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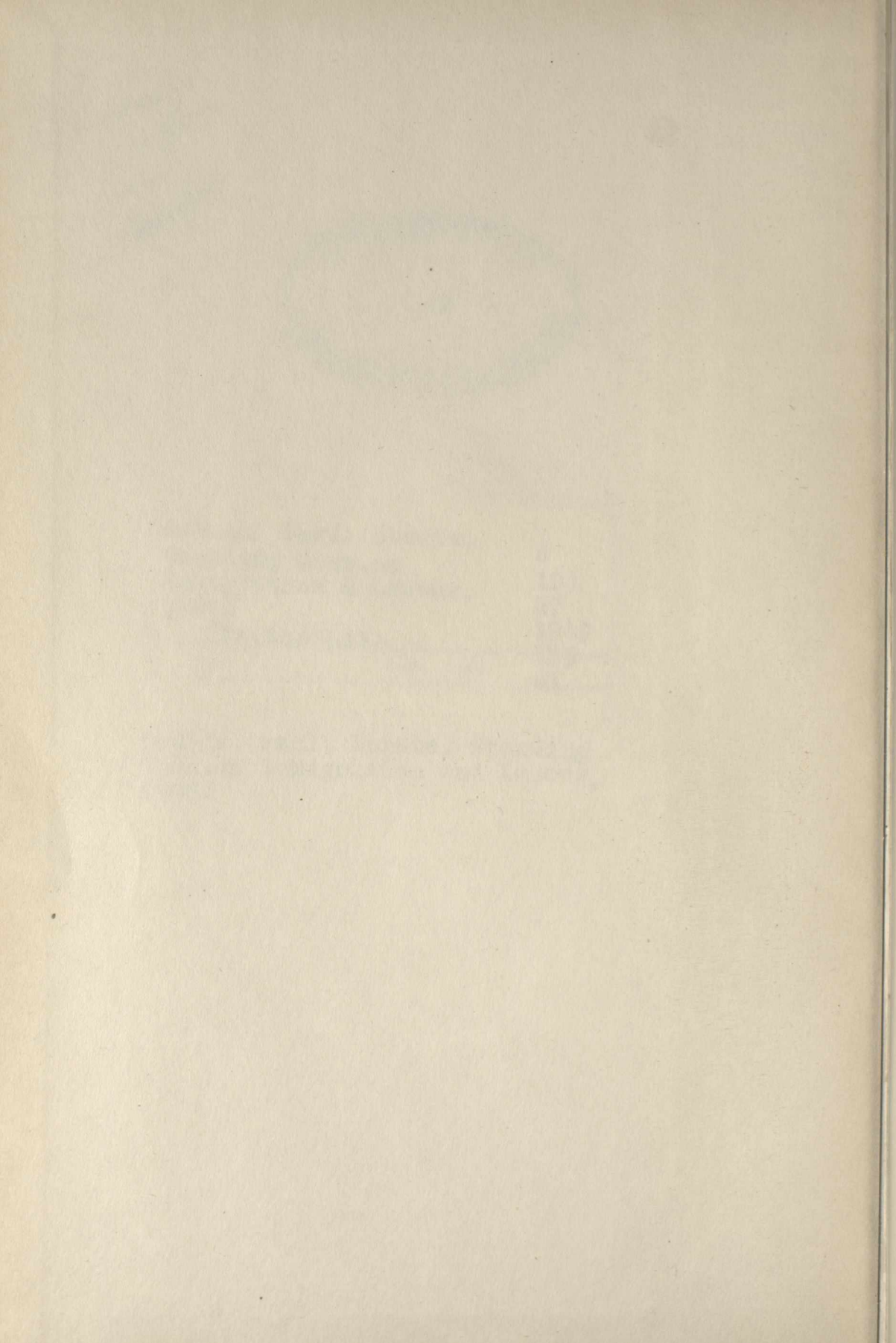
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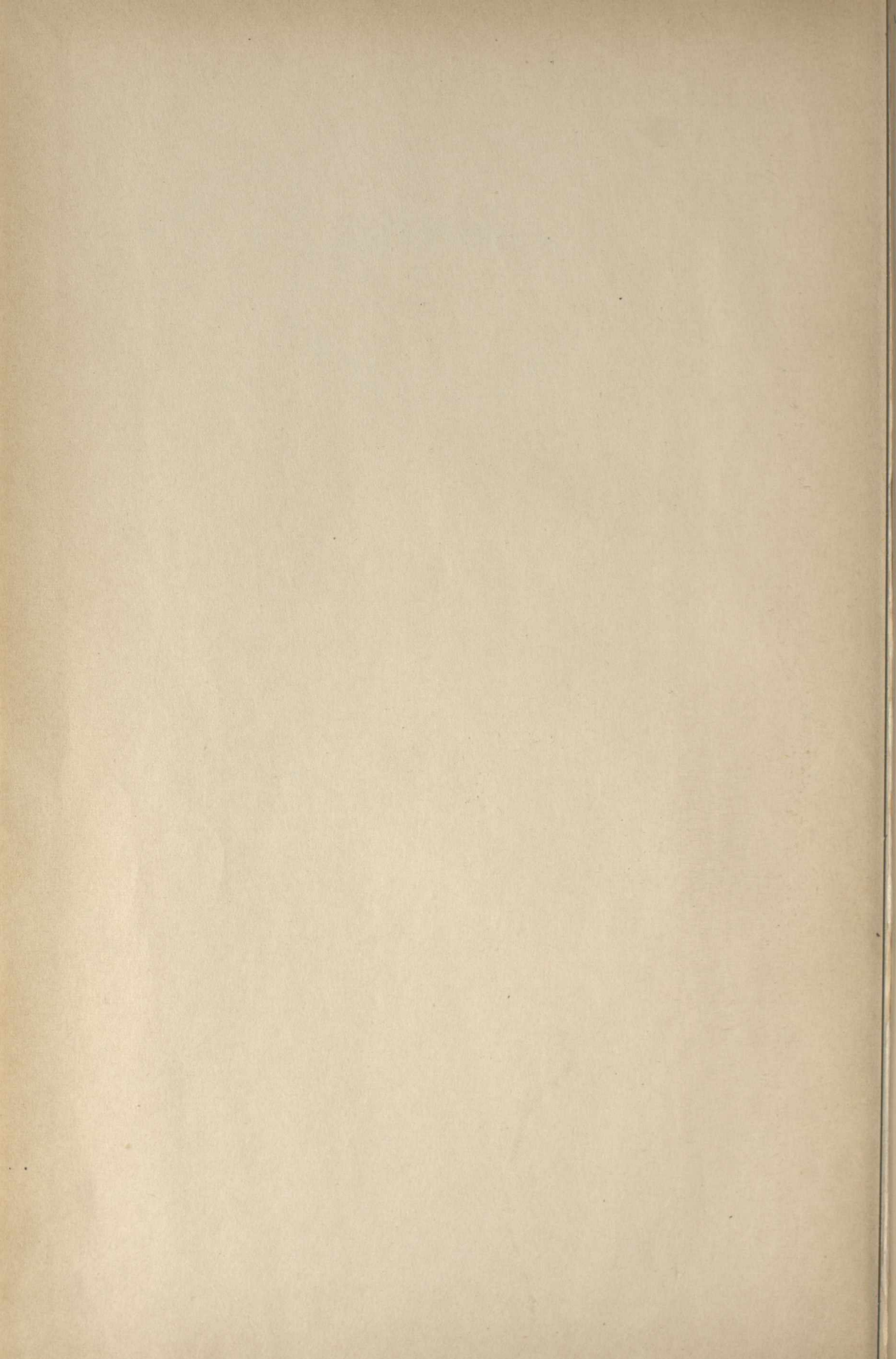
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1949

THE SENATE OF CANADA



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

Immigration and Labour

On the operation and administration of the
Immigration Act, etc.

No. 1

TUESDAY, 15th MARCH, 1949.

The Honourable Cairine R. Wilson, Chairman.

WITNESS

Dr. H. L. Keenleyside, Deputy Minister of Mines and Resources.

OTTAWA
EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., B.A., L.Ph.,
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY
CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY

1949

STANDING COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR

The Honourable CAIRINE R. WILSON, Chairman

The Honourable Senators

Aseltine	Dupuis	Murdock
Blais	Euler	Pirie
Bouchard	Ferland	Robertson
Bourque	Fogo	Roebuck
Buchanan	Haig	Taylor
Burchill	Hardy	Turgeon
Calder	Horner	Vaillancourt
Campbell	Hushion	Veniot
Crerar	Lesage	Wilson
David	Mackenzie	
Davis	McIntyre	

ORDER OF REFERENCE

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate, Thursday February 10, 1949.

“That the Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour be authorized and directed to examine into the Immigration Act (R.S.C. Chapter 93 and amendments) its operation and administration and the circumstances and conditions relating thereto including:—

- (a) the desirability of admitting immigrants to Canada.
- (b) the type of immigrant which should be preferred, including origin, training and other characteristics.
- (c) the availability of such immigrants for admission.
- (d) the facilities, resources and capacity of Canada to absorb, employ and maintain such immigrants, and
- (e) the appropriate terms and conditions of such admission;

And that the said committee report its findings to this house;

And that the said committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.”

L. C. MOYER,
Clerk of the Senate.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, March 9, 1949.

Pursuant to adjournment and notice the Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour met this day at 10 a.m.

Present: The Honourable Senators: Wilson (*Chairman*), Buchanan, Burchill, Crerar, Davis, Fogo, Horner, Mackenzie, McIntyre, Taylor and Veniot.—11.

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of the Order of Reference of 18th February, 1949, directing the Committee to examine into the operation and administration of the Immigration Act, etc.

A preliminary discussion was held with respect to future meetings of the Committee and it was agreed that the Chairman would arrange for the appearance of witnesses at the next meeting of the Committee.

It was resolved to report recommending as follows:—

In connection with the order of reference of the 18th February, 1949, directing the Committee to examine into the operation and administration of the Immigration Act, etc., the Committee recommend that it be authorized to print 1,000 copies in English and 200 copies in French of its day-to-day proceedings, and that Rule 100 be suspended in relation to the said printing.

At 10.30 a.m. the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chairman.

Attest.

A. FORTIER,
Clerk of the Committee.

TUESDAY, March 15, 1949.

Pursuant to adjournment and notice the Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour met this day at 4.20 p.m.

Present: The Honourable Senators: Wilson (*Chairman*), Aseltine, Buchanan, Crerar, Davis, Fogo, Haig, Mackenzie, Pirie, Turgeon and Veniot.—11.

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of the Order of Reference of 18th February, 1949, directing the Committee to examine into the operation and administration of the Immigration Act, etc.

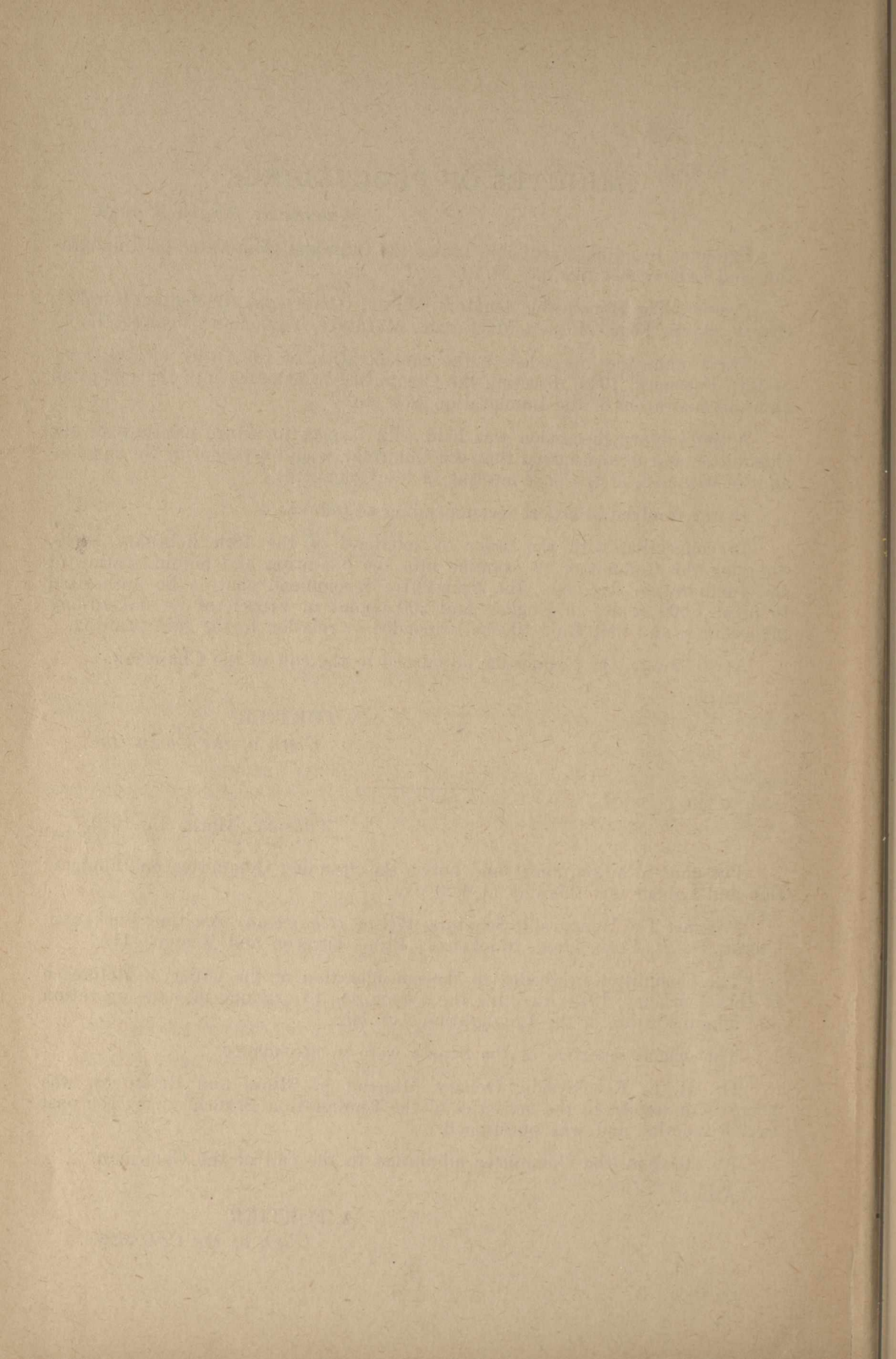
The official reporters of the Senate were in attendance.

Dr. H. L. Keenleyside, Deputy Minister of Mines and Resources, was heard with respect to the activities of the Immigration Branch during the past twelve months, and was questioned.

At 5.05 p.m. the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chairman.

Attest.

A. FORTIER,
Clerk of the Committee.



MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

THE SENATE

OTTAWA, Tuesday, March 15, 1949.

The Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour, which was authorized and directed to examine into the Immigration Act, met this day at 4.30 p.m.

Hon. Mrs. WILSON in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN: Honourable senators, those who did not hear Dr. Keenleyside when he made his report last year unfortunately missed a very fine presentation. I am sure we are all looking forward to hearing him at this time give his report of the activities during the past twelve months. Dr. Keenleyside has been waiting patiently for us to assemble this afternoon.

Dr. H. L. KEENLEYSIDE: Madam Chairman and gentlemen, it is a pleasure to have the opportunity of appearing before your committee again to give a report of the activities of the past year. I take it, madam chairman, that your preference would be for me to go very briefly over the highlights of the year and then endeavour to answer any questions that the members of the committee may wish to put forward.

The CHAIRMAN: If you will, please.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: The figures for the year as a whole are very satisfactory from the standpoint of those who wish to see an increase in the population of this country by means of immigration. The total number of persons entering Canada in the year 1947 as immigrants was 64,127. For the calendar year just finished, 1948, the total number who came as immigrants was 125,414. In other words almost exactly twice as many persons came to Canada during 1948 as came in 1947.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Does that include the D.P. persons, as well as ordinary immigrants?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Yes, that includes everybody that came to Canada as immigrants. I have a breakdown by nationality for both years, if anyone is interested in having that information.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: I suggest you let us have it.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Would you like to hear it all?

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Not in too much detail.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Put it on the record.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: These are round figures. The number of English persons who came here rose from 27,000 in 1947 to 30,000 in 1948. The number of Irish persons rose from 2,900 to 4,100; Scottish, from 7,500 to 10,700; and Welsh, from 900—it is practically the same. In other words, the total from the British Isles in 1947 as compared to 1948 rose from 38,700 to 46,100. The immigrants from the United States declined from 9,400 to 7,300. Of Northern European peoples the number was not great because, as you know, it is against the general policy of those countries concerned to facilitate emigration. The only considerable movement was from Holland, where the number rose from 3,100 to 10,100. The general movement from Northern European countries went up from 5,400 to 16,900.

From other countries the more important figures are: Czechs rose from 170 in 1947 to 970 in 1948; Estonians from 280 to 1,900; Hebrews from 1,800 to 9,300; Italians 139 to 3,200; Jugoslavs from 56 to 1,500; Lettish from 450 to 3,000; Lithuanians from 1,200 to 4,300; Maltese from 16 to 715; Poles 2,600 to 14,000; Russians from 234 to 1,400; Ruthenians from 2,000 to 10,100; Serbians from 54 to 880. The totals for other races, that is other than those from the British Isles, United States or Northern Europe, rose from 10,500 to 55,000.

