

CANADA

TODAY / D'AUJOURD'HUI

THE MAKING OF A MOSAIC

A Calendar for 1983

8:82





THE MAKING OF A MOSAIC

Most of Canada is built on very old rock. The Laurentian Shield—the basalt that underpins the forests and cups the lakes of Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba—has been in place for billions of years.

The people who live on the rock and on the rest of a very large land are new. Even the Indians, the Inuit and the Vikings came rather recently, and the process of joining

all the different immigrants into a country is very new indeed.

It is a popular, though recent, fancy to describe the combination as a mosaic, a harmonious picture with many ethnic hues. It is a pleasant concept but it has limitations. Some seventy-nine cultural groups, from Albanians to West Indians, coexist with ease; but the

mosaic was not put together with art, tiles and grout but by chance and sweat and often tears. It is always changing. New immigrants arrive every day, old neighbourhoods die, people move and the children of one group marry the children of others.

January/Janvier 1983

CANADA
TODAY / D'AUJOURD'HUI

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THE INDIANS

The Indians were the first, and they came to Canada perhaps 40,000 years ago. History books customarily say they came across on a land bridge from Asia during the ice age, and an innocent child might imagine one that was long and narrow along the lines of the Brooklyn Bridge or at least the pontoon spans soldiers built in World War II. It wasn't. It was more like a small continent or a very large island that covered the Bering Sea until the ice started melting and it was covered by the waters. The Indians didn't just walk across it either. They moved out of Asia without even noticing they were doing so, while pursuing large animals such as the mammoth, and they lived on the middle land mass for centuries, moving occasionally eastward when the animals became scarce. Slowly they ascended the Yukon valley, then crossed over the hills to the upper waters of the Mackenzie. Every once in a while a tribe inched south, and in the course of thousands of years, as the glaciers retreated, they moved down through Alberta and Saskatchewan. Eventually they spread all over North and South America.

The Tribes of the Northwest

The Tlinkit, the Haida and the other tribes of British Columbia are strikingly different from the Indians on the other side of the Rockies. It seems entirely possible that their ancestors arrived in the New World at a different time by a different route, and they may be distantly related to the Inuit. Some scientists have suggested that since their carved house posts greatly resemble similar ones found among the tribes of New Zealand, they may have sailed across, but most other scientists say this is nonsense.

Allies

During the extended wars that occupied the French and English in the eighteenth century, each side had its Indian allies. The French had more—all of the Algonkian tribes including the Montagnais of the Saguenay region, the Chippewas, the Ojibwas and the Hurons. The English had the Iroquois Confederation, which was particularly warlike and strategically situated between the French to the north and the Dutch and English to the south.

