the Prairie Provinces.

More than 23,000 of the immigrants were in the 20-24 age group, 21,002 in the 25-29 age group, and 13,654 were in the 30-34 classification.

**Assisted Passage Helps**

From the start of the Assisted Passage Plan in 1951 to the end of September, 59,593 immigrants from many countries took advantage of its terms to finance their trip to Canada. The record of repayment of loans has been excellent. Of a total of \$6,760,107 advanced to newcomers, \$5,888,518 has been repaid to date.

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**WIDEN SPONSORSHIP:** Effective January 1, 1957, Canadian Employers will be permitted to sponsor applications for the admission of workers and their dependents as immigrants to Canada, it was announced November 13 by the Hon. J.W. Pickersgill, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration.

The Minister, in a speech to the Liberal Business Men's Club of Toronto, also announced that immigration teams will be sent to European refugee camps this winter on an active recruiting campaign.

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**PLASTICS OUTPUT:** Production of primary plastics in Canada has expanded at a phenomenal rate over the past ten years. Last year, Canadian plants turned out \$49.3 million worth of synthetic resins as against \$6.8 million in 1945--a sevenfold increase in little more than a decade. In fact, primary plastics is one of the fastest growing of all Canadian industries; already it has gained an important position in the billion-dollar chemical field.

Exports of plastic raw materials constitute from one-quarter to one-third of total output. Sales abroad last year amounted to \$13.1 million (more than half of it polystyrene) compared with \$1.4 million in 1945. Exporters shipped plastic raw materials to 44 different countries in 1955 but eleven countries accounted for 87 per cent of total sales. Leading customers, in order of importance, were: United Kingdom (\$2.8 million) Hong Kong (\$1.7 million), France (\$1.6 million), The Netherlands (\$1.5 million), West Germany (\$933 thousand), Japan (\$879 thousand), and Australia (\$661 thousand). Polystyrene exports outstripped the total for all other plastics shipped to Hong Kong, The Netherlands, West Germany, Japan and Italy; the United Kingdom and France accounted for nearly 60 per cent of exports of all other types of synthetic resins.

**TOURIST CONFERENCE:** Canada's tourist problems, including factors leading to a mild decline in the midsummer flow of travellers from the United States this year, will be aired at the 11th Federal-Provincial Tourist Conference in Ottawa on November 26 and 27.

Delegates from the ten provincial tourist organizations, as well as representatives of the leading transportation companies and the Canadian Tourist Association, have been invited to participate.

The Hon. Jean Lesage, Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, will preside over the Conference, assisted by R. Gordon Robertson, Deputy Minister of the Department, and D. Leo Dolan, Director, Canadian Government Travel Bureau.

"This should be a most important gathering for the tourist industry's future," Mr. Lesage states. "Tourism has been at near-record proportions in 1956, but all of us connected with the industry are concerned with the problems of increasing our tourist trade. Our discussions should help in seeking a solution for whatever difficulties can be remedied by human action. We cannot, of course, change the weather--and the weather in the eastern part of Canada has been blamed for much of the problem this year. We hope to discover what other reasons there may have been for the lessened numbers of tourists in some areas."