It may be of interest to the members of the committee to note that the percentage of increase was much higher at the beginning of the year than at the end. The first four months averaged about 200 per cent, then it steadily went down after the middle of the year until, in November, it was 46 per cent, and in December 33 per cent; in other words, the ratio of increase was tapering off toward the end of the year.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: How do you account for that?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Very largely because of the decrease in the movement of D.P.'s at that time.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: May I ask a question which you may not feel free to answer, Dr. Keenleyside, because it affects government policy. Are any arrangements being made to make the policy with respect to D.P.'s continuous or is the policy going to terminate when the present contracts terminate?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: I think I can answer it in this way, Mr. Senator. The government policy has not changed; that is to say, the D.P.'s who come in undertake, by contract, to work for one year at jobs that are assigned to them.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: There is no cessation of that policy?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: No. I might perhaps add a word about the way in which it is working out. Our understanding is that approximately 70 per cent of those who took on jobs for a year will in fact stay on into the second year.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: That, of course, involves the Department of Labour more than your department.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Exactly.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Have you any idea as to the percentage of those whose contracts have expired which have been absorbed in other employment apart from domestic work, or other contracts they entered into when they came here? Could you make an estimate of that without being too definite?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: I am speaking from memory and I am not sure that I have had any accurate estimate made at any time. My impression is that about 30 per cent have been absorbed at the end of the first year.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Where? Mostly on farms?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: No, I would say the biggest movement was away from domestic services and the lumber industry.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: May I ask what percentage of those who signed the contracts have lived up to them and what percentage have abandoned their jobs before the contracts expired?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: I am afraid I cannot give you any accurate statement on that. I think that again is a matter in which the Department of Labour is immediately responsible.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: I think I could answer that question to some extent. Quite a few have improved their positions with the consent of the Department of Labour, and left the contract they had entered into in the domestic establishments to go to better-paid jobs. I know that to be true.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: I know of quite a few who have moved away that did not give up their contract with the consent of the Department or of their employer. What penalty is there for those who left without the consent of the authorities?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: No formal penalty, because—and the lawyers here will correct me if I am wrong—there are no sanctions applied to the contract; it is just an agreement and is not a contract enforceable in law.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: That is mostly under the Department of Labour.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Yes, almost entirely under the Department of Labour.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: We would have to have the Deputy Minister of Labour to give us that information.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: If the members of the committee are interested in the destination of the immigrants in Canada, these figures apply to all immigrants whether D.P.'s or otherwise.

Nova Scotia	2,800
New Brunswick	1,400
Prince Edward Island	270
Quebec	24,700
Ontario	61,600
Manitoba	7,700
Saskatchewan	5,000
Alberta	9,700
British Columbia	11,900
Yukon Territory	64
Northwest Territory	14

If we may turn directly to the movement of D.P.'s there are certain general figures which I think will be of interest. In the first place, the total number of D.P.'s who have come into Canada since the movement started, that is from April, 1947 to February, 1949, was 60,432. The division of D.P.'s into national groups shows that the Polish was much the largest, 13,700; Ukrainians and Ruthenians second, 12,900; the Jewish group third, 8,000; the Lithuanian fourth, 6,000; and then Dutch. German and Latvian, all very much the same, around thirty-five to thirty-seven hundred.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: How many Dutch came in?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: There were 3,549 Dutch.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: How did they arrive? Where did they come from?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: They are of Dutch origin, although it goes back a good many generations. They are largely members of the Mennonite faith who went into Russia from Holland a long time ago.

The CHAIRMAN: There are the Volksdeutsch—the Germans.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: They are of German origin, yes. Not German nationals, of course.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: A substantial number of Dutch people to whom you referred a few moments ago would be non-D.P.'s.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Yes. That is a special farm settlement movement which has been worked out by the Immigration Branch and representatives of the Dutch Government. These are people who were dispossessed during the war because of the steps that were taken to flood Holland, and other activities of that kind, which resulted in a considerable number of the farming population in Holland being without suitable land.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Wholly farmers?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Wholly farmers, yes, coming in here not as farm labourers but as prospective settlers. Most of them have money at home, of which they can only bring in a small amount each year, but the arrangement is that they come out here on nomination by the Dutch Government and take up residence with a Canadian farmer and remain with him for a year, the whole family together. At the end of that time it is assumed that with what money they have brought with them, plus what they have been able to earn, they are able to start on their own. A surprisingly large number are making a success of it. In many ways we look upon this as one of the most satisfactory movements of immigrants into Canada at the present time. We are hoping in the present year the total number that will come in will be around 12,000.

Hon. Mr. Fogo: Of the Baltic State group, Esthonia, Latvia and Lithuania, a lot are in Sweden?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: There are 25,000 Esthonians and about 1,200 Latvians in Sweden, and we have made arrangements to provide facilities in the Canadian Legation in Stockholm so that members of those groups who wish to come to Canada can go there and find out the conditions on which they can enter; and there is a small movement starting under those auspices at the present time. There have, of course, been a number of groups come in on their own by means of taking little ships and sailing across the North Atlantic and appearing in Canadian ports. There have been altogether, I think, six of these little vessels that have arrived; and after screening and as careful a check as we can make, they have been admitted on orders in council by the Government.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: What about Norwegians and Danes?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: They can come only in very small numbers, because their governments do not want them to come; and in any event conditions are reasonably good in both those countries at the present time.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: What about Roumanians?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: It is very difficult for them to come, because they cannot get out of their own country. That is one of the problems faced by the whole immigration movement at the present time. In the pre-war days and in the big days of immigration in the late twenties a large number of immigrants came from Central and Eastern Europe. Now they are all on the wrong side of the Iron Curtain and cannot get out except in special cases.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: Would they be acceptable if they could get out?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: They are not acceptable except in the category of those coming to assured employment in lumbering, in mining and in agriculture.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: What about professional men?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: They are not admissible.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: Like doctors?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: No.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Are there many Czechoslovakians applying to come?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Yes, there is quite an active movement of Czechs recently, because of the number who came out of that country when it was brought into the Soviet regime. We have made special arrangements in the D.P. and refugee camps in Germany generally for these people, and they are coming in at a fairly good rate.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: They are doing very well in Manitoba,—very well indeed. They started coming out in 1927, and quite a few came out before the war, and they are helping very much with their own people who come out now. I think of all the people who come to us, except the Dutch, they co-operate with our own people the best of anybody.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: In answer to the question about Roumanians: 534 came in in 1948, and I think 516 were D.P.s. So you will see that there are only eighteen who came in on their own, as ordinary Roumanian immigrants.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: You still have a movement of Yugoslav D.P.s. What about the movement of Yugoslavs from Canada back?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: I am sorry: we deal only with immigration, not emigration. I don't know anything more about them than I have read in the newspapers. Possibly the members of the committee would be interested in the distribution by occupation of D.P.s who came in. The largest number is that of the domestics,—this is leaving out the relatives of persons who are resident in Canada: in that category there have been nearly 30,000, actually 29,836.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: That is, of relatives?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Close relatives within the admissible categories of relatives. But following that, we have domestics, 7,800, woodworkers, 3,500, farmers 3,000, garment workers and their dependents 4,100, miners 2,900, railway workers 1,900, hydro workers 1,900; and so on down into much smaller groups.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Are any of these people who came in engaged in the fishing industry in Canada.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: No, sir, I do not think there have been any going into the fishing industry at all, except an odd one or two from the group that came over by sea on their own, among the Estonians. Some of them were engaged in fishing in Sweden, and I believe a few of them have gone into it in Nova Scotia, but not very many.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: How about the return of Orientals who went back to their homes, but who have come back to Canada?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: The total number of Chinese who came in during the year was 74. The total number of East Indians who came in was 67. The total number of Japanese was 5. I think perhaps that covers all.

I have, Madam Chairman, a graph here showing a little more dramatically, perhaps, some of the figures. The first chart shows the arrival of D.P.'s. The purple colouring shows those who came in in labour groups; the pink, those who came in as close relatives of persons in Canada, and the little green cap on top represents orphans brought in on a special movement. Over here we have the situation in regard to the relatives. As you know, there has been in the past a great deal of concern expressed by the relatives in Canada because of the delay in getting their relatives to join them from the D.P. camps. The blue core shows the number who have actually been admitted. The green shows the number of applications that have been received. As you will see, the number who have actually arrived has been going up rapidly. The excess of those who applied for over those approved stayed approximately the same, but during the last year there has been a great increase in the number of relatives who have come in. This figure shows the different racial groups. Those are the Poles, Ukrainians, Hebrews, Lithuanians, Dutch, Latvians, Estonians and Russians.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: What about Finland?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: The number is very small because Finland is not an easy place to get out of. It was exactly 200 in the last year.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: What occupation did the Hebrews you have mentioned go into?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Very largely into the garment working industry and the fur industry as fur workers.

Hon. Mr. FOGO: You mentioned the Russians.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: They are persons of Russian origin. In some cases they may have got into other national groups. They might be labelled as Poles, for instance.

Hon. Mr. FOGO: That is not an indication of their place of departure as far as we are concerned?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Not necessarily. They all came from displaced persons camps or from similar spots.

Hon. Mr. ASELTINE: How do you check to find out whether these people are communists before they come into this country?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: That is a question which I am afraid I shall have to ask you to put to Commissioner Wood. We send teams into D.P. camps. These teams consist of an immigration officer in charge. Then there is a security officer who is of course a member of, or a person selected by, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. There is a health officer who is appointed by the Department of National Health and Welfare. In cases where particular labour groups are being screened or processed, an officer from the Department of Labour joins the team. The actual technique employed in the screening for security is something I know very little about.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Are you able to give the figures of how many ladies and how many gentlemen are among the immigrants?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Among the D.P.'s?

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: No, the whole thing.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: The total number of males in the year was 52,900 and the total number of females was 45,100. Those are adults. Then there were 27,000 children. I have not got them broken down into sexes. I have here a summary of the steps that are being taken to assist D.P.'s in becoming integrated into the communities in Canada.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Before you get to that. There has been some agitation that people from France and Belgium, if possible, should be able to come to this country. What has been done to get people from these two countries to Canada?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: I should perhaps answer the question this way: During the last year the government has increased the category of specially favoured immigrants to include as well as British subjects from the British Isles and the Dominions and United States citizens, citizens of France who were born in France. In other words they have removed the barriers against persons in that category.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Thank you. Then, those people can come here just like the British or Americans can?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: They can come on exactly the same terms as people from the United States or the United Kingdom.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Thank you.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: That only applies to France and not to Belgium. It should be noted that the French government is opposed to the emigration of their people; they have got to get permits before they can leave.

The CHAIRMAN: Would honourable senators like to hear the steps being taken to integrate the people in the communities of Canada?

Some Hon. SENATORS: Yes.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: The government fully recognizes the importance of this matter. They also recognize, however, that education is a provincial responsibility, and that the provinces share with the Dominion the benefits resulting from increased population. Anything that the federal government does, therefore, must and should be conditioned by a recognition of these two facts.

In the case of the displaced persons who are brought to Canada in group movements, the Canadian government and the International Refugee Organization both assist in preparing the immigrant for his new life in Canada prior to his arrival in this country. In the assembly centres on the continent and on the ships coming across the ocean, moving pictures of Canada are shown, and talks on Canadian conditions are given by officials in charge of the movement and members of the staff of the vessels employed.

The Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources has had prepared a small book, of which copies have been distributed to all members of Parliament, entitled "This is Canada!" This book, which is being printed in French, Dutch, German, Ukrainian and Polish, as well as in English, is to be given to the D.P. immigrant before he leaves the other side in order that he may have an opportunity to study it on the way across. I might add that copies of that book are also given to all other immigrants when they arrive at the port of entry on this side. It is given to the displaced persons before they arrive here so that they can study it but the other people, most of whom are coming in on their own, do not receive the books until they arrive. In respect to those coming in from the United States, there are too many ports of entry to make it practical to distribute books to them. I think the members of the committee who have read this book will agree that the officers of the department and the Canadian Association for Adult Education, which was largely responsible for the text, have done an excellent job in presenting in simple form the salient material required for the understanding of the conditions which the immigrant will meet on arrival in Canada.

Following the arrival in Canada of immigrants from the displaced persons camps in Europe, they are taken to the localities in which employment has been arranged for them. Similarly, the Dutch immigrants who are coming in under the Farm Settlement Scheme, arranged by the department in co-operation with the Netherlands government, are directed to the farms on which arrangements have been made for their reception. At this point, these immigrants and, of course, all those who come in on their own, become primarily the responsibility of the provincial rather than the federal authorities. However, through the work of the Settlement Service of the Immigration Branch, the National Employment Service of the Department of Labour, and the Citizenship Branch of the Secretary of State's office, the federal government continues its interest in the new arrivals. Mention should also be made of the assistance that is given to them by the Department of National Health and Welfare. Free medical aid is extended at the port of arrival and during the trip to the ultimate destinations. Then, certain categories of immigrants come under a co-operative arrangement between the federal government and certain of the provinces by which Ottawa pays part of the hospitalization and health service costs during the first six months of the immigrant's life in Canada.

Mention should also be made of the assistance extended to the New Canadians by welfare organizations throughout the country. This has been particularly evident in the work that has been done by the Red Cross in providing comforts and assistance at the port of arrival and at the various stations throughout Canada, and by the W.C.Y.A., the Catholic Women's League and other private bodies in the organizing of various forms of assistance for the newcomers.

I have said that the Federal Government recognizes that the education of the immigrants is, as is the case with education generally, primarily a provincial responsibility. It is also recognized, however, that there are special problems relating to the adjustment of immigrants into Canadian life and the preparation for citizenship. To assist in meeting these problems, the Federal Government has prepared through the Citizenship Branch of the Secretary of State's office, a collection of educational materials dealing with such matters as Basic English, Canadian Government, the acquisition of citizenship, and so on, which are made available on request to the educational authorities of the various provinces for use in their work with New Canadians. Almost without exception the provinces have taken advantage of this offer, and very wide use is being made of the material thus supplied.

In certain parts of the country special plans have been initiated for training teachers in citizenship classes, so that they will be competent to handle the immigrant problem. In addition, a recommendation has been made that the government appoint a small number of officers, responsible to the Citizenship Branch, to act as a direct channel of communication between the provincial authorities, private organizations and the Federal Government in connection with the problem of the newly-arrived immigrants. It is hoped that these Citizenship Officers may perform a useful service in seeing that there is no overlapping in the functions of the respective organizations, and that there are no gaps left unfilled. Working in a consultative and liaison capacity, they should be able to do much in the way of co-ordinating the efforts of the different bodies engaged in this field.

There are, of course, a considerable number of supplementary activities that have a bearing on the welfare of the immigrants. Films have been distributed by the National Film Board for use among immigrant groups, and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation recently put on a series of dramatizations designed to familiarize our people with some of the problems faced by New Canadians. I understand that consideration is being given to a reduction in the period of residence required before immigrants become eligible for family allowances.

All aspects of the problem of assimilating immigrants are kept under constant review by an Advisory Committee on Citizenship made up of representatives of the Immigration Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare, the Department of Labour, the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Citizenship Branch which meets under the chairmanship of the Under Secretary of State. Representatives of the Canadian Council on Citizenship (General Crerar), the Canadian Welfare Council (Mr. Reginald Davis), and the Canadian Educational Association (Dr. Althouse), attend meetings of the committee in an advisory and consultative capacity.

Madam Chairman, it is not contended that all the problems relating to the settlement of immigrants in Canada have been satisfactorily solved. It is felt, however, that through the agencies that I have mentioned the matter is under reasonably effective control, and that a reasonably successful effort is being made to enable the immigrants to achieve their desire to become good Canadians.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: What arrangements are being made for providing educational courses for D.P.'s? In Vancouver ten days ago I was informed that there is no provision whatever along this line out there.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Classes have been started in Vancouver within the last two months. The figures given for the whole country show that the percentage of D.P.'s who are taking classes in English or other subjects at the present time is around thirty-seven or thirty-eight, and it is rising rather rapidly. One

gratifying feature is that over half of the D.P.'s who go through a class one year in English or some related subject come back a second year for another course.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: Dr. Keenleyside, you said there was a decline in the movement in the latter months of 1948?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Yes, sir.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: What is the outlook for 1949?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: I do not know that I can answer that with assurance. Summaries prepared by Mr. Skelton's research branch in the Department of Trade and Commerce would seem to indicate that this also will be a year of pretty nearly full employment, and one would assume that so long as that condition exists in the country the capacity for absorbing immigrants will remain very high. If I had to make a guess I would say that the number of immigrants who will come in this year will be perhaps a little higher than the number last year, but I should like to have a chance to revise that estimate in six months' time.

The CHAIRMAN: One of the difficulties in the past was that four or five government departments were dealing with the same people, and it is good to know that there is now a co-ordinating committee of the various departments concerned. There is, as we know, still a big backlog of people in the D.P. camps. I feel particularly concerned about the women there who have one or two children and no opportunities at all.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: The older people and the professional people are suffering the worst, I think.

The CHAIRMAN: The young widows with one or two children are also suffering. I wish we could make some provision for them, but perhaps it will have to be left to private societies to take care of them.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: A few women with one child each have been provided for in domestic employment, but the number is not large.

Hon. Mr. Turgeon: That is limited to women with one child, is it?

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: At present, yes.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Senator Turgeon, will you pardon me for interrupting here to ask about a point that bothers me, and that is the pay that these people get.

Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: The Department of Labour draws up a contract, which stipulates that the individual concerned will get a certain sum, and that sum is supposed to represent the going wage in the industry or occupation in the district where the individual is employed.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Of course that does not prevent the individual from getting more than the ordinary contractual wage. That runs from \$35 to \$40 a month, and many of these girls are getting \$50 a month at least.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: I have no objection to that. What I am worrying about is the payment of \$25 to some of them.

