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## IMMIGRATION IN 1958

Immigration to Canada was maintained at a more normal level in 1958, following the exceptionally heavy movement of 1957. The total of 124,851 immigrants was a marked decline from the 43-year record set in 1957, when 282,164 people entered the country. However, the 1958 figure is close to the yearly average of 126,000 arrivals for the ten-year period from December 1946 to December 31, 1956.

The lower level of immigration in 1958 can be attributed in large part to measures applied by the Government in 1957 and continued throughout 1958 as a means of keeping the flow of immigrants at a realistic level. Improved economic conditions in Europe undoubtedly also contributed to the reduction in numbers. Adverse publicity about the economic recession in Canada was another deterring factor, particularly in the British Isles.

Of the 124,851 immigrants who were admitted in 1958 as permanent settlers, the British numbered 26,622 or 21.3 per cent of the total. The Italians, 28,564 strong, were the largest group and consisted almost entirely of sponsored immigrants. The Germans came third with 14,449 or 11.6 per cent of the total. Next in line were 10,846 settlers from the United States, approximately the same number as in 1957. The remainder were of some forty different nationalities - 7,995 Netherlanders, 5,418 Greeks and 2,539 French.

As in previous years, about half the newcomers were destined for Ontario, while Quebec

absorbed a slightly larger share than in previous years, with 28,443 or 22.8 per cent compared with 19.5 per cent in 1957. The western provinces were given as their destination by 23.3 per cent, compared with 26.4 per cent in 1957.

### AGE AND OCCUPATIONS

The youthful character of the immigrant population is indicated by the fact that 67 per cent of those admitted in 1958 were under 30 years of age: 53 per cent were in the 20-39 age group, which has the highest potential rate of productivity; and only 11 per cent were over 45 years of age.

Some 50 per cent of the immigrant arrivals were destined to augment Canada's labour force. The largest group of workers, 17,476 were in the manufacturing, mechanical and construction trades. A total of 11,501 were hairdressers, domestics, nurses' aides and in other service occupations, while 7,553 were in professional and 6,745 in clerical categories. Workers destined for farming and agricultural employment numbered 5,071 and general labourers, 9,388. More than 86 per cent of the last group were sponsored by Canadian residents, mainly relatives.

The 1958 immigration movement was characterized by the remarkably low proportion of arrivals via the United States. Of the 124,851 immigrants arriving in Canada, 12,858 or 10 per cent entered Canada by way of the U.S.A.

(Over)