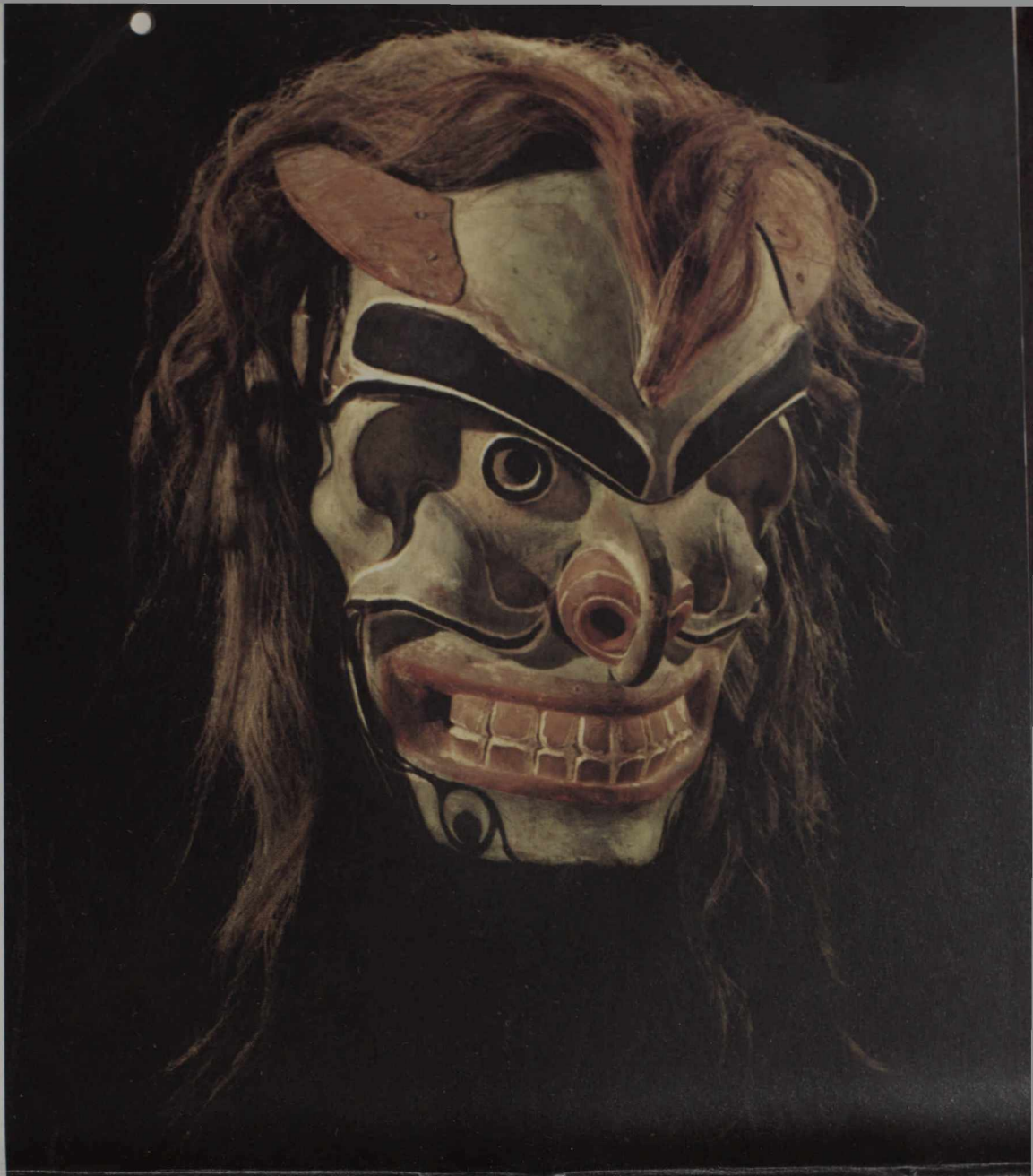


Photo: Kwakiutl Buquis or Wild Man of the Woods, courtesy of the British Columbia Provincial Museum, Victoria, B.C.