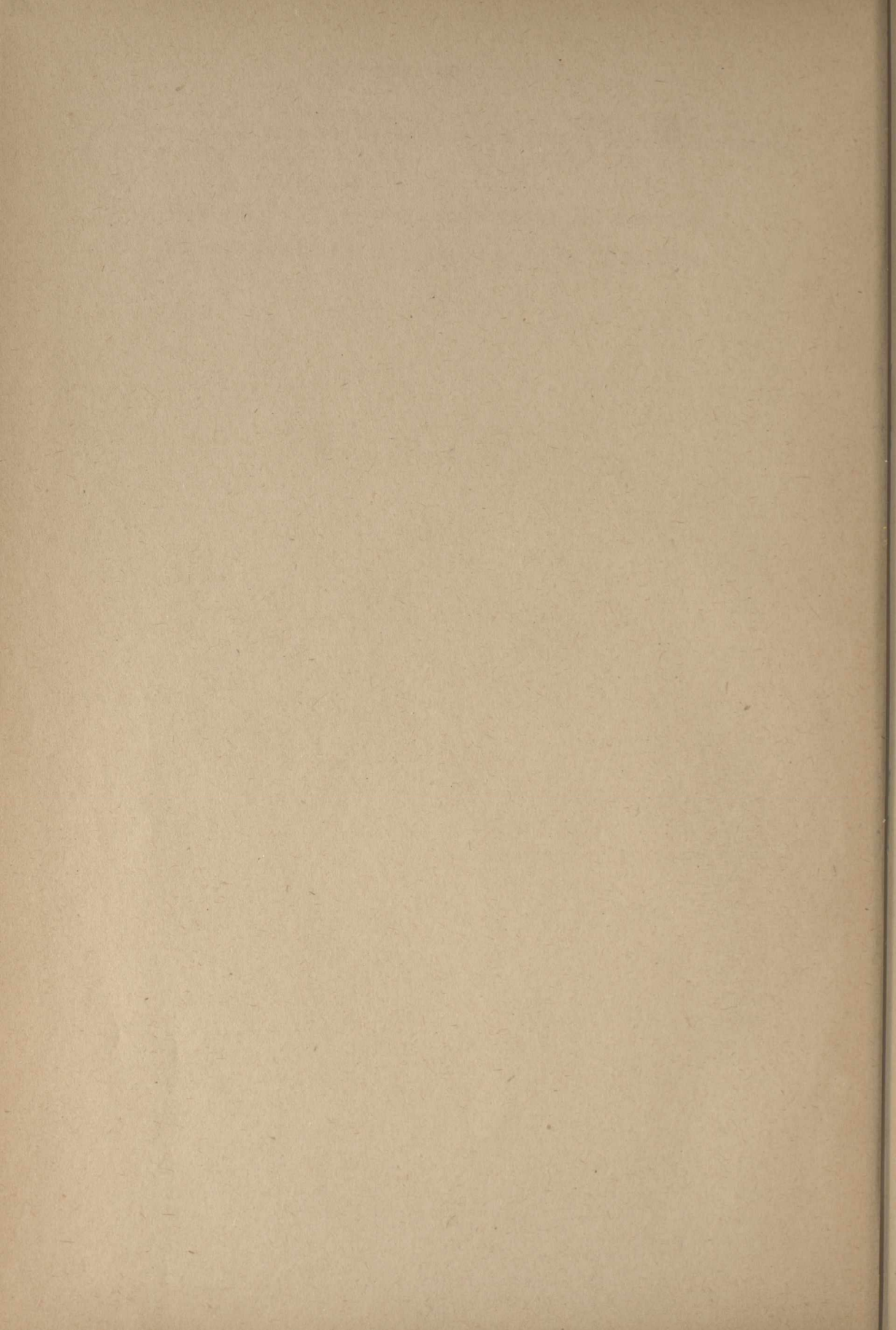
Dr. KEENLEYSIDE: Some of the girls have not been successful, and there have been instances where the employers have not been satisfactory. The Department of Labour endeavours to straighten out the situation wherever necessary.

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE: Madam Chairman, I should like, if I may, to extend the thanks of the committee to Dr. Keenleyside for his most informative and helpful presentation to us.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Hear, hear.

The CHAIRMAN: We are all very grateful to you, Dr. Keenleyside.

The committee then adjourned, to resume at the call of the Chair.



1949

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THE SENATE OF CANADA



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

Immigration and Labour

On the operation and administration of the
Immigration Act, etc.

No. 2

TUESDAY, 22nd MARCH, 1949

The Honourable Cairine R. Wilson, Chairman.

WITNESS

Honourable Humphrey Mitchell, P.C., M.P., Minister of Labour.

APPENDICES

- "A". Circular letter from Minister of Labour to Canadian Farmers.
- "B". Circular letter from Deputy Minister of Labour to Employment Office Managers.
- "C". Copies of letters of appreciation from employers of immigrants and from employed immigrants.

OTTAWA
EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., B.A., L.Ph.,
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY
CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY

1949

STANDING COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR

The Honourable CAIRINE R. WILSON, Chairman

The Honourable Senators

Aseltine	Dupuis	Murdock
Blais	Euler	Pirie
Bouchard	Ferland	Robertson
Bourque	Fogo	Roebuck
Buchanan	Haig	Taylor
Burchill	Hardy	Turgeon
Calder	Horner	Vaillancourt
Campbell	Hushion	Veniot
Crerar	Lesage	Wilson
David	Mackenzie	
Davis	McIntyre	

ORDER OF REFERENCE

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate, Thursday, February 10, 1949.

“That the Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour be authorized and directed to examine into the Immigration Act (R.S.C. Chapter 93 and amendments) its operation and administration and the circumstances and conditions relating thereto including:—

- (a) the desirability of admitting immigrants to Canada.
- (b) the type of immigrant which should be preferred, including origin, training and other characteristics.
- (c) the availability of such immigrants for admission.
- (d) the facilities, resources and capacity of Canada to absorb, employ and maintain such immigrants, and
- (e) the appropriate terms and conditions of such admission;

And that the said committee report its findings to this house;

And that the said committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.”

L. C. MOYER,
Clerk of the Senate.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, 22nd March, 1949.

Pursuant to adjournment and notice the Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour met this day at 10.30 a.m.

Present: The Honourable Senators: Wilson—Chairman, Blais, Buchanan, Burchill, Campbell, Crerar, Davis, Fogo, McIntyre, Pirie, Roebuck, Turgeon, Vaillancourt and Veniot—14.

The committee resumed consideration of the Order of Reference of 18th February, 1949, directing the committee to examine into the operation and administration of the Immigration Act, etc.

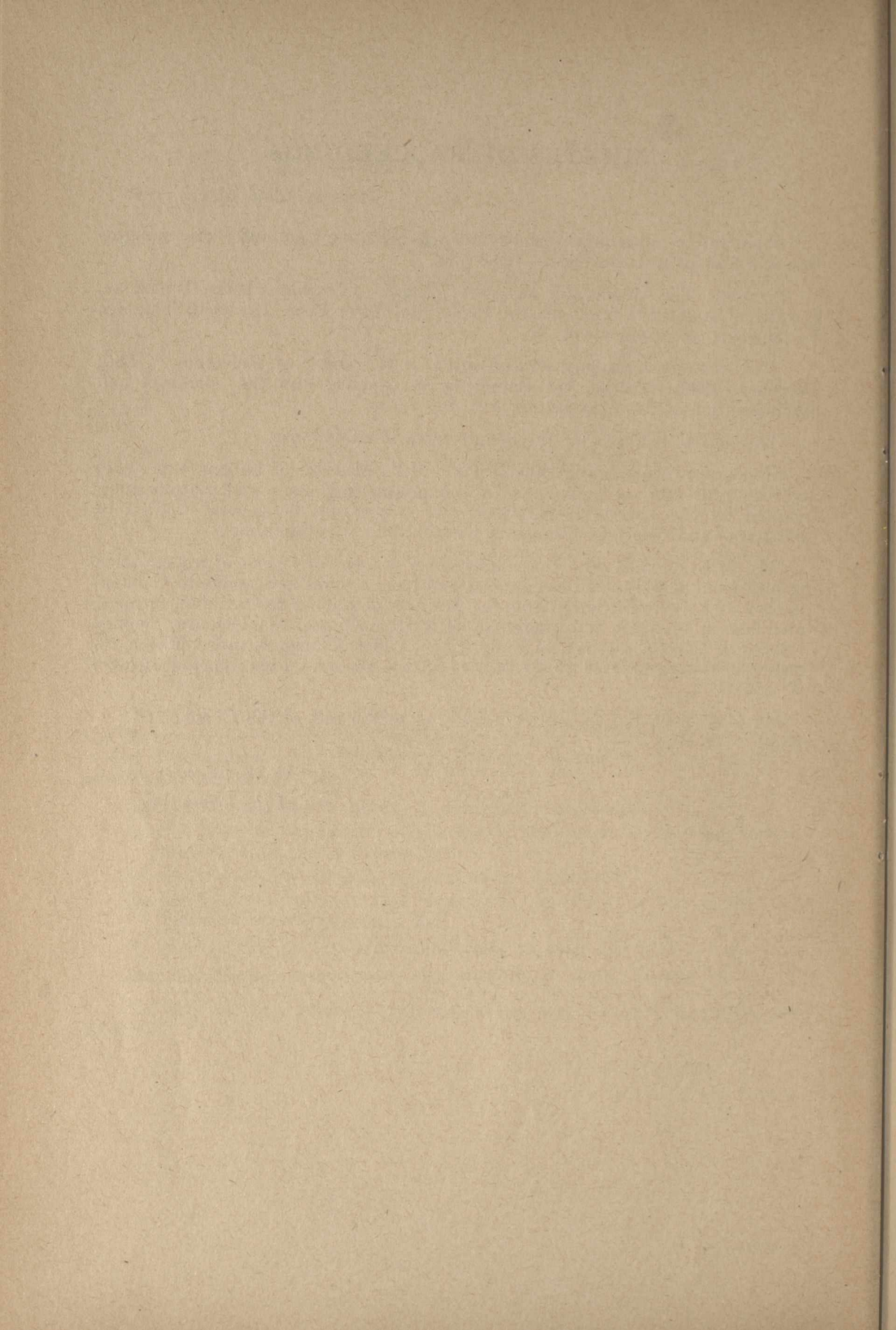
The official reporters of the Senate were in attendance.

Honourable Humphrey Mitchell, P.C., M.P., Minister of Labour, was heard and read a brief on the employment of immigrants in Canada and the procedure followed by the Labour Department with respect to the general welfare of immigrants and displaced persons in Canada, and was questioned.

Mr. Mitchell filed with the committee a number of letters of appreciation received from employers of immigrants and from several newcomers to Canada, together with a circular letter from the Minister of Labour to Canadian farmers, dated March 14, 1949, and a circular letter from Mr. A. MacNamara, Deputy Minister of Labour, directed to Employment Office Managers, dated March 18, 1949, which were ordered to be printed in the record. (See appendices "A", "B" and "C").

At 11.35 a.m., the committee adjourned to the call of the Chairman.
Attest.

H. ARMSTRONG,
Clerk of the Committee.



MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

THE SENATE

OTTAWA, Tuesday, March 22, 1949.

The Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour, which was authorized and directed to examine into the Immigration Act, met this day at 10.30 a.m.

Hon. Mrs. WILSON in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN: Honourable senators, it is very gratifying to have the Minister of Labour with us today. We have a quorum, and as the Minister is a busy man we shall proceed without delay.

Hon. HUMPHREY MITCHELL: Madam Chairman, in order to expedite the matter, I propose to read a short brief, which will give the general outline of the policy, and then any members who wish may ask questions.

The responsibility for the placement in employment of all immigrants is that of the Labour Department. In the case of Displaced Persons, they are specially selected by representatives of the Department in Europe to fill applications filed by employers under the group movement plan.

Displaced Persons are admissible as such under the terms of Orders in Council but special arrangements have been made for the admission of groups who are selected according to occupation.

I think that this is a very practical way of bringing in Displaced Persons. It really is the creation of what may be described as an International Employment Service.

The procedure followed in the group movement of Displaced Persons is briefly this. An Interdepartmental Immigration-Labour Committee has been established, consisting of representatives of the Department of Labour, the Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources, Department of National Health and Welfare, Department of External Affairs and the Citizenship Branch of the Secretary of State Department. The Deputy Minister of Labour is Chairman of the Committee. Employers who are unable to obtain suitable workers from within Canada file application with the Committee for Displaced Persons. The employers give a written undertaking that they will provide employment for a period of at least 12 months at prevailing wages and working conditions and also undertake to locate suitable housing. The Committee screens each application very carefully and investigations are carried out by the National Employment Service to make sure that workers are not available in Canada. When an application has been approved by the Committee full particulars are sent to the Canadian officers overseas who proceed with the selection and conduct of trade tests where skills are involved.

The Displaced Persons, when selected, sign an undertaking agreeing to accept the employment for which they were selected or such other employment as may be selected for them for a period of one year. On arrival in Canada the Displaced Persons are, in the case of industrial workers, usually sent direct to the employer. Officers of the Department of Labour meet the boats and arrange transportation and also arrange with the employers concerning the reception of the workers. Domestic workers and farm workers are, on arrival, usually sent to hostels operated by the Department of Labour from where they are assigned to individual employers or distribution points.

Since the commencement of group movements in the Summer of 1947 more than 27,000 workers have come to Canada from the displaced persons camps. Approximately 21,000 of these have arrived since I had the honour of appearing before this committee about a year ago.

Because of the nature of the employment in some instances and because of the shortage of housing generally, workers from the displaced persons camps usually come forward in advance of their dependents. Once the worker has become established, however, the dependents may come forward. Approximately 3,000 dependents have been able to accompany the head of the family and at this date an additional 3,000 dependents have been able to join the head of the family. We arrange sailings so that workers arrive at the season when they are most needed. During the winter months when the demand for workers is not so great the larger proportion of shipping facilities is used for the transportation of the dependents of workers and close relatives of other residents of Canada.

I would like to submit for the information of the Committee a statement showing the various groups of workers approved for admission by the Interdepartmental Immigration-Labour Committee. This statement also shows the numbers who have arrived in the various occupational classifications and indicates the numbers still to come forward as against the applications or quotas approved by the Interdepartmental Committee.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: What are the largest numbers, in the chief trades?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Woods workers, 3,400; clothing workers, 2,500; domestic workers, 9,700; labourers, 3,000; building construction workers 1,000; hydro construction workers, 2,500. I might add that if it had not been for these D.P.'s I don't know what could have been done about building this place up from the Ottawa river here; the largest percentage of people on this work are D.P.'s. Another large group is that of metal miners, 3,700.

IMMIGRATION-LABOUR COMMITTEE

GROUP MOVEMENTS

	Tentative quotas	covered by appli- cations)	Numbers who have arrived	Balance to come
<i>Displaced Persons</i>				
Woods workers	3,473		3,473	
Clothing workers	2,507	(2,507)	2,124 ¹	383
Fur workers	500	(496)	410 ¹	90
Millinery workers	200	.....	.....	200
Jewellery workers	15	(15)	.....	15
Ceramic workers	6	(6)	.....	6
Domestic workers				
[Urban	9,700 ²	.....	6,787	2,913
[Rural	1,500	.....	942	558
[300 married couples	600	.....	496	104
Heavy labourers	3,065 ³	(3,065)	2,415 ⁴	650
Highway Paving Co. Ltd.	10	(10)	.....	10
Heavy labourers (pool)	648	(648)	648	.....
Building construction workers	1,000	(210)	178	822
Ornamental iron workers	15	(11)	.....	15
Hydro construction workers	2,500	(2,500)	1,996	504
Furniture workers	94	(64)	55	39
Agricultural workers (male)	4,000 ⁵	.....	2,820	1,180
[200 married couples	400	.....	356	44
[Male beet workers	250	.....	.....	250
[375 beet families (approx.)	1,500	.....	429	1,071
[100 farm families (approx.)	400	.....	3	397
Special groups (farmers)	1,650 ⁷	.....	.....	1,650
Metal miners	3,700	(3,700)	2,965	735
Textile workers (primary)	373	(371)	315	58
Boot and shoe workers	103	(103)	98	5
Community workers	400 ^F	(40)	53	22 ^F
Nurses (hospital aides)	275	.....	44	231
Nurses (with one child)	25	.....	1	24
Czechoslovaks (special)	1,000	(109) ⁶	58	942
Estonian D.P.'s in Sweden	5,000	(384)	597	4,403
Professional and technical workers	10	.....	.....	10
Family groups	50	(48) (13 ^F)	76	30 ^F
	44,609		27,339	17,361

IMMIGRATION-LABOUR COMMITTEE—*Con.*

GROUP MOVEMENTS

	Tentative quotas	(covered by appli- cations)	Numbers who have arrived	Balance to come
<i>Italians</i>				
Terrazzo workers	120	....	70	50
Stonemasons, bricklayers and plasterers.	200	....	....	200
<i>Maltese</i>				
Construction workers	750	....	458	292
			27,867	17,903

¹These workers were accompanied by 2,519 dependents.

²Includes 200 mothers with children.

³Made up of 193 for steel mills, 140 for foundries, 2,690 for railway track maintenance work, 1 for production of sodium products and 32 for manufacturing.

⁴Made up of 2,049 for railway track maintenance work, 193 for steel mills, 140 for foundries and 32 for manufacturing, 1 natural sodium.

⁵1,000 authorized November 2, 1948, may include some family groups.

⁶In addition admission of 425 nominated individuals has been approved.

⁷Sponsored by Catholic Immigrant Aid Society, Canadian Lutheran World Relief, Canadian Mennonite Board of Colonization, and German Baptist Immigration and Colonization Society. March 10, 1949.

The question of how rapidly we can safely allow the flow of immigrants during 1949 is, of course, dependent on our absorptive capacity.

In attempting to measure the absorptive capacity consideration must be given to the probable demands for workers.

1948 was a record year in employment. During the fall months, the total employed on a remunerative basis exceeded 5,000,000 which was an all-time high.

For the year as a whole, unemployment held at the exceedingly low level of 2 per cent of the labour force.

