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The shortage of shipping means that Canada cannot secure more immigrants simply by changing laws and regulations. Since those ^{persons} we would be glad to welcome will not all be able to come, the shortage of shipping also means that we have to decide to which immigrants prior opportunity to come to Canada is to be given.

Because of the limitations of transport, the government decided that, as respects immigration from Europe, the emphasis for the present should be on the admission of the relatives of persons who are already in Canada, and on assisting in the resettlement of displaced persons and refugees.

Up until the end of the war, (under Order in Council P.C. 695 of March 21, 1931) four broad categories of persons were admissible to Canada. These were:

1. British subjects from the United Kingdom, Ireland Newfoundland, New Zealand, Australia or the Union of South Africa, who possessed sufficient means to maintain themselves until employment was secured.
2. United States citizens, similarly possessed of means of maintenance.
3. Wives, unmarried children under 18, or fiancées of men resident in Canada.
4. Agriculturists with sufficient means to farm in Canada.