February / Février 1983

CANADA
TODAY / D'AUJOURD'HUI


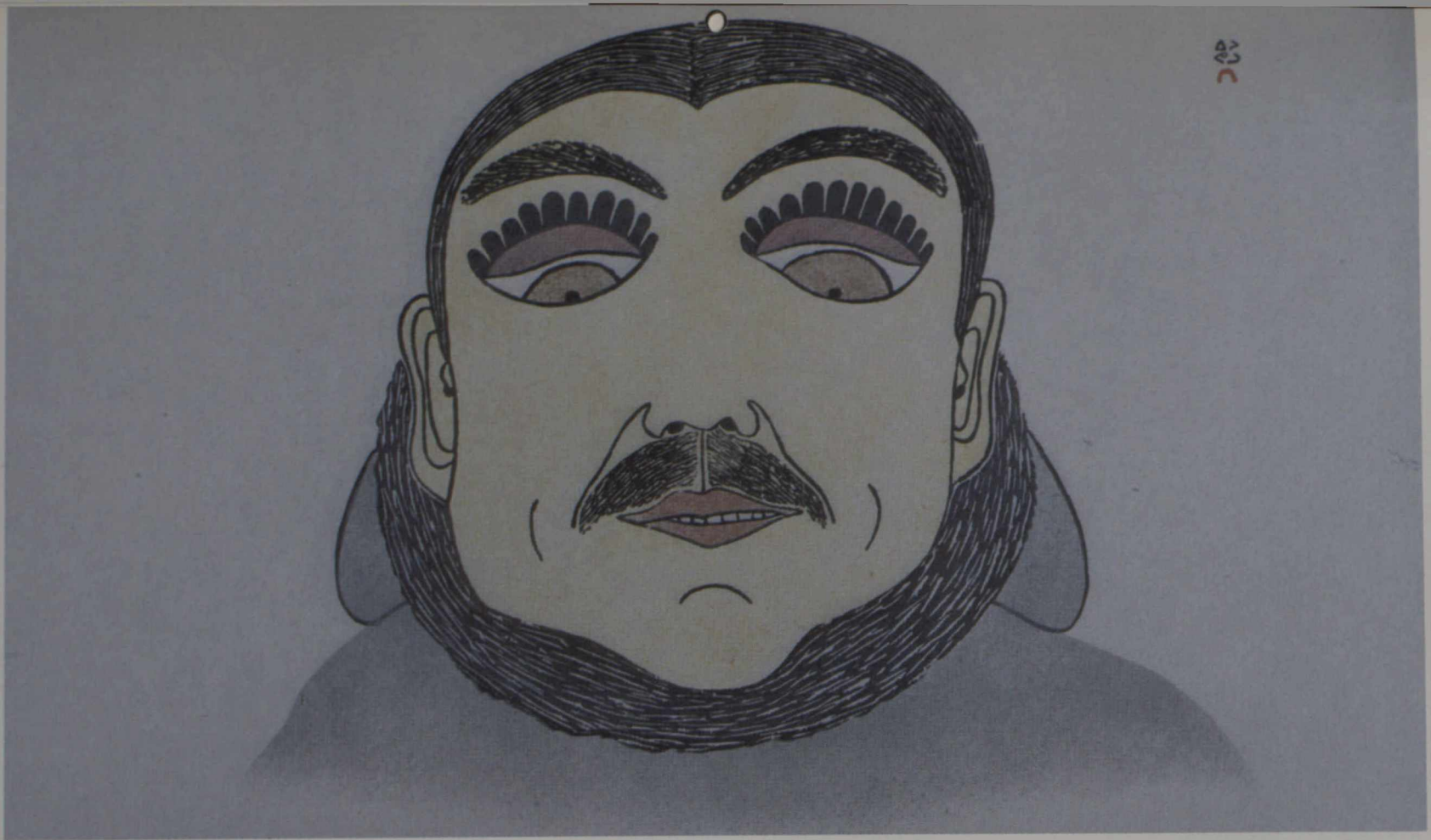
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Photo: Courtesy Department of the Secretary of State.



APC

Photo: *The Visitor*, Kananginak Pootoogook, Stonecut. Reproduced with the permission of the West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative Ltd., Cape Dorset, N.W.T.

THE INUIT

The Inuit (or as they're known in the south, the Eskimos) came across from Asia much later than the Indians, perhaps 4,000 years ago. There are about 80,000 now, spread out in Russia, the United States, Denmark and Canada. Canada has some 17,000. All except those who live on the Aleutian Islands speak dialects of the same distinctive language, and an Inuk from Greenland can understand one from the Bering Strait.

Little is known about the culture of the earliest Inuit, but traces of their successors, the Dorset people, have been found all over eastern Canada. The Dorsets were followed by the Thule people, who lived from Alaska to Greenland in stone houses and ate sea mammals. In recent years the modern Inuit have been encouraged to move from their small, scattered settlements into a few large ones with schools, nursing stations and wooden houses.

Prints

The Inuit have been carving statues since before they crossed the Bering Sea. In 1948 a 27-year-old Canadian artist named James Houston went to the eastern Arctic to paint. He stayed twelve years, mostly at Cape Dorset on West Baffin Island, and he taught native artists to make prints, with extraordinary results.