I would like to point out, in connection with the figures relating to this country, or any other country, there is always a turnover of labour. Sometimes a false impression is derived from the figures. Take, for instance, the building trades, where men are moving from one job to the other: they register at the Employment Service, and their names go down there; this applies also to bush work, in which there is quite a turnover of labour, and to many other avocations in the country. The picture you get from the record is not always a true one, because the figures supplied today are dead in twenty-four hours' time, quite often. There is nothing stable about it.

This remarkable result was attained despite two factors which, of course, reduced the demand for workers. They were a normal crop only, creating less demand for agricultural labour, and a definite drop of forest activity both in lumbering and logging and in pulpwood production.

The gross national product at market prices in 1948 approximated \$15.4 billion exceeding that of the preceding year by about 15 per cent. At least three-quarters of this rise resulted from higher prices. The other 25 per cent, or nearly four billion dollars worth of production created more opportunities for workers than in the previous year.

The year 1948 ended with activity at a new peak and inflationary pressure moderating. Supply catching up with demands.

Now what of the year 1949?

I am convinced that we will maintain the 1948 level and, in some directions, exceed it. I say that, notwithstanding calamity howlers to the contrary. It seems to me that some people get a Satanic delight out of misery, particularly in politics. I do not think you can lick a problem by taking a negative position. I recall that some of our experts were predicting, after the fall of Japan, there would be 8,000,000 people out of work in the United States and 600,000 in this country. I said "I don't believe it. We are going to have a boom". I was

told, "Here are the figures, Mr. Minister". I said, "Still I don't believe you"; and I think the position was justified. I am convinced that conditions this year are going to be just as good as they were last year.

For example, our demands for farm labour persist. There will probably be a much greater demand for forest labour. There certainly will be a great demand for men to construct power projects. There seems to be an unending demand for domestics.

I may be over optimistic but I am *high on Canada's great future*, and I believe we need more population; therefore, I hope to see the 1948 rate of immigration continued.

Nevertheless, I do see a need to keep our position fluid—a need to keep ourselves in a position to shut off the inflow on short notice, and the Labour Department policy is to be sure of at least one full year ahead for new arrivals; to know what work we can put them at before bringing them in, and to be sure that we will not displace Canadians.

When the displaced persons have completed one year's employment as agreed to, they are provided with a certificate which bears a facsimile of my signature and the signature of the deputy minister. This certificate they can carry with them showing that they have fulfilled their undertaking and are free to accept such employment as they may wish. The displaced persons, we find, prize these certificates very highly and wherever possible a ceremony is held at the time of their presentation. In many instances the mayor or some other prominent citizen has made the presentation. At this time approximately 7,000 workers have completed their first year of employment.

I am happy to report that good progress is being made in the matter of teaching our new arrivals English and Canadian ways. There has been a great willingness on the part of provincial governments; school boards; The Catholic Women's League; the Young Women's Christian Association; and many other organizations, to give assistance and it is really something to make one proud of our fellow Canadians to experience this wholehearted support.

There is no doubt that the productivity in the industrial and agricultural fields have been greatly assisted by the new population.

Honourable members of the Senate will be interested in a letter which I have just circularized to 650,000 farmers and a letter of instruction to our National Employment Offices. Copies are attached.

Letters of appreciation have been received from many sources and samples of same are attached.

(See appendix to this report)

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: Have you the figures available of the total immigrants from other countries other than D.P.'s?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: I have them with me, but the total last year was approximately 125,000 from all countries.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Including D.P.'s?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Including D.P.'s.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: How many out of that 125,000 were D.P.'s?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: 27,000. I should like to point out that this is a group movement and a government responsibility. Providing a person can pass the health test and conform to other necessary requirements he can come from Great Britain irrespective of his trade or calling. The movement into Canada is free from Great Britain, France, the United States, and from the other parts of the British Commonwealth excepting Asiatic countries.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Mr. Minister, we have made such a success of the bringing in of relatives—do not misunderstand me; I am thoroughly behind your employment methods, which I think are wonderful—we have made such a success of bringing in near relatives of Canadian citizens who apply and guarantee

their support that I would like to know whether you do not think we have reached the time when we could extend the system and allow in more distant relatives, say cousins.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: When I returned from Europe last fall I said to my people, "Now go easy on the grownups but concentrate on the families." I am of the opinion that the best people you can bring into a country are families.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: There is more stability to a family. I was a member of a large family myself and probably I am prejudiced, but with a large family you get stability; you get a number of children and their father and mother, and that is the stuff that empires are built out of—I am not speaking in the narrow sense, you understand.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: From the economic point of view there is no real difference between a brother and a cousin of a relative here. I entirely agree with your commendation of families, and I would add one point to what you have said. If a family that is brought in here already has a family connection here, sufficiently interested to guarantee and help the new family after they arrive, that new family is a better prospect for the country than a selected family that has no such connection here. Could we not go a little further now and loosen up a bit in this matter of relatives, let in cousins as well as sons and daughters of applicants? What I mean is, should we not let in children of the brother or sister of an applicant? I know of a number of cases where brothers have come to this country. One brother has died. The living brother can bring in his generation but he cannot bring in the generation of the deceased brother. Now, is it necessary to make dividing lines as close as that?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: I do not know whether I have expressed this opinion to this committee before, but I believe sincerely that the good Lord never laid down the principle that you could sit on a continent with thirteen millions of people.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Agreed.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: And that goes for Australia also. That country has gone completely in reverse on its traditional attitude towards immigration. You cannot sit on a continent like Australia with seven million people, and say to the hundreds of millions of people just to the north "You can come just so far and no farther." Whether we like to admit it or not, the fact is that we would have lost the war if it had not been that, through ignorance or design, we filled up the North American continent. Some labour people will say that we filled up the continent in order to get cheap labour, and that may be called design. Call it what you like, I believe that if we had not filled up the North American continent, freedom as we understand it would have disappeared from the earth. I am convinced of that. We have to take chances on these things. The year that I came to Canada there were 325,000 immigrants to this country. I got off a train at Hamilton and went to work. I may have been lucky.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: What year was that?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: 1911. I have never taken a cent from anybody since I came to the country. I may have been fortunate.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: You have been, but there are many others in your class. Fortune and industry combined did the job.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Of course, times have changed since those days, but the principle is the same, I suppose. I said to my people: "When these simple souls come from Germany and Austria, remember it is important to see that their first impression of this country is a good one. These poor people have not had much to eat in Europe. Have some hostels ready and see that these people are given a good meal. Give them a steak, first of all, when they get here".

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: A sizzling steak.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: That kind of thing pays dividends; they never forget it. In my view a lot of silly things have been said about these people. They are a good cross-section of human beings, a little different in some respects from people born in this country, but they soon become a part of the life of the country and accept their responsibilities. Do not forget this—and Senator Roebuck knows this probably better than I do—there is in this country an organization which does not like to see these people come into Canada, for political reasons.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: That is so.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: The communist party are opposed to these people coming to Canada. They call them Fascists.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: They know too much.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: They know too much.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: Mr. Minister, why is it that the number of immigrants has been so small?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Largely because of lack of transportation.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: So if transportation facilities improve there should be an increase in the number of immigrants, from Europe particularly?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Yes.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: You have not had much transportation trouble this last year, have you?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Yes.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: How do you measure absorptive capacity?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: We have got our fingers pretty well on the capacity of the nation to absorb immigrants. In the last five or six years we have developed an employment service and we know pretty well what is going on in every section of the country. It is a simple thing now to know what is taking place in, say, Vancouver, or Edmonton or anywhere else; it is just a matter of picking up the telephone and making an inquiry.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: Is not the best test provided by whether or not people are being absorbed into industry?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Yes.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: You have to know whether or not they are being absorbed.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: They are being absorbed.

Hon. Mr. FOGO: But you can put a check on immigration at any time?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Yes, of course. You have to be sensible about the matter.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: Are we right in assuming that up to the present time the whole immigration system, as it affects displaced persons and others, has proven satisfactory?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: I would say so.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: There is no thought of making restrictions?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: No, sir. You know, as the old saying is, if a man bites a dog, that is a story. I went over to Europe on the *Aquitania* last year and on the ship there were some people going back to Great Britain who did not like Canada. Well, it is easy to write a story about a few people like that, but we do not hear much about the tens of thousands of people who stay here. The best answer you can get to anybody who says that a large number of people are returning is that there is no trouble to get a passage to Europe, but far from easy to get one from Europe to Canada. Just try it.

The CHAIRMAN: What is the reason why there have been so few Czech refugees?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: They have a curtain in that country and it is not a lace curtain, it is an iron curtain.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Suppose unemployment developed in Canada, slowly but steadily. That, I take it, would have a direct bearing on the number of people that we would bring in?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: I would think so. We have to be sensible about it. I think the best time in the year to come to Canada is April and May.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I have been a bit perplexed.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: I am perplexed every day in the week, senator, but I get over it somehow.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: We still have tremendous areas of undeveloped spaces. In my judgment, no country in the world has greater potential wealth and greater possibilities for development than Canada has, and I think this question of immigration, in its broader aspects, is one that we shall have to wrestle with and settle. I am firmly convinced that we cannot keep half a continent for the relatively few people that we have here now.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: Hear, hear.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Just take British Columbia as an instance. In Sweden, Norway and Finland there is pretty well the same area, but I should say there is probably not as much wealth in natural resources, yet 13 million people live there.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: And we have about a million in British Columbia.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Also I would say that the standard of living, in the broadest sense, over there compares favourably with our own. I am speaking now of normal conditions, not of conditions in wartime.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: We might not be able to maintain what we call a standard of living. I should like to have someone define for me what is a standard of living. I remember many years ago being in a little Highland glen in Scotland where a shepherd, an elderly individual in his sixties, was minding sheep. I would say that his father had lived in the same cottage in which he was living, and which was piled high with first-class books, including the family Bible. In this little three-room cottage everything was as clean as a new pin. Not so long before that I had been in quite a wealthy home in Canada, where there was a continuous search for excitement, and cocktails were more popular than good books. I wonder which of these homes had a higher standard of living.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: That is a matter of opinion.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: It is more than a matter of opinion.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Each was getting what he wanted.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Well, I do not want someone to come along and foist the latter upon me as a standard of living.

The CHAIRMAN: There has been some experiment with regard to bringing families to Canada. About how many have come in?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: I could not tell you; I have not the figures before me.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: Mr. Minister, in the brief which you read a few minutes ago you said that there was an agreement between the government and/or the Labour Department and the displaced persons.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: That is correct; it runs for a year. It is not an agreement, it is an undertaking.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: What happens if these people do not live up to that agreement?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: We have had very little difficulty in that way. If they do not get along with their employer—it may be their fault or the fault of their employer—we move them to somebody else.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: Do you not think that we should be a little more firm in enforcing the terms of that agreement, and educate these people that when they come here they must abide by the law?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: We have to be very careful there; it runs into the question of contract labour. For instance, I may work for you and you may not like me or I may not like you; then what is the use of my trying to live with you if you do not want to live with me? We see to it that these people do as they have undertaken to do for the first year. We sometimes move them to another employer.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: That is quite true, but I know of a number of cases personally where they have been living in domestic homes, and having received information from friends in other provinces recommending that they take advantage of greater opportunities elsewhere, and even though they are getting along nicely where they are, they just move out. There is nothing being done about it; these people are free lances; they go into another province and take on any sort of work they desire, and apparently nothing is done about it.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: I do not think that you will find that on a large scale, Mr. Senator.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: I know of a few cases.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: You see, there are some things we cannot do. For instance, you cannot stop people from getting married—some people like to do that, and you just cannot stop it. That is as old as history itself; if people did not get married there would be no Canada.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: Mr. Minister, you compared the Scandinavian countries with British Columbia. I do not know what study has been made in that respect. I came recently from Winnipeg to Ottawa, a distance of 1,300 miles, and 1,200 miles of that trip is rock. I do not know how that part of the country can be utilized, except perhaps to wait for mining projects. Not long ago, before the Sirois report, a presentation was made by Professor Waines of the University of Manitoba, who said agricultural employment and population of the prairie provinces was going to decrease, rather than increase, because of mechanization. Now a man with a tractor and a combine can do much more work than several men once could; this arrangement does not leave much room for the sons on the farm.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Of course, that too is as old as history itself. Every advance of that character has been fought by the human race. We can go back to the industrial revolution in Great Britain, and I think you will agree that everybody is better off with the development that has taken place. I do not take a negative attitude with respect to that progress at all. Two years ago I was down in the West Indies, and I asked the President of a Caribbean construction company, "What is your problem?" He said, "They are going to introduce steam shovels and drag lines for the purpose of building roads." I said, "What is wrong with that?" He said, "It will cause unemployment." I asked him, "How do you build your roads now?" and he replied, "By pick-axe, shovels and wheelbarrows." I said, "Why would it not be more sensible to dig them with knives, forks and spoons, if that is the answer to your problem?"

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: That is not exactly my point. No doubt the population of the prairie provinces has gone down. We cannot compare the area from here to Winnipeg with that great integrated agricultural district to the south of us, of northern New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, Nebraska and Wisconsin; our area is barren rock, and we cannot begin to compare it with the vast absorp-

tive capacity of the district I mention in the United States. We talk about under-population, but can this area between here and Winnipeg support another ten million people?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Have you ever been in Belgium?

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: Partly, but not on agricultural expeditions.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Well, take a look at Belgium and Holland.

The CHAIRMAN: And Norway, too, is very weak in agricultural resources.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: I only know what I see while flying over this country.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: As I see the problem in the west, the introduction of machinery makes it possible for a few men to cultivate well many more acres than were tilled in the past. The development there is toward more intensive farming, and in the cultivation of a larger acreage; the tendency is also towards better cultivation. The Minister has mentioned Belgium. I have been recently in Germany, and there saw small areas supporting thousands and thousands of people; relatively small patches of land were being farmed by a man and his family, and producing prodigious crops of good food.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: In the little town of Morden in Manitoba, immediately following the war, there were fifty or sixty young men in uniform who were unable to be placed back on the farms. Eventually they came down east, from this little town, and got work here. That is the immediate problem; I am not talking about the long-range problem.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: You are an older man than I, Mr. Senator, and no doubt know more about the problem; but I remember before the combines came along the western provinces used to advertise for men from Ontario, and 80,000 would go west to harvest the crop. But now you skim off the labour supply and it goes into making bathtubs and other things which farmers in those days did not use. The solution is that simple.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: Yes, but the people who make bathtubs do so in Port Hope and not in Morden, Manitoba.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: That is quite true; but these products have to be made on a competitive price or they will not sell when this honeymoon is over.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: What is the total number of people who left Canada last year and went to the United States?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: I do not know; I am not concerned with those figures.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: That information was given recently.

The CHAIRMAN: You will find it in our last report.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I think it is about 26,000 or 27,000.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: I believe it was 48,000. But we brought in 125,000?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Yes, 125,000.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: With 125,000 coming in and 50,000 going out, can we not do something about that question?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: I may be criticized for what I am about to say, but I believe the best people stay in the cold climate.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: That does not answer the problem. For instance, at this time last year representatives of clinics in the United States were on the campus of McGill University offering graduates in medicine \$1,000 a month to come to the United States. We may have a relatively cold climate, but I dislike very much seeing our investment in equipment and youth going to the United States.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: That cuts both ways, you know. For instance, in our industrial structure of North America we got all our skills from Europe, and got them for nothing. The Scotchmen were the best engineers in the world, and the Englishmen and the Germans had their special skills, all of which we got for

nothing. In the interchange of population that cannot be prevented. If I were a young fellow I would stay in Canada; but, as I say, we brought all our skills from the old country, and largely Great Britain. That education was paid for by the British taxpayer, and it came to us free. Even my friend Senator Crerar was educated in the highlands of Scotland, and we got his skill and ability for nothing.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: Mr. Minister, for my own information may I ask, how do you handle the foreign immigrant coming to Canada who is unable to speak English on his arrival?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: We have people who speak all languages.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: But when they are admitted they are immediately assigned to an occupation?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: The other day I presented some four or five hundred certificates to young people who had learned the English language in less than twelve months. We must not forget that the English-speaking people are lazy in respect of languages; it matters not where we go in the world, our attitude is "if you don't speak English, you don't talk to me". We are the only people on the earth with that attitude, and we may have to change. The people from the continent pick up our language much more quickly than we would pick up theirs; we just do not bother.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: There must be quite a number of cases of people entering Canada being assigned to farms in rural sections where no one speaks their language. I am wondering what the experience has been in connection with those people.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: We send them out the manual; after all our idea in having them make an undertaking for twelve months was for the purpose of their moving into the life of the country, rather than drifting around. We have also attempted to spread them across the Dominion as much as possible. I would not like to see areas grow up in Canada such as in the United States; I am not critical of that country, because I do not have to live there. I handled a problem some years ago concerning the Japanese question, and I made up my mind from the start that we were going to spread those people across the Dominion. Today there are more Japanese in the province of Ontario, and nobody knows anything about them; and, for the most part, they would not go back to British Columbia. What happened in British Columbia can happen anywhere, when a congregation such as 20,000 people form a colony as they did in Vancouver. Today we have no Japanese problem.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: The reason I raise the question is that I have known of several instances of Hungarians, Czechs and so forth, being employed on farms where no one in the vicinity has spoken their language, and they have experienced great difficulty. The Dutch people have overcome that problem by having members of an organization of their own visit those newcomers periodically. Some Dutch people from the United States spent several months here last summer, going around visiting immigrants from their country; they endeavour to get these people interested in certain churches and look after them very well in learning the language. I know it is impossible to organize these people; but is there not some manner of helping them?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: They can have correspondence courses. For instance, in the province of Saskatchewan, with such large areas, it is impossible to bring the people in to a central point. I think it is quite fair to say that these people have had a better reception in Canada than any other immigrants who enter this country.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: That is quite so. It is easy to criticize and to comment on these things, but is it not possible for the Department of Labour to contact

