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LARGE IMMIGRATION INCREASE IN 1964

An increase of 21 per cent was recorded in Canada's immigrant intake for 1964, according to figures released recently by Mr. René Tremblay, the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. During 1964, immigrants totalled 112,606, compared to 93,151 the previous year.

"A most significant feature of the labour force entrants", Mr. Tremblay said, "was that 59 per cent of the total were in the more skilled categories. This reflects the emphasis placed by the Immigration Branch on the selection of immigrants who will be able to integrate quickly into the Canadian labour scene."

"There has been a gradual and heartening increase in the annual intake of immigrants during the past two years", the Minister said. "This is consistent with the almost unlimited capacity of Canada's economy to absorb skilled, educated and otherwise qualified people whether they be Canadian or immigrants. The increase for 1964 is not attributable to an upsurge from any one particular country or a small group of countries. On the contrary, an increase has been recorded from almost all countries of the world and this reflects the global concept of Canada's immigration policies and regulations."

The statistical report issued by the Department disclosed that, as had been the pattern for a number of years, Britain, with 29,279 (24,603 - 1963 intake), Italy, with 19,297 (14,427), and the United States, with 12,565 (11,736), led the list of countries of origin. Germany, with 5,992 (6,744), and Portugal, with 5,309 (4,000), came next. France was the sixth largest contributor, with 4,542 (3,569). Immigration

from France has been increasing gradually, and in the last four years the intake from that country has almost doubled.

The highest percentage increase occurred with respect to Asia and Africa - Asia rose from 3,912 to 6,526 (or 60 per cent) and Africa rose from 2,431 to 3,874 (or 63 per cent).

IMMIGRANT DESTINATIONS

The pattern of immigrant destinations remained unchanged from previous years, with Ontario receiving 61,468 immigrants or 55 per cent of the total. Quebec was next with 25,973 or 23 per cent, followed by British Columbia with 12,324 or 11 per cent, the three Prairie Provinces with 10,322 or 9 per cent, and the Maritimes with 2,409 or 2 per cent.

The total movement was divided almost equally between labour-force entrants and non-workers - 56,190 workers and 56,416 dependents or non-workers. Of the workers, 1,212 were managerial types, 11,965 professional and technical, 7,931 clerical, 6,420 service and recreation, 1,999 commercial and financial, 2,234 agricultural, and 17,476 manufacturing, mechanical and construction. Only 5,737 were in the labouring class, the large majority of these coming to Canada sponsored, by close relatives where occupational proficiency was not a factor in determining admissibility. Fifty-nine per cent of the labour-force entrants were in more skilled categories.

The immigrants were again evenly divided between males (55,827) and females (56,779). The majority of the newcomers (88,091) were in the most productive economic age group - 20 to 39 years.

(Over)