March/Mars 1983

CANADA
TODAY / D'AUJOURD'HUI

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				Passover									

THE FRENCH

Acadians

The Huguenots arrived in Passamaquoddy Bay in 1604, four years before Quebec was founded. Subsequent arrivals settled in Port Royal Valley, Canso, Cape Sable and the coast of Minas Bay. The British took Acadia in 1710 and made it Nova Scotia. In 1755 they exiled some 16,000 Acadians, and perhaps half died of starvation. The rest were sent to New Brunswick, to Prince Edward Island, to the Magdalen Islands, to New England and to the Ohio Valley. Some 300 of the latter made their way down the Mississippi to the French colony in Louisiana. Many who left later came home, and today there are nearly 400,000 Canadians of Acadian extraction in the Maritimes, half of them in New Brunswick.

Québécois

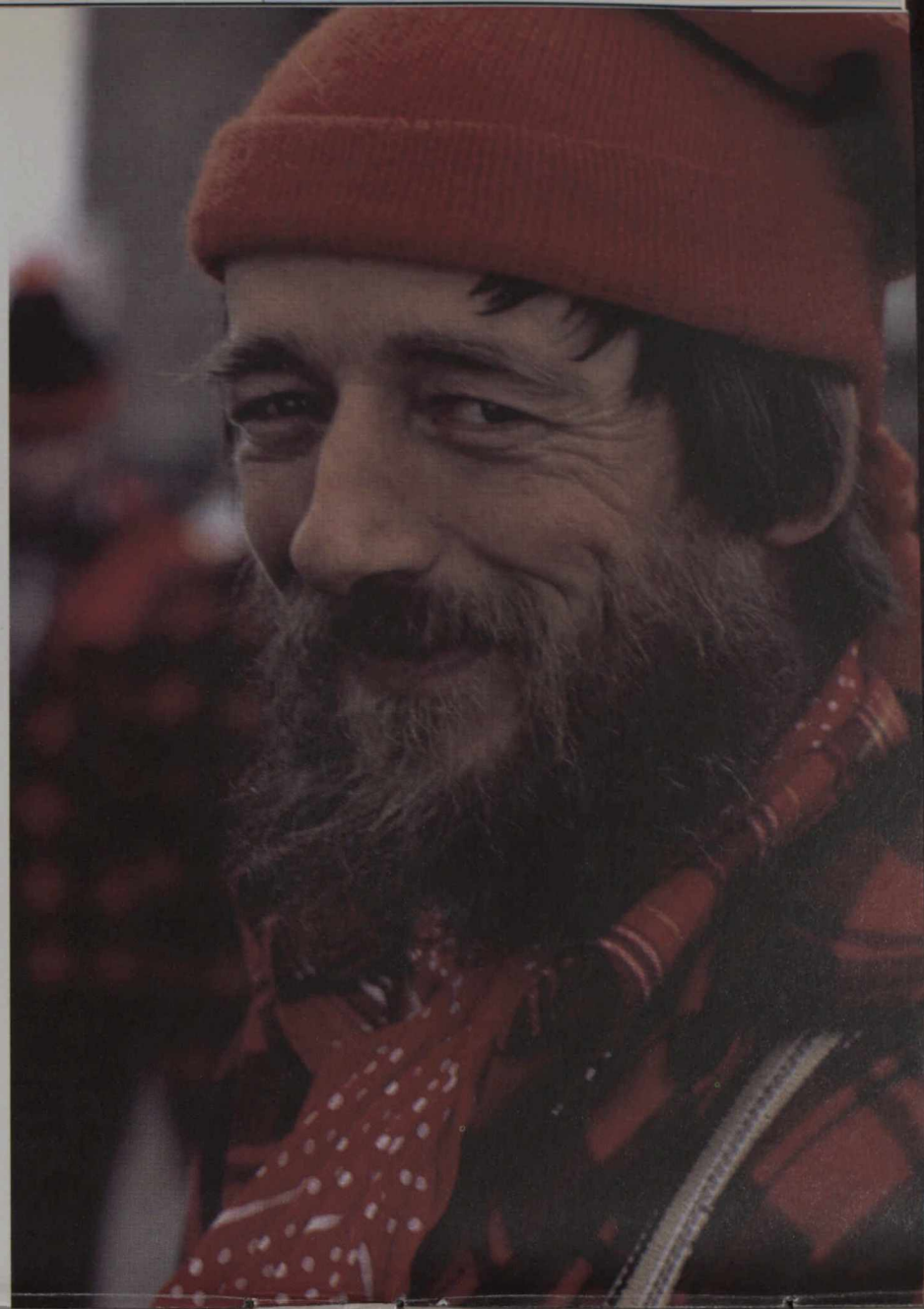
The British won the North American wars in 1763, but the 65,000 *Canadiens* remained Catholic, continued to speak French and kept their system of land tenure. They survived and flourished. Quebec is still distinctly Quebec, with more than six million people and 594,860 square miles, the great city of Montreal and all manners of men and women—dairy farmers and fishermen, miners and poets, bankers and hockey players.

