

The greater part of this increase can be attributed to the natural growth in the none older provinces and the addition of Newfoundland.

Immigration has, however, made a considerable contribution both in numbers and in quality to our total population; particularly in the last decade.

About a million and a quarter immigrants have entered Canada since the Second World War, and it is a conservative estimate to say that one person in every fifteen in Canada today is either a post-war immigrant or the child of a post-war immigrant.

In places where immigration has been concentrated, such as greater Toronto, this proportion may be as high as one in eight.

About a third of the post-war immigrants to Canada have come from Great Britain.

In the case of British immigrants, there is, of course, no difficulty at all about their rapid integration into the life of Canada.

The overwhelming majority of the post-war immigrants, regardless of where they have come from, have come to Canada with more education and a wider variety of skills or professional qualifications than was usual among immigrants in earlier periods, and they have found it correspondingly easier to fit into our Canadian environment.

Canada has been very fortunate, at a time when our economy could absorb additional workers and, indeed, needed them urgently for development, to attract new settlers of such a high quality.

The eagerness of the newcomers to become Canadian citizens has also been most gratifying.

I have already mentioned the physical addition to our national territory represented by the entry of Newfoundland into Confederation.

There has also been a vast psychological addition to Canadian territory since 1935.

This psychological addition results largely from the combined effects of developments in aviation and the apparently insatiable demand for base metals and other minerals.

The northern areas of the provinces, as well as the Northwest Territories and the Arctic islands, were a scarcely penetrated wilderness twenty years ago.

Today this whole area is being explored, mapped, prospected and developed with amazing speed.

Another thing that has given depth to Canada, geographically and psychologically, is our new appreciation that we have another great power as a neighbour just over the North Pole.