some Czechs, Hungarians or others who are in the district, to organize a volunteer committee for the purpose of keeping in close touch with the new immigrants in their district?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: That is generally done.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: But not by the Department of Labour; it is left to the individual.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: No. We discussed the problem fully, and we decided to take a jump in the dark. We started with domestics. It is difficult to handle young girls in a large group; we sat down to consider the matter thoroughly, and we decided to take a thousand as an experiment. We got Catholic organizations to take care of the Catholic girls, and Protestant organizations, such as the Y.W.C.A., to take care of the Protestant girls. In this way we have had no trouble.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: The various national organizations, such as Hungarian, Ukrainian, Polish and so forth, of which there are many in Canada, are very powerful and influential; they maintain classes for the teaching of English to newcomers. For instance, in the city of Toronto these people are attending classes every night. I have met immigrants who, after three months in this country were speaking English very well.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Yes, and do not forget that when a person comes to a new country he has to make a go of it or, in the language of the man on the street, bust. My experience has been that these people are most anxious to get along than many of our own.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: That is very true.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: No doubt about that.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: The Polish soldiers that we brought here are buying farms; I do not know how they are doing it, but they manage somehow.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I do not think that question is a particularly serious one. It is useful to provide facilities so that these people will more rapidly acquire a knowledge of the language. I recall, Madam Chairman, fifty years ago when the first Ukrainian movement to Canada started. That was after the late Sir Clifford Sifton became a Minister of Immigration. Thousands of these people were settled in a range of low-lying hills in what is now central Manitoba. This settlement was about ten or twelve miles from my father's home, and I watched these people with great interest. They came up there in sheepskin coats, unable to speak a word of English; they came to work as labourers on farms, and they soon learned to say, "horse", "cow", and so on.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Bread and pie.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Precisely. You might go on. Go back into that community today, and you find the descendants of these people with excellent farms and good buildings, many of them with electric light, and all of this population speaking the English language.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: And with culture.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: And with culture. We may be inclined to worry, but I think that the person in Europe today who loves freedom and liberty, who is anti-Fascist and anti-Communist, would think he was just moving into Heaven if he got a chance to come to Canada and work with his two hands, and he would be prepared to work and support himself and learn the English language and adopt our ways, just as these people who came in the past have done.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Do not forget that people from Great Britain have to do the same thing.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Quite.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: You cannot differentiate in this respect between immigrants from Britain and those from elsewhere. Life in Great Britain is completely different from what it is in Canada. The seasons are different; so is the climate and practically everything else, except that we have a common language.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Most of my forebears, when they came to Canada a little over a hundred years ago, could not speak a word of English. In the community in which they settled the language for twenty-five or thirty years was Gaelic, and so far as the older people were concerned, it remained so. Go back today and you will not hear a word of that language.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: I am sure we can take care of the matter which has been referred to.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: I think that certainly it is well taken care of in the cities and in most of the larger centres. But it seems to me that in some of the rural areas, where you will always find others who speak their language, the Labour Department might contact an individual, probably through its local office, who would, so to speak, sponsor these people and work with them. I remember that after the last war a great many Belgians came into Kent county. There was some opposition at the time. When they arrived they could not speak our language, and people predicted that they would not become good citizens, and so forth. They set to work to get a few acres of land which they could put in tomatoes or tobacco, and the whole family would work there. Eventually most of them bought their farms and became very good citizens, and as the next generation came along it was assimilated. At that time, I remember, although there was not anything like the governmental organization which exists today, local people, such as farm groups, helped them in any way they could. But it seems to me that in a rural community there is probably a very special problem as contrasted with the urban centres.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: I notice in this file, Madam Chairman, a letter which relates to the subject-matter which you have just brought to our attention. It is written by a Miss Maria Struk from Winnipeg, Manitoba:

Not quite six months when I was lucky to leave the D.P. camp in Germany, and came to Canada to start a real and normal life.

At first when I came to Canada I had great difficulty because I did not understand the English language. Now, at present it is different with me for I am learning the English language at night. I am happy at the place where I am working and very happy to learn the English language for I take a great interest in it.

All I need say is that this is an extract from her letter, which is written only six months after her arrival.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: It says here it is a translation.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: Yes; but that is her expression, I mean.

The CHAIRMAN: I had a letter from a farmer's wife near Galt, who is very much worried about this problem because she has been actually sitting down with these people who are working for them, and she said it almost broke her heart once or twice. She had a scanty knowledge of German, and managed to get across a little, but she said that it was very hard. She was very sympathetic.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: You talk about the reception which foreign immigrants sometimes meet with. I have a vivid recollection as a young fellow that they used to put up notices "No Englishman need apply". I am frank to admit this, regarding some of them, that I would be inclined to put up a similar notice myself.

Hon. Mr. CAMPBELL: I remember that.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: I think the problem now is to iron out that family regulation a bit, Mr. Minister, and take in the cousins. When you have the conditions right, when local conditions are satisfactory and the relatives agree to take care of the newcomers, then, do not pull these lines of relationships so tight.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: You know something about this reception business. In connection with the clothing industry we brought out three or four thousand people. I know both sides well: the trade union representatives came to see me, and I told them "Go and pick the people out yourselves. You do not need to worry about housing, we will take care of that". And these people moved into the industry and we have never had a whimper.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Not a word about it. Does not that apply generally through all these industries?

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Sure.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: It is not the number of men you have competing for jobs, it is the access to the natural opportunities.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: You are absolutely right.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: In that respect I would like to draw attention to the three last letters on this file, which I think are very interesting, and moving too.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: It would be interesting if we could all have a copy of them for our own files.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: I will see you get one. But it will be in the record.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: On the question of this contract labour, I would like to say a word. I have had some experience in this matter. Several cases have come to my notice of people who came in upon agreement to work or to buy a farm, or something of that kind, and who wished to be relieved of the burden of their contract. Now that, to me, was a fine illustration of the realization by the person of the moral binding force of the contract. In each case I have taken the matter up with the authorities. The last one was concerning the purchase of a farm. There were very special circumstances. \$2,000 had been deposited to guarantee the purchase, but the man was not able to carry it through, and he was in a great state of mind over it. Well, we have relieved him of it: it was the proper thing to do under the circumstances. I think there is a good deal of feeling of moral obligation: they do not want to start their life in this country with a breach of contract.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: That is true.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: And in the great majority of cases they carry their undertakings through to the letter.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: My experience has been that common sense is better than anything. You can put what you like on paper, but you have to be sensible about the thing.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: We have got to make up our minds today that there will be a certain number who are undesirable and who get by. The tares are always sown.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: It is not a contract; it is an undertaking. A labour contract has no basis in law. The reason we had the undertaking was to see to it that they moved into the back of the country in the normal way, and to protect them against unfair employers who might use these people to break down the living standards of our own people. That would have started a row which we would have never got over.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Do not forget that we have never enforced by specific performance a contract of employment in the last two hundred years.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: That is right. I appreciate that.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: And the reason is that to drive people together is the very antithesis of freedom, and experience has shown that you cannot enforce that type of contract. We are not attempting to put it in the form of a contract, merely a moral obligation. If we did, as you say, we would have unending trouble. We would be accused by our friends behind the Iron Curtain of establishing contract labour slavery conditions. As it is we can say to anybody who criticizes us, "Yes, they took an undertaking to work for a year, but we never enforced it at the point of the bayonet."

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: I have in mind a couple, a man and his wife, who have been here since last July. You can be as courteous to them as you like and give them all possible freedom: in fact they are living right in the home, and the man is a fine worker, but the woman puts me in mind of the gypsy type, the class whom one used to see going around the country in caravans wearing long earrings and telling fortunes and that sort of thing. He wants to work, he is quiet, and minds his own business; she is just the opposite. As a matter of fact at times she fights him, and they won't speak to one another for a week.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: That is not limited to the gypsy type.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: I have to call them in from time to time and tell them "If you people want to fight you had better get back where you came from." I think it must be one of their pastimes in their native land, and we are headed for a certain amount of that kind of thing. They will carry on all right for a week or two, and then they are back at it again. So do not tell me you are getting 100 per cent perfect immigrants in here with these D.P.s by any manner of means. I know others in the same little town who are carrying on in the same manner.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: There are no perfect people.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Just take a look at the House of Commons!

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: We are a fallen race. Adam arranged for that.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: As a matter of fact, the better you treat these people the less they seem to understand it, Mr. Chairman, but if you push them around and beat them they are fine; they will stay in their place once you start pushing them around a bit. Whether they get that way from living over there I don't know; but that seems to be the manner in which they carry on, as far as I can tell.

Hon. Mr. BURCHILL: What nationality are they?

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: Poles.

The CHAIRMAN: Of course there are very stiff class distinctions in Poland: in that respect the Poles are a little different from other peoples. But most of the people who have come from the Baltic states have a very high standard of education—the Latvians, Esthonians and Lithuanians.

Hon. Mr. VAILLANCOURT: From my experience in Quebec I agree with what has been said by Senator Pirie. We are receiving in Quebec practically no other than Polish girls as maids, and we have found that practically all these Polish girls are Communists. They receive visits from some people from Toronto, particularly every Sunday, who try to convert them to their beliefs and get them to join their organization.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Things like that are bound to happen in a country where the press is free. I get all these propagandist publications, but I don't bother to read them. There is no way to stop it. In fact I would not like to stop it. I believe in freedom: with me, a man's right to express his opinions, even if he is a fool, is a religion. I will take a chance on a fool. You cannot stop these people from printing pamphlets. You should see the things, Senator, they write about me. But say "Praise the Lord and pass the resolution."

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Every knock is a boost.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: Surely.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any more questions?

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Well, I must say that this has been a most enjoyable conference.

Hon. Mr. MITCHELL: I have enjoyed it myself. Thanks ever so much.

The committee then adjourned, to resume at the call of the Chair.

APPENDIX "A"

OTTAWA, March 14, 1949.

To Canadian Farmers:

Early in the war farmers were asked to increase production, even though at that time they were having difficulty in finding farm help. In 1943 I sent two officials of the Department of Labour from one end of Canada to the other to review the matter with each Province and see what plans could be developed to assist the Canadian farmers in securing necessary help.

As a result agreements were made with each Province which have been renewed each year since 1943. The agreements provide for plans, in which the Dominion and the Provinces take part, to obtain the necessary workers for farmers. A great deal has been done each year to help meet the farmers' requirements.

At the meeting attended by men from all Provinces, held a few weeks ago, it was recommended that the arrangements as above be continued. It was also agreed that placement of immigrant workers and families should be handled in the same way—church and other organizations interested in immigration, along with agricultural representatives and Employment Offices co-operating with the Dominion-Provincial Committee now established at each provincial capital. (This resolution is given in full on page 2).

Since the war the demand for farm help has been met by the immigration of workers from other countries. However, the International Refugee Organization in charge of Displaced Persons' Camps reports that the supply of suitable single persons available is definitely limited but that there are still many suitable married men with farm background who would like to come to Canada if employment and housing could be found for them and their families.

If you will need help in 1949, we would suggest that you consider securing the services of one of these family groups; a married man, accompanied by his family, is frequently a stable worker.

There is a considerable number of farmers who already have living accommodation for family units and I am sure there are others who would be willing to make provision for this type of worker if they were assured suitable married workers could be found.

Some married workers would be willing to come to Canada in advance of their families if reasonable assurance were given that, should they prove suitable, their families could follow within a reasonable period.

This Department and the Provinces are now planning for the movement of workers required in the spring. I would urge you, if you need help, and especially if you are willing to employ married workers, to detach the slip at the bottom of this letter and send it to your nearest National Employment Service Office at once. Your needs will be considered, and if local help is not available, a suitable application form will be forwarded to you.

Yours truly,

HUMPHREY MITCHELL,

Minister of Labour.

(Resolution referred to in Paragraph 3)

Whereas all the provinces of Canada have entered into agreements with the Dominion Department of Labour to provide people for agriculture from all possible sources both in and outside of Canada;

And Whereas under these agreements, some provinces are accepting and placing Polish veterans and Displaced Persons on farms and in farm homes;

And Whereas it is to the interest of all concerned and essential to the provinces involved, that the number of agricultural workers brought to the provinces from abroad be determined and limited to the number that can be properly absorbed;

And Whereas agricultural workers and immigrants are being brought to Canada and placed on farms in the provinces by a number of agencies which do not provide the provinces with particulars of the applications received from farmers or the workers who arrive, which leads to certain confusion and even duplication;

Now therefore be it resolved that this Conference urge the Federal and Provincial Governments to designate the Dominion-Provincial Farm Labour Service as the authority to be responsible for the securing and placement of agricultural workers, to the end that confusion and duplication may be removed and all such workers placed in satisfactory employment leading to their becoming desirable citizens the sooner.

(tear off and mail)

.....
To: Manager, National Employment Service Office at.....

I am interested in obtaining farm help, can provide employment for a period of not less than one year, and have suitable accommodation. I am interested in the type marked "X".

- (a) Family unit
- (b) Married couple
- (c) Single domestic
- (d) Single male worker

Please send me the appropriate application form which I shall complete and return to you.

..... (date) (signature)

..... (address)

APPENDIX "B"

Ottawa, March 18, 1949.

To ALL EMPLOYMENT OFFICE MANAGERS:

Honourable Mr. Mitchell thought you should see the letter which he has sent to 650,000 farmers. Copy is attached.

As a result of this letter you will, we hope, receive inquiries from farmers for:—

- (a) *Workers from Canadian Sources*—The ordinary office practice will be followed.
- (b) *Displaced Persons*—U.I.C. Form 851B will be used where the farmer requires the services of a single male worker without dependents.
U.I.C. Form 851C will be used when the farmer requires the services of (i) a married couple; (ii) a married couple with dependent children; (iii) a single worker with dependents.

U.I.C. Form 851D will be used where the farmer requires the services of a single female domestic or a widow with one or more children.

- (c) *Workers from Europe Sponsored by Religious Organizations*—Forms 851B, C, and D with special endorsement in red will be used where the farmer requires the services of a worker from Europe recommended by approved religious organizations. (Canadian Lutheran World Relief, Canadian Mennonite Board of Colonization, Catholic Immigrant Aid Society, German Baptist Immigration and Colonization Association.)

The type of form to be used will be the same as for displaced persons, according to the farmer's requirements.

In the case of both (b) and (c), when the appropriate form has been completed, local offices will handle the applications in the manner approved by the Dominion-Provincial Committee in the province.

- (d) *Dutch Workers*—Farmers requesting the services of Dutch workers will be required to complete Immigration Forms 55 and 55A. Five copies of 55 and one copy of 55A are required by the Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources.

In completing Forms 55 and 55A it will be impossible for local office managers to insert the name of the proposed immigrant. This space should, therefore, be left blank, but there should be attached to the form a statement signed by the employer indicating the type of Dutch worker required and the number of dependents that can be accommodated.

Our Minister has emphasized the importance of routing all applications for persons from outside Canada through the Dominion-Provincial Farm Labour Committees in each Province. This will provide a method by which a central record may be kept and thus prevent confusion and duplication. This procedure will confirm Provincial approval.

The Immigration Inspector should be invited by the Chairman to sit with the Committee when applications for Dutch families are under consideration. If he accepts the invitation, approval by the Committee will carry the approval of Immigration. This would speed matters. The next step with "Dutch Family" Applications is to turn them over to the Immigration Inspector with a request that he advise the Committee whether or not the farmer's application will be approved.

I am sure I do not need to tell you that it is important that the Provincial Representatives on the Dominion-Provincial Committee be consulted when any applications from outside Canada are checked. The exact procedure in respect to applications other than those for Dutch families has, no doubt, already been worked out by the Farm Labour Committee of the province in which your office is located.

The Minister asked me to express to you his appreciation for the energetic and intelligent way in which all matters in connection with immigrants have been handled by you and your staff.

Samples of the forms mentioned are attached.

Yours very truly,

A. MACNAMARA,
Deputy Minister.

Approved:

HUMPHREY MITCHELL,
Minister.

APPENDIX "C"

[Copy]

THE STEEL COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED

HAMILTON, CANADA, April 28, 1948.

A. MacNAMARA, Esq.,
Deputy Minister of Labour,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Sir: We have arranged for twenty-five more displaced persons through the Toronto office, Lithuanians preferred.

The experience we have had with the displaced persons has been very good, especially with Lithuanians. Many of these men should make excellent steel men. The majority of them are splendid physical types for our work. Most of them have a fair degree of education and exhibit considerable ability. So far they have done a good job of any work allotted them.

Due to the number who have left us this spring for farms, etc., these men have been a great help in stabilizing our labour force. In fact, if we had not had these men we would have been definitely short of help as we have been employing every man that we could use in this business who applied for our work and have not been able to keep up with our requirements through this source. It is very probable that later in the year when our new Cold Mill is put into operation we will be in the market for a number of men.

Yours very truly,

THE STEEL COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED,

A. D. MARTIN,

Employment Agent.

[Copy]

GOLDEN MANITOU MINES LIMITED

VAL D'OR, QUEBEC

November 8, 1948.

Mr. W. W. DAWSON, Supervisor,
Immigration & Farm Placements,
Room 160, Confederation Bldg.,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Sir: The following Displaced Persons who arrived on the General Sturgis December 13, 1947 have completed their ten months of service and incidentally they are still in our employ: Frank Pedro, Ryszard Medynski, Joseph Kwinecki, Victor Wyhranek.

These men have turned out to be valued employees. Their department is excellent, they have been willing and anxious to learn their new trade and I can say that as far as this company is concerned, the movement of Displaced Persons to the mining district is not only a distinct success but has been of tremendous help in maintaining production.

The fifth person that came to us from the General Sturgis, namely, Tadeusz Teserowski could not pass medical requirements for underground and was transferred to the Ontario Hydro construction two days after arrival.

Yours very truly,

GOLDEN MANITOU MINES LIMITED

(Sgd.) ANDREW ROBERTSON,

Manager.