Some Islanders

Anticosti Island is 360 miles northeast of Quebec City at the mouth of the St. Lawrence and it is huge, as large as the province of Prince Edward Island. It has eight lakes, the Jupiter River, one of the world's best salmon streams, and the spectacular Vauréal Falls. Its forests of spruce and balsam are alive with Virginia whitetails, mule deer, elk, moose and beaver.

Henri Menier, a French chocolate manufacturer, bought it in 1895, intending to make it his private kingdom. He owned everything—homes, halls, forests, deer, fish, strawberries, the bakery, the school, the church and the lobster pots. The residents were expected to doff their caps when M. Menier went by. His dream died with him in 1926, and his brother Gaston sold the island to a group of logging companies. The Quebec government bought it in 1974 and turned it into a democracy. It has 237 people and is still a paradise. Rich visitors can stay at a luxurious lodge and fish for salmon for as little as \$2,500 a week.

Photos: Mia and Klaus.



April / Avril 1983

CANADA
TODAY / D'AUJOURD'HUI

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LA RÉVOLUTION TRANQUILLE

It has often been remarked that one significant way in which Canada differs from the United States is that it has never had a revolution.

It has never had a violent one (though it had a couple of boisterous rebellions), but it has had a unique and successful quiet one.

It began in Quebec in 1960 when Jean Lesage and the

province's Liberal Party succeeded Premier Maurice Duplessis and the Union Nationale. It continued for eventful decades and changed Quebec's cultural, social, economic, political and religious structures.

In 1976 Premier René Lévesque and his Parti Québécois took the revolution a further step by promising a referendum on independence. It was held in May 1980 when the voters considered the Quebec government's

proposal that it negotiate an agreement that would give the province "exclusive power to make its laws, levy its taxes and establish relations abroad—in other words, sovereignty—and at the same time to maintain with Canada an economic association. . . ."

Fifty-eight per cent voted "No." Quebec remains both essentially Canadian and Canada's most independent-minded province.

Photo: Government of Quebec.



May/Mai 1983

CANADA
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Victoria Day
Fête de Victoria

Memorial Day



Photo: Public Archives Canada C 9660

HERE COME THE BRITISH

Generally speaking the French won the wars in North America but the English won in Europe. In the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713 France gave up Hudson Bay, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. The Seven Years' War wound up with the fall of Quebec in 1759 and of Montreal in 1760.

Canada was now a British possession, and when the American Revolution ended in 1783, 40,000 United Empire Loyalists went north to Nova Scotia. Many were men of substance, and they took what they could with them but left most of their possessions behind. The migration from below the border would continue. Most would be farmers of northern European and British ancestry, but there would also be more sharply defined groups such as "Pennsylvania Dutch" Mennonites who were actually Germans, and a considerable number of escaped slaves who took the underground railway north.

The British—English, Scots, Irish and Welsh—and the Americans dominated immigration through the nineteenth century, and even today their descendants form the largest single blocks of English speakers.

Scots

No British group has had greater impact on Canada than the Scots. Many were among those fleeing the American Revolution, and they were followed some decades later by a wave of poor farmers and artisans from the Highlands.

