

"Since I made that report to Parliament, I have received additional information that confirms this picture of the immigrant as an individual who is not only highly likely to succeed on his own behalf but also highly likely to make a substantial contribution to the economic welfare of the land of his adoption. This new information came in the form of a report from the Economics and Social Research Division of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration.

SURVEY OF IMMIGRANTS

"The Research Division has just concluded a most interesting and revealing survey covering a group of nearly 7,000 immigrants. The Division was given very definite instructions when it set out upon its task. It was to find out precisely what happened to immigrants, from an economic point of view, after they had reached Canada and been swallowed up in the national community. How soon did they find jobs? What sort of jobs? What kind of pay did they get on their first jobs? How soon did they get promoted to better jobs and higher pay? How often did they change jobs? Did they suffer any unemployment? If so, for what periods were they unemployed? Were any of them exploited, and if so, by whom?

"The research staff was also asked to find out what relationship there might be between the level of an immigrant's education and his chances of success in his new country.

SCOPE OF SURVEY

"To find the answers to these questions the research staff surveyed nearly 7,000 immigrants chosen from among 1959 applicants for Canadian citizenship. These were immigrants who did, in fact, become citizens in 1959. The subjects of the survey were living in several areas in Canada but predominantly -- as in the case with the great majority of post-war immigrants -- in the metropolitan Montreal and Toronto areas. All the immigrants used for the survey were heads of households or independent single persons. The survey covered the entire period between the time the subjects entered Canada until they received their citizenship, a period which averaged six years and four months. Since all the subjects had become citizens, none had been in the country less than five years.

"I am sure you will be just as interested as I was to hear about some of the results obtained from this survey. We should bear in mind, however, that this group of 7,000 may not be completely representative of all post-war immigration. There are changes in immigration trends from time to time. What is true of the period from 1953 to 1959 might not be true of the immigrant group of 1946 to 1953. However, with this qualification, the Research Division feels that its conclusions are reasonably applicable to immigrants of the later post-war period.

"To begin at the beginning, it appears that few of the 7,000 immigrants under survey had any great trouble finding jobs on arrival in Canada. Almost fifty per cent found jobs within a week of landing. Another 25 per cent had jobs within three weeks. All but four per cent had jobs within three months.

FEW EMPLOYMENT DIFFICULTIES

"From the time they found their first jobs, few of these immigrants had any really great difficulty remaining employed. As a matter of fact, 43 per cent of the group reported no unemployment at all from the day they got their first job. The average period of unemployment for the entire group was under two weeks per year. This is considered a low figure even for native-born Canadian workers, who are not under the disadvantage of the language barrier and other immigrant handicaps.

"I think it very interesting that, in its study of the employment experience of these immigrants, the Research Division turned up evidence that confirms the findings of several other enquiries made into the subject of employment generally. The report repeats earlier warnings that there is a definite relationship between unemployment and level of education. We have heard a great deal about this relationship in other quarters. Witnesses before the Senate Commission on Manpower, for instance, have spoken convincingly on the subject. The statistics of the Department of Labour confirm the view. The continuing hard core of the unemployed in Canada is composed largely of workers with less than Grade 8 education, and the largest single group among the unemployed is made up of young people from 14 to 19 years of age. These young people have not had the education or training they need to find jobs. They should still be in school.

IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOLING

"All this, of course, is just as true of the immigrant as it is of the native-born, and vice versa. Our 1959 survey clearly indicates this. Those immigrants who had 17 to 25 years of schooling and training suffered an average of only 3.2 weeks of unemployment in the more than six-year period of the survey. At the other end of the scale, those who had less than 8 years of schooling averaged 16 weeks of unemployment in the period. These are significant figures, and further warning evidence that lack of skills is a major factor in unemployment.

"It goes without saying, of course, that the converse is true. Those immigrants with the most years of formal education and technical training come to enjoy the best jobs and make the most money. The last reported income of those with 17 to 25 years of education and training averaged \$6,800 per year, while the last reported income of those with less than 8 years schooling averaged \$3,300 -- less than half. I do hope that any of you who are schoolteachers will make the very best use of that kind of information.

"While we are on the subject of education, it is interesting to note that the survey indicated that the immigrants generally had a better educational background than their comparable Canadian born neighbours.

COMPARISON WITH NATIVE-BORN

"There was some difficulty in making a fair comparison between the educational level of the immi-