

(1) For humanitarian and social reasons it would be very desirable that the veterans already admitted, as well as those who will follow, should be allowed to bring over members of their families, who are also outside Poland, before the lapse of a two-year period originally set. Perhaps a six-months period, necessary for the establishment on farms, could be taken as the longest waiting time in this connection. It is true that the period of learning the English or French language might thus be somewhat retarded, but the period of assimilation in Canada through family life, which I believe is the basis of sound citizenship, would undoubtedly be shortened. A happy worker is a more efficient worker; he makes a better settler and citizen than a lonely man—irrespective of the language he speaks.

As long as families do not accompany the veterans it would seem essential to let them settle near their relatives or personal friends, if they are fortunate to have such in Canada. And I believe that in all cases facilities to contact Canadians of Polish stock, both in their homes and in organizations, enhances, and does not impede, the process of adaptation of a new man to a new country. The old settler here serves for the new one as a natural link to Canadianship. Any attempt to prevent those contacts would cause bitterness, suspicion and the feeling of coercion, the very things men who come to Canada wish to leave behind them forever. On the other hand, all the endeavours of officials and social workers to bring together the old immigrant and the new one, in the same racial group, inspires confidence, creates contentment and makes the new arrival feel more at home. Keeping in touch with the old immigrants helps to avoid many blunders and disappointments which necessarily accompany the trial and error course of self-experience. I feel that I cannot stress too strongly my conviction, based on long study and observation, that the assimilation to a country and its ideas only through the medium of the language predominant in that country, is a rapid, but superficial assimilation, much as I do not discount the very important language factor.

(2) According to recent regulations, residents of Canada who have relatives overseas are entitled to bring them here if they can provide the necessary housing facilities and upkeep. It seems, therefore, that a number of the Polish veterans now in the United Kingdom who fall into this category could be eligible for admission to this country individually, outside the quota.

(3) It would also be desirable to admit such veterans as now are in the United Kingdom, who have sufficient means to engage in farming on their own. A period of one year's practice and adaptation could perhaps be set, after which these men, with or without families (in the latter case, in groups of two or three) could start their own farms. So far four veterans in this class have received Canadian visas. I understand that there are some 2,000 more who would be eligible.

(4) Further, it would be expedient to admit veterans not only experienced in farming, but in other walks of life as well. In addition to their various occupations before the war, many service men have acquired skill in building roads and bridges, in handling and repairing motorized vehicles; many have learned the craft of a tailor, shoemaker, baker, barber and so on.

(5) The conditions of labour of the newcomers, both on land and in one mill, are the object of constant vigilance, study and attempts for betterment on the part of Parliament and the Department of Labour. The greatest and most universal grievance is the long working hours on farms and in frequent cases no Sunday off for worship and rest. The Department of Labour, at its headquarters and through its inspectors, has always been ready to investigate and improve.

The above concerns the first racial group admitted to Canada since the war, and one with a fine and gallant background. At this juncture I feel that I owe it to them to stand in their defence in view of strange accusations proffered in