Gordon Donaldson argues in *The Scot Overseas* that the notion that this latter group were reluctant to make the trip is mistaken.

"... by the 1820s the clearance or eviction of tenants for the sake of sheep farming was well underway . . . the notion that scheming landlords, for their own financial profit, shipped to America tenants who were living in plenty, or even comfort, at home, is preposterous. The truth is that people who had experienced the miseries of life in the Highlands in the 1840s clamoured for assistance to enable them to leave the country. . . ."

June/Juin 1983

CANADA
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THE FRENCH AND THE IRISH

John O'Farrell, a Quebec lawyer, said in 1872: "It is not generally known that long before Wolfe scaled the heights of Abraham, a large Irish settlement had been established in Canada. They intermarried with the French and the Franco-Irish element was still further increased by the absorption of the Irish Brigade, many of whom were rewarded with grants of farms in Lower Canada."

O'Farrell pointed out that of the 2,500 families that made up the population of Lower Canada in 1700, a hundred were shown by parish registers to have been born in Ireland. "French priests often gallicized the spelling of Irish names so that Thimote Sylvain was actually the son of Cornelius and Elizabeth O'Sullivan, both citizens of Cork."



Photo: Public Archives Canada PA 10254.

GERMANS

The first 3,000 Germans to settle in Canada arrived in Halifax in 1750. Three years later 1500 of them moved down the coast to Lunenburg. After the American Revolution a good many German speakers moved north from New Jersey and Pennsylvania, including a group of "Pennsylvania Dutch" Mennonites who settled in Waterloo County.



Photo: Public Archives Canada C 45079.

THE BARR COLONY

The Rev. I.M. Barr visited Canada in 1902, was impressed with its possibilities and went back to England to raise a band of immigrants. He was persuasive and successful and his colonists arrived in 1903 and settled first in 500 tents beside the railroad tracks in Saskatoon. Barr, a poor administrator, was soon replaced by the Rev. G.E. Lloyd, who got the settlers in place, strung out along a 200-mile road leading to what eventually became the town of Lloydminster. Those who stuck it out became prosperous farmers and the Rev. Mr. Lloyd became the first Bishop of Saskatchewan.



Photo: Provincial Archives of Manitoba.

THE MÉTIS

When New France was new, it tried to limit the number of young men who could run through the woods. It issued congés—licenses—but the young men often went trading without them. By 1700 they were ranging to the Red River, and many did not bother to come back. They hunted buffaloes, married Indian women and founded the New Nation, the Métis. Scottish and English traders adopted their ways and their children became Métis too. Today tens of thousands of their descendants live throughout western Canada.



Photo: Public Archives Canada PA 122562.



Photo: Provincial Archives of Manitoba

SHOVELLING OUT

"One of the most controversial clearances took place from the estates of Lord Palmerston and Sir Robert Gore Booth in County Sligo . . . the emigration agent at St. John accused Gore Booth of shovelling out the old and infirm and asserted that Lord Palmerston's emigrants wore the foulest rags and the children appeared stark naked. . . ."

Helen I. Cowan, *British Emigration to British North America, the First Hundred Years.*



Photo: Public Archives Canada PA 38667.

THE TRAIN WEST

" . . . The coaches have a corridor through them and are divided into sections to contain four passengers each. Above the seats is a tea tray affair, which can be closed up into the roof during the day or used for baggage. At night the baggage is stowed away under the seats, that are converted into a bed or two, while the tea tray becomes a bunk into which two travellers can clamber up."

Noel Copping



COLONIES

British immigrants often came in bunches, whole communities sponsored by a rich man and transported across the sea.

Col. Thomas Talbot came to Canada from Ireland as an aide-de-camp to Lieutenant Governor Simcoe and returned in 1803 as a colonizer. He opened up a large area to settlement and ruthlessly ejected those who were not industrious.

John Galt, a Scottish novelist, founded the Canada Company, which bought two million acres called the Huron Tract and the Crown Reserve. He opened it up in 1826 but quarreled with the company directors in London and was soon replaced.

THE RICH

Not all the immigrants to the Prairies were poor.