COPY

CANADIAN METAL MINING ASSOCIATION

620 Confederation Life Building,
12 Richmond Street East, Toronto, Ont.
December 14, 1948.

Mr. A. MACNAMARA,
Deputy Minister of Labour,
Confederation Building
Parliament Buildings, Ottawa.

Dear Mr. MacNamara,—We have been making further enquiries concerning the rate at which the metal mines will be able to absorb the displaced persons now being selected in Europe.

We beg to advise it would be preferable if, after the December allotment has been completed, no further men were brought out until the early part of February.

During the last two months good numbers have arrived and have been allocated. The mines need a little time to absorb and assimilate these men and the hydro power shortage is proving a restraining factor.

We anticipate that we can handle a further 200 in February with a steady flow of arrivals after that.

It is with great pleasure that we are able to advise you that the men received in October and November who were screened on our behalf by officials of your department in Europe, are proving highly satisfactory and creating an excellent impression. Many reports have been received at this office speaking very favourably of the type of man selected. We shall be greatly obliged to you if you will be good enough to pass on this information to the officials concerned in the selection and screening and let them know from us that their excellent work is very highly appreciated here.

With my best wishes and personal regards and all the compliments of the season,

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) V. C. WANSBROUGH,
Executive Director.

MUSKOKA HOSPITAL

GRAVENHURST, Ontario,

March 23, 1948.

Mr. W. TOWNS,
National Employment Service,
Bracebridge, Ontario.

Re: Displaced Persons

Dear Mr. Towns,—I thought perhaps I would drop you a note concerning the eight Displaced Persons who are now employed here.

You will no doubt be happy to learn that these girls are adapting themselves to our routine very readily and have already shown indications of becoming valuable employees.

At the present time three of the group are working as Nurses' Aides and the remainder are serving in our Dietary and Housekeeping Departments. We are very pleased with their efforts.

I might say that our Educational Director is arranging classes for these girls and they are quite excited at the prospects of furthering their education. Two of the churches in town have had the girls in to young people's gatherings and I expect that they will be receiving more invitations of this sort. They seem happy and content here and you may be sure that we are doing everything in our power to make them feel at home.

I should be glad, Mr. Towns, to keep you advised as to their progress.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) J. B. DAVIS.

Translation

COPY

STE. AGATHE DES MONTS,

February 26, 1949.

MR. LÉONARD PRÉFONTAINE,
Regional Superintendent,
Unemployment Insurance Commission,
1625 St. Luke St., Montreal.

Re: Krystina Nowak—Ste. Agathe des Monts

Dear Sir,—Through your office at Ste. Agathe we have had Krystina Nowak, a displaced Polish girl, in our service as a maid since May 11, 1948.

I take great pleasure in acknowledging that we are absolutely satisfied with her. Her punctuality, character and honesty, and her work, have always been irreproachable.

I think it only fair to give expression today to our appreciation for the collaboration we have received from your office at Ste. Agathe and to congratulate you, as a superior official of the Unemployment Insurance Commission, for the magnificent work you have done in the case of these displaced persons.

Procuring excellent help for an employer is, in my opinion, doing a very great social service. I may say that being sure of having an excellent maid for a certain period of time gives the family, wife and children, a moral stability of which the effects cannot be estimated.

Miss Nowak's contract expires on May 11. We do not know yet whether she will stay with us, but you may be sure that if she does not, we shall submit an application for another displaced person. I think that is the best evidence of our appreciation. Moreover, I have made myself a propagandist for your policy in all the circles in which I move.

I beg to remain, dear sir,

Yours very truly,

(sgd.) J. RENÉ MARTIN,

37 Préfontaine St. West,
Ste. Agathe des Monts, P.Q.

Copy

FRED A. STOCK

TAVISTOCK, Ont.
October 22, 1948.A. MacNamara, Esq.,
Deputy Minister,
Department of Labour,
Ottawa, Canada.*P.I. 2090—Krzyzek, Stanislaw*

Dear Sir: With reference to the application for citizenship of Stanley Krzyzek:—

Might I call to your attention the fact that this man has been in my employ for 2 years November 22 next.

During this time he has been a willing, honest and faithful worker, always doing his best at any task assigned to him.

In our home, Stanley has been next to a member in our own family, considerate and kind, and at all times doing his best to adopt Canadian customs. His faithful attendance at English classes played no small part in this attitude.

Might I add too that he has been a most popular member of our community, he having been accepted by any group in which he was active.

It is the sincere opinion of both my wife and myself that this Stanley Krzyzek will not only be a desirable citizen of our country but will have a worthy contribution to make.

Yours very truly,
(Sgd.) FRED A. STOCK

This letter has not been solicited by applicant. F.A.S.

Copy

The RECTORY, Roches Point, Ontario.

The Manager,
Unemployment Insurance Commission,
Newmarket, Ontario.*Re: 22-3-2*

Dear Sir: Thank you for your letter of yesterday. I return the forms herewith duly completed.

You ask how this particular placement is working out. I am happy to be able to report that it is proving most satisfactory. Frau Kaulen is an excellent worker and at the same time a most agreeable person to have around the house. She is industrious and good-natured and although she is a little late in life to pick up a new language, she is trying very hard to learn some English. She is extremely quick to adapt herself to her new way of life; she observes of her own accord the way we do everything in this house, and follows suit with the minimum of suggestions from us. Her 7-year old daughter is very well behaved and is a delightful companion for our own children.

As far as they themselves are concerned, I think that the two of them are happy here. They definitely love the country and about the only wish I have ever heard Frau Kaulen express is not to have to go and live in a city. The climate here is similar to that in her homeland, and I believe that she will prove an ideal settler. She is, of course, engaged to be married to an Estonian who has been in Canada 6 months already and is working on some construction project near Pembroke. He came here to visit her over Christmas and he also seemed a splendid individual. Frau Kaulen's ambition is to own a farm of her own some day as she worked her own farm in Estonia while her husband worked in the police force. I hope that she will some day achieve that ambition. Until the time comes for her to get married, we shall hope to keep her here, and I believe that the whole arrangement will work out to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Yours faithfully,

H. L. PUXLEY.

Copy

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL PAPER COMPANY

Sun Life Building, Dominion Square

MONTREAL 2, Que., March 1, 1949

Mr. A. MacNamara,
Deputy Minister of Labour,
Confederation Building,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Mr. MacNamara:

Through your good offices I received last July a D.P. Estonian couple, Julie and Viktor Mathiesen to work as domestics in my home at 61 Rosemount Avenue, Westmount.

Next week this couple will have completed their one year contract term with your Department and will leave my home to carry on with their plans to build their future in Canada. They are in my opinion a real credit to the good work your D.P. organization is performing in Canada and I thought you would be pleased to know of my complete satisfaction. They are not only keen and excellent workers, but intelligent, honest and trustworthy and more than appreciate the opportunity this country has given them. I am sure they will prove to be substantial Canadian citizens.

Viktor is a skilled master mechanic while Julie is an experienced seamstress and as they plan to follow these trades, I am sure they will be successful. They have promised to keep in touch with me should they need any help or guidance in their new work.

In closing I would again like to congratulate you and your Department for the excellent way in which the D.P. program is being handled.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) H. L. CULLEN.

Copy

THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER COMMISSION OF ONTARIO

620 University Avenue, Toronto 2

October 7, 1948.

Mr. W. W. DAWSON,
Supervisor,
Immigration & Farm Placements,
Department of Labour,
Room 160, Confederation Bldg.,
Ottawa.

Dear Mr. Dawson: This is just an informal note to congratulate you and your associates on the job you have done in the preparation of the certificate and the letter accompanying it to be given to each New Canadian at the time of the termination of his contract. The certificate itself has, in my judgment, every quality which it ought to possess. It is dignified and tactful; it is permanent in form and it is in every sense the kind of thing that everyone of these men would be pleased to own and proud to use.

The letter itself, again in my judgment, strikes exactly the right note. It also is dignified and courteous, and not in the slightest degree patronizing.

This is, of course, none of our business, but you know how curious we have been to see the documents which have formed the subject of several discussions between yourself and me.

Again, our heartiest congratulations:

Yours very truly,

(sgd.) K. C. MacKENZIE
for Manager of Personnel.

Copy

Mr. Antanas Ruzgys,
86 Manchester St.,
Hamilton, Ontario.
21st Dec. 1948.

To Mr. A. MacNamara,
Deputy Minister of Labour,
Ottawa.

Dear Sir: We Lithuanian newcomers living in Hamilton and preparing a new life in this country kindly remember you and Minister of Labour for the protection and attention you have offered us in this land of enterprise.

Little by little we are finding security and wish to express our joy in this country's opportunities. Most of us have been fortunate in possessing bank accounts, and some have become small property owners. We are attending English language night school and those who have already learnt the basic English have proceeded to Technical Institutes.

Our employers are kind and friendly and we believe that everything is to our mutual benefit.

Enclosing, we wish you a very merry Christmas and a most Happy New Year and we would appreciate it if you would relate the above to the Minister of Labour from all Lithuanian newcomers in Hamilton.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) A. RUZGYS
Representative.

Copy

PERTH, Ont.

November 15, 1948.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER,
Department of Labour.

Dear Sir:—We wish to express to you and to the Government of Canada our appreciation for bringing us, ten Lithuanian D.P.'s, to your country.

Today our contract expires. We hope to be good citizens of Canada and faithful workers.

Yours truly,

10 Signatures.

OTTAWA, January 20, 1949.

16. 1. 49.

Translation

(Polish)

Personal to: Deputy Minister of Labour,
Ottawa, Canada.

Not quite six months when I was lucky to leave the D.P. camp in Germany, and came to Canada to start a real and normal life.

At first when I came to Canada I had great difficulty because I did not understand the English language. Now, at present it is different with me for I am learning the English language at night. I am happy at the place where I am working and very happy to learn the English language for I take a great interest in it.

I am very thankful to the Canadian Government for giving me the opportunity to come to Canada and leave the miserable D.P. camp in Germany. It was always in my mind to get away from there and start a new life somewhere else.

When I lost my parents during the war, I was always thinking and worrying with others in the camp like me, what would happen to us. I am happy that I was able to leave the detention camp as in this country I have a wonderful opportunity for a great future.

The first Christmas and New Years that I spent among the Canadians I am very happy that I found such a wonderful Canada and met such nice people. It was such great pleasure to be among strangers who have given me such pleasures and have given me "Best Wishes." They have shared with me wishes and gave me some gifts.

I am happy that I am working here and I can save some money, and I also remember those who have been in the camp and are still there suffering.

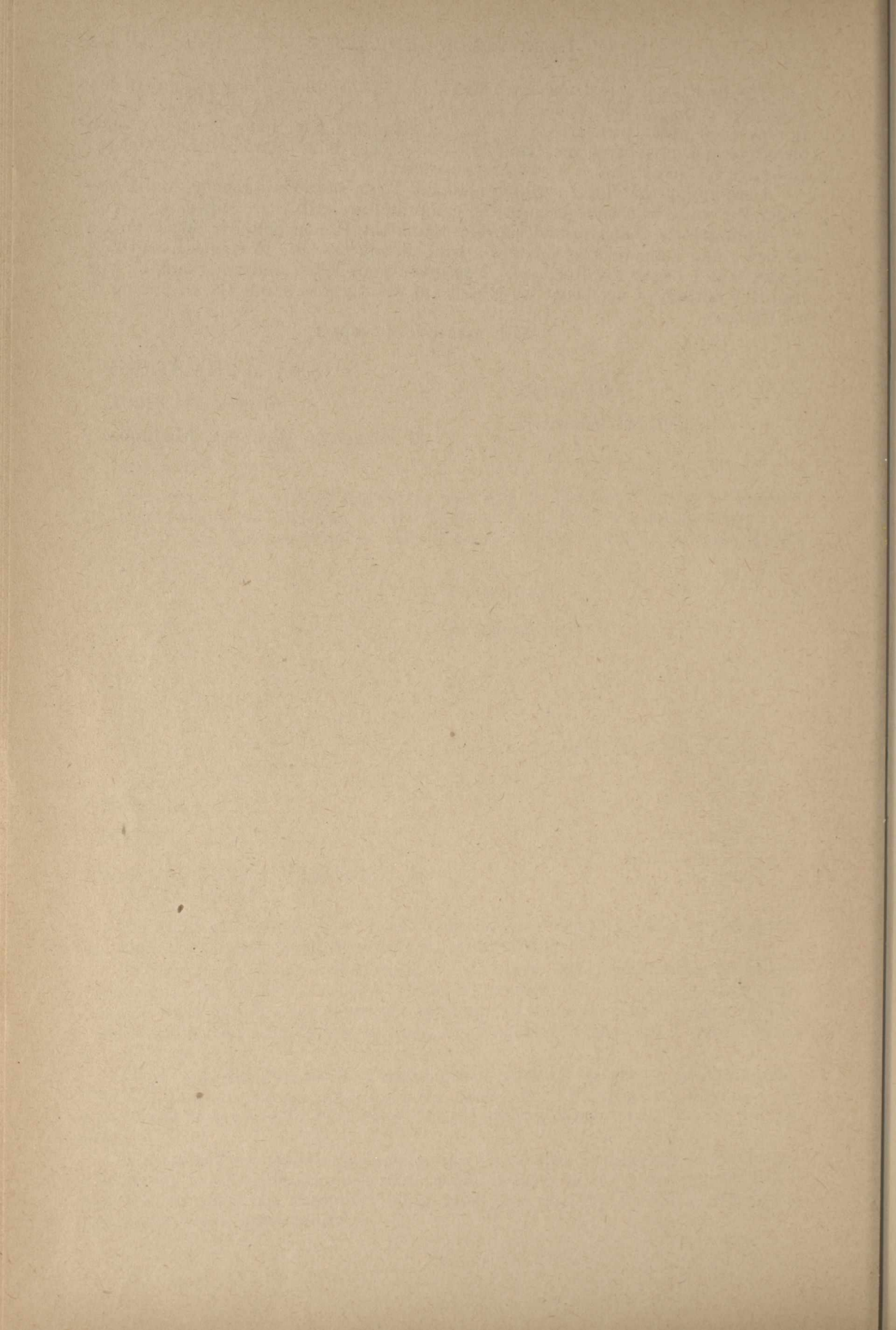
I am greatly thankful and heartily thank the Honourable Mr. MacNamara for news, and I am writing a few words about my new life in Canada, and how it was that I began my life here. I received your letter and am thanking you from the bottom of my heart for it and am writing you about the beginning of my life here.

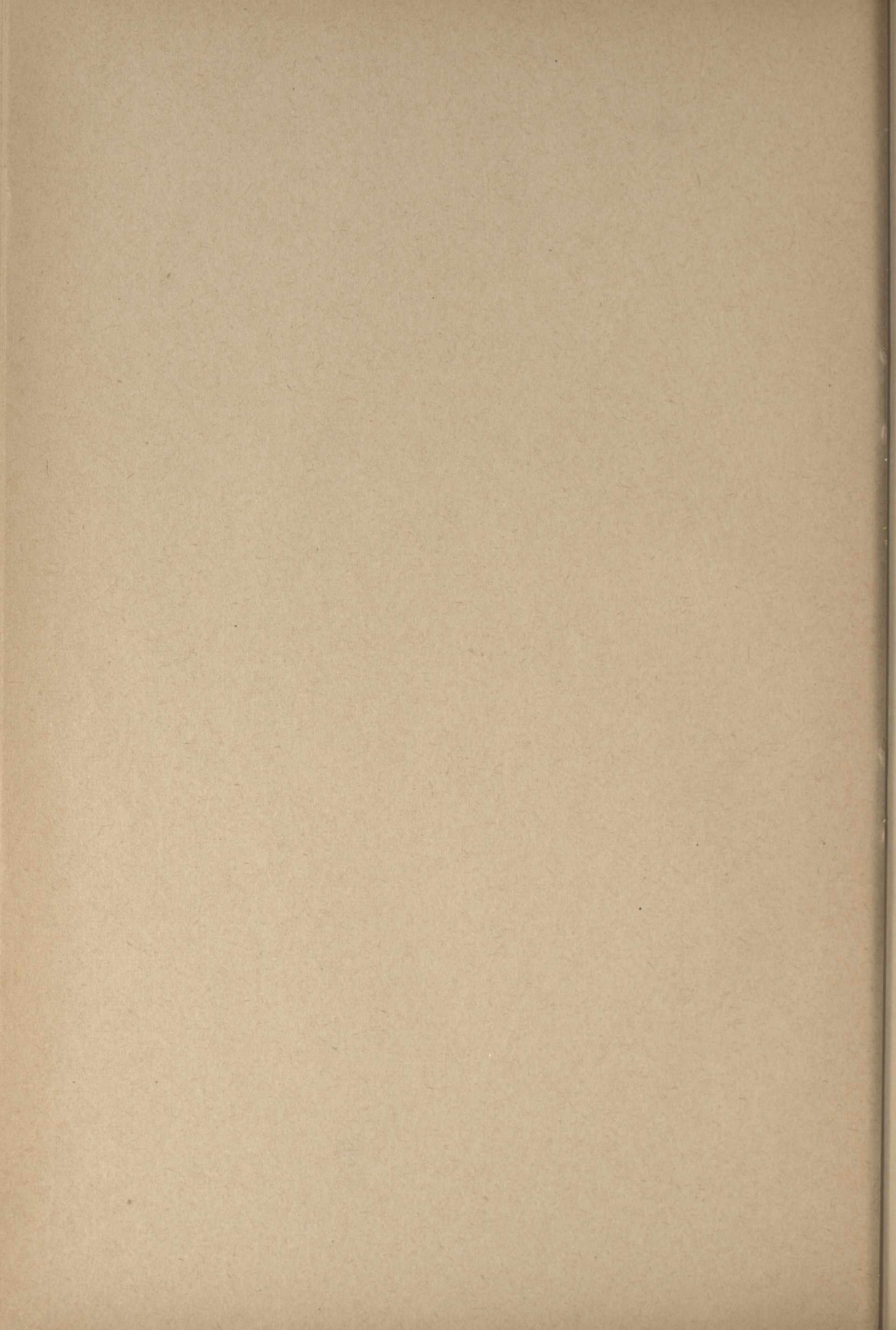
With greatest of respect,

(Sgd.) MARIA STRUK,

Miss MARIA STRUK,

91 Kingsway, Winnipeg, Manitoba.





1949

THE SENATE OF CANADA



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

Immigration and Labour

On the operation and administration of the
Immigration Act, etc.

