

Department of Labour

The Department of Labour, with the facilities provided in the National Employment Service and the co-operation possible through Dominion-Provincial farm labour committees, has been called upon to play an active part in the placement of immigrants.

The first group placed was that of 4,527 Polish veterans. 4,425 are still on farms. When the Dominion Government approved the admission of displaced persons for employment, the Department of Labour was asked to give the same assistance in placement and follow-up service. Canadian employers indicate their needs of labour to the Department of Labour. After approval has been given by the Dominion Immigration—Labour Committee, the displaced persons are selected on occupational qualifications, examined by immigration officials and then brought to Canada by arrangements of the I.R.O.

From their arrival, they are under the supervision of the Department of Labour. By the end of April the following groups had arrived in Canada:—

Woodworkers	3,500
Domestics	2,300
Farm Workers	113
Textile Workers	207
Garment Workers and their dependents	1,700
Miners	1,500
Steel and Foundry Workers	330
Railway Workers	1,500
Hydro Workers	1,000
Building and Construction Workers	102

The placement of women in domestic work has been markedly successful. The Honourable Mr. Mitchell said that there had been no trouble whatsoever with D.P. workers and the Committee has received letters from employers, stating that they have been satisfactory workers and are fitting in well.

Canadian Citizenship

This Branch in the Department of the Secretary of State co-operates with government and private agencies to assist the assimilation of immigrants. The process of assimilation is a gradual one. The newcomers cannot become Canadian citizens immediately, but if they are given understanding help, they will develop an affection and loyalty for their new homeland.

The immigrant must first learn to speak one of our two languages. He should know that he may indicate his desire to become a Canadian citizen by making a Declaration of Intention as soon as he likes.

It is after these two stages are passed and before he applies for naturalization that the immigrant should be given instruction in Canadian history, geography, government, etc. Immigrants from the United Kingdom must be included at this stage for, although they know the language and understand democratic institutions, they do not know Canada. They, too, wish to feel that they belong to Canada.

During all three stages the immigrant will need help, and the attitude of Canadians will influence the degree and rapidity of assimilation. Most Canadians show sincere goodwill, and there are many private organizations