One of the oddest communities was Cannington Manor. In 1882 Captain Edward Mitchell Pierce, an English bankrupt, was allowed to open up virgin land near Moose Mountain in the Northwest Territories. He built a manor house, a church, a smithy, a hotel and a dormitory. He charged some of the British gentry £100 for a course of "agricultural instruction." Among the enrollees were the Beckton brothers, Ernest, Billy and Bertie, who arrived in 1889 and built a massive stone house at Cannington, imported bull terriers and foxhounds, built a race track and held annual hunt balls. They all went broke by the end of the century.

Photo: University of Saskatchewan.

July/Juillet 1983

CANADA
TODAY / D'AUJOURD'HUI

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THE PRAIRIES

Clifford Sifton, Minister of the Interior under Sir Wilfrid Laurier, was a positive man. He set up immigration agencies in Great Britain and the United States and, through the North Atlantic Trading Company, in Hamburg. Many families came from the German states—but the greatest rush was across the border. In 1897 11 per

cent of the newcomers were American and by 1910 over half of them were. Nineteen thousand immigrants came in 1900 and 139,000 in 1913. Among them were the Mormons who moved into southern Alberta from Utah and who were especially knowledgeable about dry land farming.

Sifton is best remembered, however, for his recruiting in central Europe. He described the ideal settler as “a

stalwart peasant in a sheepskin coat, born on the soil, with a stout wife and a half-dozen children,” and his efforts brought great waves of non-English speakers. Some 6,000 stalwarts came from eastern Europe—Poland and the Ukraine—in 1900 and 21,000 in 1913. The population of the Prairies grew from 250,000 in 1891 to 420,000 in 1901 and over 800,000 in 1906. By 1911 it was over 1,300,000.

Photo: Public Archives Canada C 6605



August/Août 1983

CANADA
TODAY / D'AUJOURD'HUI

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Photo: Courtesy Department of the Secretary of State.

SCANDINAVIANS

The Norsemen were the first Europeans to come to Canada—after the Inuit and before the French.

There is solid evidence that the first ones came to Canada at least 1,000 years ago—vaguely worded accounts in Norse sagas, the map drawn by Stephanius long after the event, scattered relics, most of which proved to be fakes but a few of which seem authentic. The best proofs are the map of Vinland dating from 1440 and the excavations of nine buildings by Helge Instad at L'Anse aux Meadows on the northern tip of Newfoundland.

Today there are more than 400,000 Canadians of Scandinavian descent—Norwegians, Swedes, Finns, Danes and Icelanders.

The period of the greatest immigration for the first three groups was in the 1920s when over 70,000 arrived, more or less evenly divided.

THE ICELANDERS

In 1872 Sigtryggur Jonasson, age twenty, became an immigration agent, working for the Ontario government. In 1873 he arranged the brief settlement of 100 of his fellow Icelanders at Rosseau and a larger group at Kinmount. Neither colony worked out very well, and in the spring of 1875 he went west to look at the Red River Valley and found a likely strip on the shore of Lake Winnipeg. The main group at Kinmount moved to Manitoba in September 1875 and founded the town of Gimli. They were remote from any responsible government and they set up their own Republic of Iceland, made up of four districts with a council. The council presidents met as the *Tingrad* and were the *de facto* government. They offered no resistance when Manitoba took over in 1887.



Photo: Provincial Archives of Manitoba

September/Septembre 1983

CANADA
TODAY / D'AUJOURD'HUI

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CHINESE

The first Chinese to settle in Canada arrived after the discovery of gold on the Fraser River in 1858. Almost all were originally from the province of Kwangtung, southeast of Canton. Some did well, some did not, and many left the country when most mines had been exhausted. Most of those who remained took up other laborious work, shoemaking, laundering, tailoring, gardening and general labour.

In 1881 thousands more were brought over to work on the Canadian Pacific. They were paid 75 cents to \$1.25 for a twelve-hour day.

After that, immigration of Chinese, Japanese and East Indians was sharply curtailed. Those entering had to pay a head tax of up to \$500 in 1903. In 1923 a new law blocked all but a few.