No. 3

TUESDAY, 29th MARCH, 1949

The Honourable Cairine R. Wilson, Chairman.

WITNESSES

Honourable Colin Gibson, P.C., M.P., Secretary of State.

Mr. Frank Foulds, Director, Citizenship Branch, Department of the
Secretary of State.

Miss Constance Hayward of the Citizenship Branch, Department of the
Secretary of State.

OTTAWA
EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., B.A., L.Ph.,
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY
CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
1949

STANDING COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR

The Honourable CAIRINE R. WILSON, Chairman

The Honourable Senators

Aseltine	Dupuis	McIntyre
Blais	Euler	Murdock
Bouchard	Ferland	Pirie
Bourque	Fogo	Robertson
Buchanan	Haig	Roebuck
Burchill	Hardy	Taylor
Campbell	Horner	Turgeon
Crerar	Hushion	Vaillancourt
Calder	Lesage	Venoit
David	Mackenzie	Wilson
Davis	McDonald	Wood

ORDER OF REFERENCE

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate, Thursday, February 10, 1949.

“That the Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour be authorized and directed to examine into the Immigration Act (R.S.C. Chapter 93 and amendments) its operation and administration and the circumstances and conditions relating thereto including:—

- (a) the desirability of admitting immigrants to Canada.
- (b) the type of immigrant which should be preferred, including origin, training and other characteristics.
- (c) the availability of such immigrants for admission.
- (d) the facilities, resources and capacity of Canada to absorb, employ and maintain such immigrants, and
- (e) the appropriate terms and conditions of such admission;

And that the said committee report its findings to this house;

And that the said committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.”

L. C. MOYER,
Clerk of the Senate.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, 29th March, 1949.

Pursuant to adjournment and notice the Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour met this day at 10.30 a.m.

Present: The Honourable Senators: Blais, Buchanan, Burchill, Campbell, Crerar, Davis, Euler, McIntyre, Pirie, Roebuck and Wood.—11.

In the absence of the Chairman the Honourable Senator Buchanan was elected Acting Chairman.

The Committee resumed consideration of the Order of Reference of 18th February, 1949, directing the Committee to examine into the operation and administration of the Immigration Act, etc.

The official reporters of the Senate were in attendance.

Hon. Colin Gibson, P.C., M.P., Secretary of State, was heard and gave an outline of assistance given to immigrants coming to Canada by various voluntary organizations, co-operating with Government agencies; and was questioned.

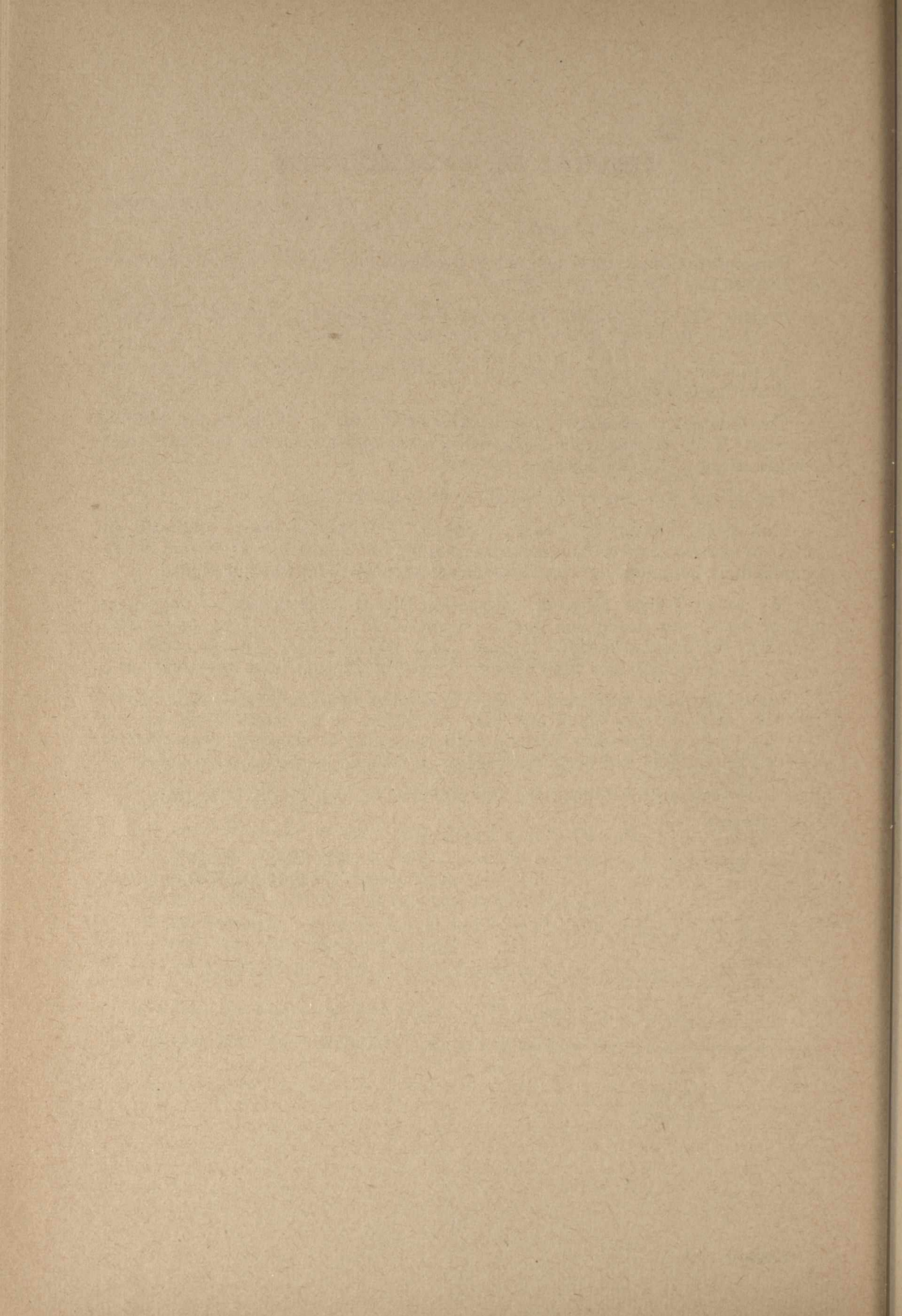
Mr. Frank Foulds, Director, Citizenship Branch, Department of the Secretary of State, was heard and gave a report of the progress being made with respect to the assistance given to immigrants and displaced persons coming to Canada, in order that they may become citizens of Canada; and was questioned.

Miss Constance Hayward of the Citizenship Branch, Department of the Secretary of State, was heard and gave an outline of the work of the Liaison Division of the Citizenship Branch, with the various voluntary organizations assisting immigrants and displaced persons in Canada; and was questioned.

At 12.10 p.m., the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chairman.

ATTEST.

H. ARMSTRONG,
Clerk of the Committee.



MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

THE SENATE

OTTAWA, Tuesday, March 29, 1949.

The Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour, which was authorized and directed to examine into the Immigration Act, met this day at 10.30 a.m.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN: Honourable members, I understand this morning is to be devoted to evidence from the Canadian Citizenship Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State. The Minister, Hon. Colin Gibson, is here, as are also Mr. Foulds, Director of the branch, and Miss Constance Hayward, of the Liaison Division of the branch. With your permission I will ask the minister to speak to us first.

Hon. COLIN GIBSON, Secretary of State: Mr. Chairman and honourable members, Senator Wilson asked me to come over and start off the proceedings by giving a brief outline of the work that is being done in providing for the assimilation of immigrants and for their education. I might say first that we found that various government departments and branches were providing prospective immigrants with educational and factual material about Canada, before the immigrants left Europe and while they were on the ship on the way over to this country. When immigrants arrive here they are taken in charge by the Department of Labour and assisted by various organizations, such as the Canadian Legion, church groups and so on. The Citizenship Branch then becomes active in providing the newcomers with opportunities to learn something about the country and our languages. It was therefore felt that we should have an interdepartmental committee to prevent overlapping between various departments, and we set up a committee consisting of representatives of the Department of Labour, the Department of Health and Welfare, the Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources and the Canadian Citizenship Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State, to make sure that before immigrants left for Canada and while they were on board ship en route here they would be given some useful information about Canada, so that they would know something about the country before they actually arrived. Once they arrive here the Department of Labour is still responsible for placing them in employment, and the Canadian Citizenship Branch is, under the Canadian Citizenship Act, left with the responsibility of taking steps to make sure that facilities are available to enable newcomers to receive instruction about the country.

As you know, education is a responsibility of the provinces, so it would be quite a delicate subject for the Citizenship Branch to outline any program of education except through the provinces. The problem was handled in this way. A Canadian Citizenship Council was set up, that being an organization headed by General Crerar and consisting of representatives of the various provincial departments of education, the Citizenship Branch, labour groups and other such organizations, the Canadian Legion and social welfare organizations throughout the country. It is realized that citizenship applies not only to immigrants who come to this country but also to the young people who are coming of age here; and it cannot be taught in schools alone but must be taught also in our churches,

service clubs and social service organizations. So the Canadian Citizenship Council is endeavouring to co-ordinate the activities in all municipalities throughout the country, and good co-operation has been received in this matter in every province.

Some provinces suggested that as the Dominion government had brought these people to this country it should be responsible for the additional expense in training them. We felt that we could not make cash grants to the provinces for this purpose, and after discussions with representatives of the departments of education we undertook to make educational material available to the provinces. This material is being provided after consultation with the Canadian Education Association. It prepares the booklets and we provide for their distribution, so in that way the Citizenship Branch is assisting all the provinces in their work of looking after immigrants and also their work of providing citizenship training for the young people of Canada.

That is pretty much the program that we are working on at the present time. Mr. Foulds is the Director of the Canadian Citizenship Branch, and Miss Hayward is doing liaison work with women's groups throughout the country. Mr. Foulds and Miss Hayward will be able to give you details of the work.

The CHAIRMAN: Would any member of the committee like to ask questions of the minister?

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: How is this work financed?

Hon. Mr. GIBSON: We get a grant of \$10,000, which we have given to the Canadian Citizenship Council, of which, as I have said, General Crerar is the head. That is not a government organization. As a matter of fact, the Montreal Board of Trade brought out a report on immigration and strongly urged that a non-partisan committee should be set up. The Canadian Citizenship Council was in existence and we suggested to them that they call a joint meeting. This was done and the meeting was a large one, attended by representatives of labour organizations, social service organizations and so on. It was then that General Crerar, a representative Canadian with no political affiliations, was chosen as head of the council. It gets a grant from the government and also it has undertaken to get financial assistance from various organizations throughout the country.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Do both Ontario and Quebec co-operate?

Hon. Mr. GIBSON: Yes. I think that Ontario has made the greatest progress in this educational work. The provincial government has established a large number of classes throughout the province, and also has done radio broadcasting for men working in lumber camps. Ontario provides teachers and has done a great deal of pioneering in this work.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: That is mostly for immigrants?

Hon. Mr. GIBSON: Yes. The province also provides language classes in the various cities, and these classes have been largely attended.

Hon. Mr. BURCHILL: Is that being done by the Ontario government now?

Hon. Mr. GIBSON: By the Ontario Department of Education, yes. From Quebec we have been getting quite a large number of requests for books on educational subjects taught in the various classes that are being given in Quebec. We are getting co-operation from both Ontario and Quebec as well as the other provinces.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: I thought they were largely private institutions that were teaching language, such as Polish institutions, and so on.

Hon. Mr. GIBSON: The racial groups do run classes themselves. These classes are well formed and conducted and do assist in the nationalization of the people attending them, but the provincial departments of education also have been very active, and so have organizations like the Y.W.C.A. and the Y.M.C.A.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Where is the school in Toronto, for instance?

Hon. Mr. GIBSON: I think it is in Harbord Collegiate.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: It seems to me that we should pay far more attention than we have in the past to teaching our young people what citizenship means. Practically no instruction at all has been given on this subject, and the result is that when our young folk get into the tenth and eleventh grade they know very little about our system of government and Canadian citizenship. I am speaking of places that I know.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: If we could instil ambition in young people to take part in public affairs fewer of them might be inclined to become gangsters.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any more questions of the minister? If not, shall we hear Mr. Foulds now?

Mr. FRANK FOULDS, Director, Canadian Citizenship Branch, Department of the Secretary of State: Mr. Chairman, I am very glad that the Minister came to open the discussion, and I would judge that my job this morning is to fill in some of the details. I am going to report progress rather than attempt to put any brand new recommendations in front of you. This is the third year that I have appeared before the committee, and citizenship is a matter which concerns our school system, our churches, our social welfare organizations, our public service groups and so on, so we do not come before you with a lot of new formal recommendations.

This question of education is a vital one and a very delicate one. As the Secretary of State pointed out, you cannot deal with a matter which is entirely a prerogative of the provinces unless you co-operate with them and co-ordinate your work with theirs. That, gentlemen, is primarily the gist of my report this morning.

But I want to go back one step farther. We start in Europe and on the boat with material in the language of the people coming here. Then as soon as possible after their arrival we teach them English or French and we gradually stop issuing them publications in their native language. We assume that they can then read simple English or French and we try to put our material in a way that they will understand and that will give them practice in one of the languages of this country. The first publication that we distribute to them is a pamphlet called "Facts about Canada." This is now issued in five languages—Ukrainian, Polish, German, Dutch and Lithuanian—and we are working now on an issue in Estonian and Yiddish.

Hon. Mr. EULER: What kind of facts do you give in this pamphlet?

Mr. FOULDS: Simple facts about the geography and history of Canada, and a few items of information about the postage rates, currency, weights and measures and other things that a newcomer will need to know about almost as soon as he steps off the boat.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: Who edits this?

Mr. FOULDS: The Canadian Citizenship Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State.

Also we are distributing to prospective immigrants in Europe, even before they get on the boat, a little leaflet entitled "Learning English or French." We find the situation is quite different from what our general public might have thought years ago. It might have been thought that we had to force people to learn one of our languages and be instructed as to our customs and ways of life. But the question that is coming to us from these European people who anticipate getting passage to Canada is "How can I arrange to fit into Canadian life quickly so that I shall not appear queer, new or awkward?" Basically the first need is to know one of the languages, so this little pamphlet, which is published in English and French as well as in six other languages, is designed to tell these

people before they leave Europe what night school facilities will be available to them here. I might point out, incidentally, that this was written by us, but checked with the educational authorities of the provinces. That is an instance of the co-ordination that we have to practise all the way through. I might also remark here that a group which has just left for Europe to help some of these people took along a series of catalogues from Eaton's, Simpson's and other department stores, with the idea that the immigrants will want to know the kinds of things that are used here in our houses, for example, and how the women dress, and so on.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: They are not going to learn how our women dress from the catalogues, I hope.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: The group that you referred to are representing whom?

Mr. FOULDS: The Ukrainian-Canadian Committee. The Ukrainian group in Canada have been very good in sending over well qualified people to help inform immigrants of their own racial group about this country.

Passing on, gentlemen, I come to what I think is one of the most important developments in our—I would almost say in our Canadian educational system. That is a very broad statement. As a result of work done between Harvard University in the United States and Cambridge University in the Old Country, two men worked out a list which has become known as Basic English, comprising 850 of the most commonly used words in the English language. Since then the Harvard man has developed a method of teaching this material without the need of any interpreter. You can call it a direct method or what you wish. It starts right off in Book One with such simple phrases as: "That is I. That is you. That is he" and so on. The objects referred to are pointed out in illustrations, so that by the time a person has gone through a series of thirty lessons he should be able to read a simple story.

But the most important feature of it to me, Mr. Chairman, is that this text is being used in cities throughout our nine provinces, in the Old Country and in the European camps. We have heard before about different educational systems teaching different things in our various provinces, and we know of course that a great number of immigrants move after they arrive here. Some may stay for a week or two in Montreal and then go on to Toronto or Winnipeg, let us say. However, this system is being used in the schools of all nine provinces as well as in the European camps, so wherever the immigrant moves he has available to him the same simple method of learning the English language.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: May I have a look at that pamphlet?

Mr. FOULDS: Yes, Senator. I am very glad to distribute it.

Hon. Mr. EULER: All this work is not done by your organization?

Mr. FOULDS: The actual teaching is done by the provinces. We do not attempt to run a single class, but we have developed close co-operation with all nine provinces.

Hon. Mr. EULER: Who supplies the books?

Mr. FOULDS: Up to the present time the immigrant student has purchased his own copy. I do not know, Mr. Chairman, whether it is correct to speak here of a matter that is under discussion in the House of Commons, but I think that if the minister were still here he would tell you that he has put in this year's estimates an amount for providing the departments of education with copies of these books, upon request. All the material which I am discussing with you today is free to the immigrant, and will be supplied to the Department of Education in each province upon request.

Hon. Mr. EULER: Is this the situation, then? The work among the immigrants before they leave Europe and while they are on the ship is done through your organization, but when they arrive in Canada the provinces take over?

Mr. FOULDS: Yes.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: The provinces will supply these books to the immigrants?

Mr. FOULDS: If parliament approves those estimates I hope that in future the night classes will be supplied with the books.

The CHAIRMAN: But this material did not originate with your department?

Mr. FOULDS: No, Mr. Chairman. It originated through the co-operative work between Harvard and Cambridge Universities.

