

there than to come here, but the kind of life they imagine we have here appeals to them more than the kind of life which they know they have there. My view is that they are the best kind of immigrants.

Mr. NESBITT: Did I understand the deputy minister to say that the increase in the staff in his department is largely due to the work of the statistics branch?

Mr. FORTIER: That was one of the causes of the increase in departmental administration.

Mr. NESBITT: Could the deputy minister give us some idea of exactly what kind of statistics are kept and what work the statisticians do?

Mr. FORTIER: As you know, everybody who comes to this country as an immigrant has to fill out a form. These forms are sent to the immigration branch and are reviewed by the statistical branch in order to keep statistics. As you will see in the annual report, we also keep statistics on the number of people who have obtained their naturalization and so on. We also keep statistics for our own information. For instance, in order to reply to certain questions which are asked in the House we have to keep statistics on deportations so that we will have a ready answer when somebody asks about them. That is generally the type of statistics we keep. We also keep statistics concerning the age of the immigrants and their sex and so on. I can show you some tables of statistics which are brought out monthly by the statistics branch.

Mr. HELLYER: Do these questions asked by members of parliament cost a considerable amount to assemble?

Mr. FORTIER: Take, for example, the last question about the number of deportations. It will take the office staff several hours to prepare an answer.

Mr. HELLYER: It is a costly affair?

Mr. FORTIER: Yes.

Mr. GARLAND: It seems to me there is always a certain amount of confusion when we speak about immigration concerning the effect immigration has on the labour force and the effect it may have on the market for consumer goods and services and so on. I wonder if there are any figures readily available to divide this total of some 164,000 immigrants last year into the categories of people who are coming here to establish themselves in the labour force and the people who may be coming here solely for the purpose of reuniting the family; brothers and mothers and wives and children and so on?

Hon. Mr. PICKERSGILL: It is just about 50-50, Mr. Garland. Just about half of the total immigrants enter the labour force and the other half are wives or children and people who for some reason or other do not enter the labour force—mothers-in-law, perhaps.

Mr. DESCHATELETS: I gather from the minister's remarks that you are doing everything possible to attract French immigrants to Canada?

Hon. Mr. PICKERSGILL: We are doing everything we can without having it regarded in France as an unfriendly act.

Mr. DESCHATELETS: I am very satisfied with that. I would ask a supplementary question concerning French immigration. Did this government ever receive any request from the Quebec government authorities within the last few years asking you to improve or to increase your efforts to bring French immigrants here?

Hon. Mr. PICKERSGILL: Well, no such request has come to my notice since I have been minister, but that is not a very long period of time. I think that is the sort of question to which I would not wish to give a snap answer. I would have to have the records looked up.