

There are those who raise doubts about immigration, who talk of "the babel of tongues" or use other discordant phrases. To them, I would suggest they first cast the mote out of their own eye. If there be any problem, it is one created very largely by those of us who are older immigrants to Canada, by our failure to extend a sufficiently warm welcome to the newcomers. This is one reason why your work is so significant.

Newcomers do not isolate themselves into cultural and linguistic ghettos by choice. No immigrant wants to live in isolation from the rest of us, but he will cling to what he knows until he feels secure in his new surroundings. It is up to us to help in giving him that feeling of security which will bring him out of his protective shell.

#### No Pure Canadian Culture

Personally, I reject the idea of a pure Canadian culture -- for that is what the expression "babel of tongues" seems to imply. It is as repugnant as Hitler's doctrine of Nordic superiority. Today, Canada is approximately one-third Anglo-Saxon, one-third French and one-third other in ethnic background. The Canadian culture in which I believe arises from the collectivity of the cultures of all these groups, the acceptance by each of the best of the cultures of others. Ours is and must always be a pluralist culture, made richer by the variety of its components. That is why it is right to speak of unity in diversity, that is why the full development of our nationhood requires the contributions of all Canadians whatever their background or heritage. And it is on that theory and principle that our immigration policy is based.

#### Refugee Policy

...What is not generally recognized is that Canada has the best record of any nation in the Western world in dealing with refugees. From the admission of veterans of the Polish Army after the Second World War, we have been in the forefront, the recognized champions of humanitarianism. The 37,000 Hungarian refugees admitted since 1957 constituted the greatest number of any country in the world, and I am glad to say that this movement was a definite success. Day by day, I see the applications being made by these refugees for citizenship and I learn of the way in which they have adjusted to Canadian life. It is a courageous story and a proud record.

Last year, Canada continued its policy of accepting unsponsored refugees from Europe without numerical limitation. Our normal immigrant selection criteria were relaxed, as has been the case during and since World Refugee Year, in order to permit any refugee with reasonable prospects of employment in Canada to migrate regardless of age or minor physical handicap. The educational and occupational requirements established under the new Immigration Regulations were also interpreted with special