

**ANCESTRAL TIES**



Ukrainian 2.2%



British 40.2%

Italian 3.1%



German 4.7%

French 26.7%



**Ethnicity**

**Beauty's Changing Face**

*Yet it is true that this land has . . . cranky losers. Again and again they surface . . . to complain that Canada is not the British America of their grandfathers' time. Yet how could it be so? If only they would look at the country in all its wild grandeur with all its new people and see that such a land must always be changing and becoming something new, and always with a new beauty in its changing face.*

Morley Callaghan in *The Toronto Star*, December 1972.

The changing pattern of religious affiliation reflects an even more significant change — Canada, which was for a long time overwhelmingly British and French, is becoming decidedly less so.

Most Canadians still have British or French connections. If one adds those who have "more than one ethnic background," the total is well over 70 per cent.

Still, Canada was never quite as simply and evenly divided as it sometimes seemed to be. It was mainly French and British but the British grouping included, and still includes, heterogeneous parts — Scots are not English, the Protestant Irish from Ulster and the Catholic Irish from the rest of Ireland are not interchangeable, and there were and are a considerable number of Welsh.

Most of the third largest group of Canadians, those of German background, have also been around for generations and are perhaps the most fully assimilated. The fourth group, the Italians, has grown enormously since World War II. The fifth, Ukrainians, has, like the Germans, been around for quite a time.

The older groups are still concentrated to a considerable degree in the East — 92 per cent of the residents of Newfoundland have ancestors who came from the British Isles, while only 38 per cent of the people in Saskatchewan do. Quebec is, of course, mostly French (80 per cent), and in Saskatchewan the French come in fifth.

The wider ethnic diversity began after World War II, when a great many immigrants from southern Europe came to Canada, and continued

through the 1970s, when the number of non-European immigrants increased enormously.

In the ten years between full-scale censuses the number of Canadian residents born in Europe dropped, while the number born in Asia, the Caribbean Islands and South and Central America increased enormously. These latter groups are still a small part of the whole, but their absolute numbers are no longer negligible.

Among other well defined groups constituting sizable blocks are Canada's oldest residents, the Indians and Inuit, followed by the Dutch, Chinese, Scandinavians, Polish, Portuguese, Greeks, people from the Balkans and Indo-Pakistanis.

The Portuguese and the people from the Balkans are heavily concentrated in Ontario, the Chinese and Indo-Pakistanis in Ontario and British Columbia, and the Italians in Ontario and Quebec.

**CANADIANS FROM SOMEWHERE ELSE**

