

immigrants. The movement of these Netherlands agriculturists is working out very satisfactorily. Some 3,000 came during 1947; 7,000 during 1948; and 6,000 in 1949.

The general progress of these Dutch agricultural immigrants since their arrival in Canada has been good. With very few exceptions they have rapidly fitted into Canadian ways and farming methods. They have proved to be very industrious. One thing that is characteristic of them above all others is that their main objective in coming to Canada is to establish themselves on farms of their own as soon as possible. The family units are closely knit and work together, saving their money for the purchase of a farm or for acquiring livestock and working equipment for use on rented land. Already over 600 of these Netherlands families have made a start in farming in Canada.

In recognition of the outstanding service rendered by the people of Malta during the war, and in order to assist Malta with its present employment problem, special provision was made for the admission to Canada of a number of Maltese who ordinarily would not come within the admissible classes. Some 500 of these people came forward during 1948 and were placed in employment by the Department of Labour, and provision has been made for the entry of an additional 300 who, it is expected, will come forward during 1950.

In order to give practical expression to the policy of developing a well-balanced economy in Canada through the careful selection of suitable immigrants, the Settlement Service Division of the Immigration Branch has been re-instituted. It is the responsibility of the Immigration Branch through this division to discover needs and develop opportunities for immigrants to Canada; to locate and select suitable immigrants overseas; and to assist immigrants in becoming permanently established in this country. The particular fields of activity of the Immigration Branch in this work are in agriculture and in the establishment of small businesses in rural communities.

Unfortunately there is still a tremendous body of people in Europe who have been driven from their homes and countries of origin, and who eagerly await the opportunity to rebuild their lives in another land.

The story of the operations carried out by the International Refugee Organization is remarkable, for in two and a half years there has been a greater movement of peoples than has ever taken place at any time except during war. This movement has been on a global scale, and has involved the transfer of hundreds of thousands of men, women and children.

At Lake Success last autumn we were obliged to listen to repeated assertions by representatives of the Soviet Republics and of countries dominated by the Soviet that the International Refugee Organization was kept alive solely for the benefit of the United States, the United Kingdom, France and a few other countries, and that this problem could be easily resolved if only we would send back these refugees to their countries of origin. To have done this, we know, would have been contrary to all the principles of freedom of choice which we endorse. It would have compelled these people to return to conditions from which they had fled and to be subject to policies with which they were not in accord. It was therefore a great satisfaction to practically all the delegates at the last assembly of the United Nations to know that the International Refugee Organization, which had been scheduled to pass out of existence on June 30, 1950, would be continued until March 1, 1951. There were, indeed, many thousands who needed the care of this organization.

From July 1, 1947, to October 1, 1949 a total of 284,523 refugees have been transported in International Refugee Organization ships; 16,621 in IRO planes; and 320,660 by other means, to countries of resettlement. In October there remained 700,000 refugees for whom the IRO is responsible. This number has now been considerably reduced.

Canada, up to February, 1950, received 96,000 displaced persons of whom 53,000 came to relatives, while others were selected and brought to Canada under supervision of a joint committee of the departments of Immigration and Labour. Of these almost 10,000—9,985 to be exact,—came under the domestic employment plan, 10,000 came to work on farms, and 3,900 to work in our mines. The record on the whole, has been very satisfactory, and after enduring years of wandering and hardships of all kinds, the newcomers have adapted themselves readily to conditions in a new country.

There remain under the care of IRO many who, because of training and vocation, have been left in Europe. Few countries are ready to accept immigrants of the professional class—doctors, musicians, artists, engineers, teachers, nurses and scientists—thus there are many whose previous training seems to unsuit them for placement in other lands. Again, unfortunately, few countries are looking for immigrants who are over forty-five years of age: some have too many children, and others, when it means abandoning handicapped relatives, refuse to accept opportunities for their own resettlement.

I am sure we were all delighted and impressed by the offer of Norway, a country