By 1941 there were about 34,500 Chinese in Canada, most men and over half living in British Columbia. The repeal of the Exclusion Act in 1947 changed the picture—women and children came over and the Chinese became family units in the larger community. Today there are 225,000, about one-third in British Columbia and one-third in Ontario.

JAPANESE

The Japanese came to Canada slowly. There were perhaps 1,000 in Canada in 1896, almost all in British Columbia.

The government limited Japanese immigration in 1908 when the number was around 9,000 but those on hand married and had children, and by 1941 there were 23,149, including both those born in Japan (*Issei*) and those born in Canada (*Nisei*). In World War II the British Columbia coast was designated a 'protected area', and all persons of Japanese origin, *Issei* and *Nisei*, were evacuated and sent to inland camps.

After the war some moved east, mostly to Ontario, and some returned to the coast. The *Nisei* married and had children, a third generation called *Sansei*.



Photo: Courtesy Department of the Secretary of State.

October/Octobre 1983

CANADA
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SOUTHERN EUROPEANS

John Cabot, who sailed for England, was an Italian; Portuguese explorers and fishermen were among the discoverers of Newfoundland; and a man called Juan de Fuca, who gave his name to the Strait that separates Vancouver Island from the mainland, was a Greek, born on the Island of Cephalonia in the Ionian Sea, whose real name was either Yannis Phokas or Apostolos Valerianos.

Still, most of Canada's early arrivals were from northern Europe and the United States, and the first real immigrants from the south came around 1880, when a good many Italians came to work on the construction of the Canadian Pacific. They were followed by the Greeks. Most of the new immigrants were men who intended to save their wages and return home.

Many stayed in place, however, and opened fruit stores, restaurants, barber shops, shoe-repair shops and other small businesses.

Women began arriving in significant numbers after 1905, and there soon were marriages and families.

The great influx of Italians, Greeks and Portuguese came after World War II. Some 375,000 Italians arrived between January 1946 and December 1965, and 107,780 Greeks between 1945 and 1971. Almost all settled in Canada's three biggest cities, Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver.

Portuguese explorers and fishermen were among the first Europeans to touch Canada's shores—but almost all Portuguese immigrants have arrived since 1945.

The greatest impact of the southern Europeans was on Toronto, where they opened many restaurants and groceries, giving the staid old Anglo-Celtic city a Mediterranean dimension. There are now about 800,000 people of southern European origin living in Canada, more than half in the major cities.

Photo: NFB Photothèque.

November/Novembre 1983

CANADA
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Veterans Day
Remembrance Day
Jour du souvenir

Thanksgiving Day (U.S.)

Photo: Courtesy Department of the Secretary of State.



REFUGEES

Canada has been second only to the United States in providing homes for the displaced. In a sense most immigrants are refugees, from poverty if not from political turmoil or enemy armies, but many have had official refugee status. Some—such as the British schoolgirls of World War II, had homes and families to return to, but most did not. In 1957 Canada admitted 37,000 Hungarians fleeing the aftermath of their uprising. During World Refugee Year, 1959-1960, Canada admitted 3,508 people, including 325 tubercular persons and 501 members of their families. One hundred Chinese refugees came from Hong Kong in 1962 and 25,000 more were admitted in subsequent years. Over 9,100 Czechs came in 1968, and some 240 Tibetan refugees were admitted in 1971. Over 4,700 Asians came from Uganda the next year, and 200 refugees from Chile were admitted in 1974.

In 1979 Canada took a vigorous role in providing homes for the Indochinese boat people. Refugees from Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos were processed by Canadian immigration officers in Singapore, Bangkok, Hong Kong and Manila and flown by Canadian commercial and military planes to staging centres in Edmonton and Montreal.

Since 1945 Canada has accepted almost 400,000 refugees from all over the world.

Photo: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

December/Decembre 1983

CANADA
TODAY / D'AUJOURD'HUI

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Christmas Day Noël		Boxing Day											

Hanukkah



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CANADA

Today/d'aujourd'hui

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*Address Correction
Requested*