The CHAIRMAN: But you are promoting it in Canada?

Mr. FOULDS: Oh yes, we are the people who have promoted it and developed it in Canada. And these are Canadian editions. Up to this year we had to use an American edition, which told about the Stars and Stripes, the President and other features of the American system.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: Does each individual immigrant receive a copy of that from the Department of Education?

Mr. FOULDS: Each individual who registers in a night class will receive a copy.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: That is what I mean; there is not just one copy for the whole class?

Mr. FOULDS: No.

Perhaps I might refer here to a point or two that came up last week. For instance, what about the immigrant who is in a isolated spot where he cannot get to a class, a man on a remote farm or at a mining or lumber camp? Well, again by working with the provincial departments of education, arrangements have been made with respect to men in lumber and mining camps.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: Suppose an immigrant is on a farm and unable to attend a class, does he get a copy of "Learning the English Language"?

Mr. FOULDS: No, senator. He would get the Pocket Book of Basic English and the accompanying work-book.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: Does he have to ask for it?

Mr. FOULDS: If he was unable to attend the class he would have to ask for the booklet.

Hon. Mr. EULER: But how would he know there was such a booklet?

Mr. FOULDS: That is the \$64 question, sir. However, it is surprising how many people do show sufficient initiative to write letters to either their provincial department of education or to the government at Ottawa, asking where they can get books to help them. Some immigrants ask where they can get a dictionary, for example.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: Your department, I take it, would know what immigrants come here and where they are located. Why could not arrangements be made for them to receive a copy of this booklet wherever they are?

Mr. FOULDS: Many of them move frequently.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: I thought they had to stay on the farm or wherever they were placed for a certain period of time.

Mr. FOULDS: That is true of those who come in under the labour placement scheme, but there are a good many other immigrants besides those. This work that we are doing is in an almost entirely new field, and the limit that we have gone to so far is in providing the booklets for immigrants who attend evening classes or who write in for a copy.

Hon. Mr. EULER: I should think there must be a large number of isolated farms where it is not even known that such booklets are available. If you could reach immigrants on those farms also it would be all to the good.

Mr. FOULDS: We have one other avenue which will be used as soon as the increased amount is voted. Through our own office we have contact with some eighty foreign language newspapers published in Canada in some twenty different languages. Whenever we wish to draw attention of immigrants to something in particular we insert an item in the appropriate paper or papers. The editors are always glad to use such items for the assistance of newcomers.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: But if an immigrant from, say, Germany goes to live with an English speaking family, he will not likely receive a copy of any of those foreign language papers.

Mr. FOULDS: That is true. Obviously, if he does not hear of what we are doing he will not receive any assistance from us.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: We want to make good citizens out of these people, so why should we not spend a little money on notifying them of this work that you are doing?

Mr. FOULDS: I am glad that you have raised the point, sir, and drawn attention to it.

Hon. Mr. BURCHILL: I think that further study should be given to the popularizing of your program for immigrants. I have an immigrant family living at my home, and although I do not live in the backwoods by any means this is the first time I have heard about what you have described to us this morning.

Hon. Mr. EULER: Is there no register kept to show where the immigrants go in the first instance?

Mr. FOULDS: The Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources has a register.

Hon. Mr. EULER: Would it not be worthwhile to send some booklets to every immigrant at the address given in that register?

Hon. Mr. WOOD: I thought all immigrants were placed by the Dominion government.

Mr. FOULDS: No, sir. The largest number of immigrants are close relatives of people already here.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: What about domestics?

Mr. FOULDS: They are placed by the Department of Labour.

Hon. Mr. EULER: Immigrants who go to live with close relatives learn English or French almost automatically.

Mr. FOULDS: The Pocket Book of Basic English can be purchased by anyone almost anywhere in Canada at 25 cents a copy. A large number of copies of this booklet have been forwarded by the immigration authorities to Europe and more are being distributed here. I have already mentioned the simple workbook which we distribute with the Pocket Book of Basic English. An immigrant who lives on a farm and can get some member of the farmer's family to assist him in the pronunciation of the simple words in these booklets has the best substitute that we can suggest for the person who is not within convenient reach of an organized class.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: What about the rights of these individuals? All of them are not fully aware of their rights. Should there not be some little booklet that would give them an idea of their rights under the laws of this country. We have had some cases in the west where an employer has beaten an employee. Some of these poor chaps think they have to take that. If some one makes a protest

the employer can be put in jail for a while, but otherwise the poor immigrant might continue to take a beating or other abuse, just because he does not know his rights.

Mr. FOULDS: That question, sir, is one that I think should be referred to the Department of Labour's Placement Service. That department is entirely responsible for the placing of immigrants and the first year's contract.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Is there a series of booklets on the teaching of the French language as well?

Mr. FOULDS: I am glad you raised that point, Senator Roebuck. The group at Harcard are at present working on a series known as "French Self-Taught," which they promise to have available by September. In the meantime we are working in co-operation with the Montreal School Board and Laval University.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: When the "French Self-Taught" series is available you might put me on the list for a copy, if you do not mind.

Hon. Mr. EULER: And me too.

Mr. FOULDS: A couple of years ago, when the present major wave of immigrants started, there were some schools in Toronto, Winnipeg and a few other places that had a small group of students in citizenship and language classes. Since then there has been a very large increase in the number of classes and students. In Winnipeg, for example, there was a jump from 100 to 1000 students attending night school in forty-one different classes. The total number of students attending these classes across Canada at present is approximately 25,000, and the classes are held two nights a week.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: These people have come here since the war, I suppose.

Mr. FOULDS: For the most part they have come here since the war, sir, but a rather interesting thing is that they draw in with them some people who have been here ten or fifteen years and are now for the first time becoming enthusiastic about French or English. But for the most part the students are newcomers.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Is 25,000 the total number of students in both French and English?

Mr. FOULDS: That is the total in both French and English, Senator Roebuck. The greater part of them are in Ontario, because more than half of the total number of immigrants coming at present go to that province. That total of 25,000 is approximately one-third of the number of immigrants who have come to Canada from continental Europe in the last year and a half or two years, and approximately 10,000 of them have by a rough straw vote indicated that they would like to come back next year for a second term at night school. Approximately 3,000 of the 25,000 are in Montreal.

The CHAIRMAN: The night classes are held at how many places throughout the country?

Mr. FOULDS: The classes are held all across the country and total 657, but in just how many cities or towns those classes are conducted I could not tell you. In your province of Alberta, Mr. Chairman, there are classes in Edmonton, Calgary, Lethbridge and Medicine Hat, and there may be isolated groups conducted under the auspices of a church or some interested person in smaller places such as Mundare or Vegreville.

Hon. Mr. EULER: Do you find that the immigrants persist in their studies once they begin?

Mr. FOULDS: At first they did not. Then most of them seemed to have the desire to get enough familiarity with the language to go shopping or to understand what was said to them by their employer, and once they had advanced to that point they would quit. But in the last year that has changed, and many of the people attending this year's classes have intimated they would like to come back for a second year.

Hon. Mr. EULER: What proportion say they would like to come back for a second year?

Mr. FOULDS: In a number of the cities and towns of southern Ontario approximately half have registered for a second year, and the average for the whole Dominion would be better than one-third.

Hon. Mr. EULER: The course is entirely free, is it?

Mr. FOULDS: Some local schools charge a small fee, but there is no charge for anything done by a Dominion or provincial department.

Perhaps the committee would be interested if I gave an instance to show what progress is made by some immigrants. The other day I had in my office a boy of nineteen who had been in Canada about fifteen months, and except for the odd slip he spoke as fluent English as you or I would. I asked him where he learned to speak the language and he said at night school in Winnipeg. I could cite many similar instances of the amazing speed with which some newcomers have acquired a good working knowledge of English, and I mean standard English, not pigeon English.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: I have met some immigrants who can converse very freely after being here only three months.

Mr. FOULDS: Once they are taught a few verbs, nouns, adverbs and so on they have to be given practice in the use of the language, and we try to do that by means of simple stories, gramophone records and films. I have here four booklets of simple stories put out by the Canadian Citizenship Council, the organization to which the minister referred. These little stories are designed to give practice in reading.

I have already mentioned that a considerable number of immigrants have indicated a desire to attend classes a second year, and this brings me to one general statement of policy. I think that well meaning people can rush the immigrant too quickly. For the first year at least he has got to be allowed time to settle down a bit, to find out about his work and a variety of things in connection with life in Canada, so in the first year we do not attempt to teach anything about the government or history of Canada, except incidentally in these booklets where there are references to shopping, postage and that kind of thing. But for those people who have taken the one-year course we have a series of three booklets entitled "Our Land," "Our History" and "Our Government". I would like to stress that these were prepared in a Dominion government department and were kept on ice until two major provincial departments of education asked when they were going to get them. I would like to repeat that these booklets are distributed only as school authorities have said "We want them." Here is another pamphlet, of which we have distributed 40,000 copies, and not one of these copies has been given out except on request from a department of education. Maybe I am bending over backwards to remember that there is a British North America Act, but I think we have got better results by co-operating and co-ordinating with the provincial authorities.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: If an individual asked for one of those booklets I suppose you would give it to him?

Mr. FOULDS: If an individual takes enough interest to write and ask us a definite question or to request a booklet, we think he should be supplied.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Certainly he should.

Mr. FOULDS: But if an individual asked for several hundred copies we would have to advise him that in such quantities they were furnished only to the educational authorities.

The CHAIRMAN: How long have you been distributing these three booklets?

Mr. FOULDS: Just the last six months, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN: And there has been a large demand for them?

Mr. FOULDS: The demand has so increased that we are putting out a new edition on the 1st of April, which will include information about Newfoundland and also have a number of illustrations. At the moment I think I have only about 20 copies of the present edition left.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: Have you got these booklets in both languages?

Mr. FOULDS: In both languages, sir. We have tried to keep the booklets factual. We feel that a government department must not start out by interpreting even such a thing as democracy. We are not attempting to issue these booklets in other languages; our aim is to make them interesting so that newcomers will want to read them in English or French.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: It might be useful to distribute these among large numbers of native Canadians who do not know very much about their own country.

Mr. FOULDS: We do not want to start selling them to the general public. One high school principal—in Kingston, I think it was—wrote in and wanted one copy for each of his pupils, but we have not felt that we could use Dominion government funds for that purpose.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: When you get these booklets from the press I should like to receive a complete set of them.

Mr. FOULDS: This book "How to Become a Canadian Citizen" is one which we started to distribute through the courts, which still are our basic means of distribution for it. A person who wishes to file a Declaration of Intention to become a Canadian citizen can do so by applying to a court clerk anywhere in Canada, and less than a year later he will come before the judge for examination. As soon as the person files his declaration he is handed one of these books, in English or French, on how to become a Canadian citizen, our purpose being to help him prepare for his examination before the judge. While the courts have been our primary avenue for distribution, we are receiving requests for copies from many other quarters, even from school authorities.

As stated in Dr. Keenleyside's submission to the committee, the Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources has prepared a booklet called "This is Canada". It is issued in English and French and five or six other languages. The immigration authorities are now distributing it to every person who leaves Europe for Canada, but approximately 75,000 had left before the distribution started. We are not attempting to mail a copy to everyone of those 75,000, but we do provide a copy for every person who attends the night classes.

Then there is a very worthwhile pamphlet "Canada from Sea to Sea", put out by the Department of External Affairs with the primary object, I should judge, of securing trade for this country. It is highly prized by Europeans who are preparing to come here. The other day I was told by one of the Netherlands authorities that their government is providing classes for Dutch folk who are planning to come to Canada, and the prize for efficiency in the classes is a copy of "Canada from Sea to Sea".

Finally, there is the "Canada Year Book", with which you are all familiar, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. It has a large fund of valuable information, and we place at least one copy in every classroom so that teachers and pupils may be able to use it when required.

Hon. Mr. EULER: What is the pamphlet "Our Land" used for?

Mr. FOULDS: The three booklets "Our Land", "Our History" and "Our Government" form the basis of study in the second year. The subject of study in the first year is language.

Hon. Mr. EULER: This is described as "Pamphlet No. 1."

Mr. FOULDS: That is pamphlet No. 1. of the citizenship series.

Hon. Mr. EULER: I should think it ought to be written in the simplest possible English. But here is a section dealing with climate, and it uses the term "precipitation" where I should think it would have been better to say "rainfall".

Mr. FOULDS: These pamphlets were written in the first place for the use of teachers and leaders of groups. Many a person who, when approached, is only too glad to help a group of immigrants, will ask for something to help him in this work, and this edition of the pamphlets was prepared primarily for such persons. Now we are breaking the pamphlets down into simpler editions which will form the material for one or two evening classes. And with them we are putting out film strips. Reasonably cheap projection machines are in use in practically all schools, and we can have on this film a series of about fifty pictures illustrating maybe one-quarter of the book, dealing with the Maritime provinces or the Prairies, for instance. The teacher can use the film as a medium of instruction along with the book. When one is trying to write a book of information in simple terms it is difficult to keep the terms simple and at the time always be accurate. I admit, Senator, that "rainfall" could have been used here instead of "precipitation".

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Is the projection machine for these films available at a small price?

Mr. FOULDS: The ordinary type costs about \$75, and a more elaborate one runs to \$200.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: Would it be possible for the members of this committee to get some of the material that you distribute?

Mr. FOULDS: Certainly, senator.

Hon. Mr. EULER: The immigrants will know more about Canada than some of us do.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: We should know something about these things if we are going to sit on this committee.

Mr. FOULDS: Mr. Chairman, are there any other questions on education or training facilities, before I proceed to a couple of other items?

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: It is too bad that these films cannot be shown through the simple magic lantern which we used to have when we were children. The films, I suppose, are inexpensive?

Mr. FOULDS: To produce a film would cost us, say, \$300, and a print off it would cost one dollar. It is the one dollar-print that is distributed through the schools.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: The film is so small that a high-class lens is needed.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: You can get a high-power lamp for 45 cents.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: It is the lens that is important and costs a good deal.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: With films available at \$1 and a cheap projection machine, many people would run off the films at home, but that is out of the question for most people if the projection machine costs at least \$75. In the five-and-ten-cents store you can buy a very good reading lens for 10 cents.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any other questions on this subject? If not, Mr. Foulds might go on to his other items.

Mr. FOULDS: The Secretary of State referred to the Advisory Committee on citizenship. This committee, Mr. Chairman, at the conclusion of its sittings last year recommended that such a body be set up. The Cabinet appointed a committee composed of the Deputy Ministers of a number of departments—Mines and Resources (of which the Immigration Branch is a part), Welfare, Labour and

Veterans Affairs—and the Under Secretary of State, the Chairman, and myself from the Citizenship Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State. The Privy Council's office provided Mr. Chairman as secretary, and Miss Hayward, from our branch, is co-secretary. We wrote to the Canadian Educational Association, which represents the ten provincial departments of education—I can say ten now, because for some time Newfoundland has been represented in the membership of that association—and we asked if their President would sit in with our interdepartmental committee of deputy ministers. This he agreed to do, and his presence at our meetings has done much to help us work out this whole educational program without ever once overstepping the respective limitations of the Dominion and the various provinces. This prevents overlapping that would otherwise occur in the work of the various departments. Just yesterday when planning one of these film strips I found out that there was a Geography Branch in the Department of Mines and Resources which was also making a film strip, and this afternoon we are having a meeting on the matter. A great deal of clearing-house work can be done by the interdepartmental committee. Of course, it has the function of making recommendations to the Cabinet.

Then there is the liaison work. Since provincial governments and many lay organizations are doing work similar to ours, we in the Canadian Citizenship Branch must be co-ordinators, and our chief function is that of a liaison between the many organizations working with the immigrant. All this liaison work sums up in the development of what I can only call valuable moral defence. We recognize that it is very important to have a North Atlantic Pact and other means of military preparedness. I ask you, gentlemen, if it is not equally important that both the newcomer and the oldtimer in our country should have a consciousness of being Canadian, and a proper Canadian esprit de corps, and back of it all an appreciation of what we as Canadians stand for. That is what I mean by moral defence.

I would like Miss Hayward to deal with the liaison work, but just before you call on her I wish to comment on one other thing. I am somewhat afraid of the good intentions of zealous people who want to compel newcomers to become Canadians at once. There are human factors involved and we must not be in too much hurry. We must be careful not to say to these people "You have got to go to night school" or "You have got to stay on a certain job or else you will not get your citizenship" or things of that kind. We must recognize that there are certain problems which will work themselves out if we allow sufficient time. I would like to tell a little story, Mr. Chairman, which concerns Miss Hayward. Some six or nine months ago Dr. Kaye, another member of my staff, tried to make an appointment for Miss Hayward with a group of immigrant women. The expected invitation did not come and we wondered why. On Saturday we learned the reason. Apparently this group, officered largely by younger women, felt that a number of the older women in the group were not sufficiently familiar with English to be able to understand an address delivered to them in that language. They organized a class in English and they have now advised us that these older women are able to appreciate an address in English, so they would like Miss Hayward to come and speak to them. I cite that merely as an illustration of my point that certain things have to be allowed to work themselves out and cannot be speeded up compulsorily.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: You can lead a horse to water but you cannot make him drink.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Mr. Chairman, I should like to say that I am wholly in accord with that last point made by Mr. Foulds. There is in human nature something which instinctively resists compulsion, and I think the course followed in that respect by Mr. Foulds and his branch is very wise. You will make much more progress by co-operative methods than by waving some sort of stick, even

if it is only a rubber one. I agree entirely with the adage quoted a moment ago by Senator Roebuck, that you can lead a horse to water but cannot make him drink. That expresses a philosophy which in these modern times is a little too much honoured in the breach rather than in the observance.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: Of course, you can go a little too far in that direction. If you bring these people in here and let them think they do not have to abide by any rules or regulations, there will be trouble. I have had a little experience with some of them and I have found that the more courteous you were to them and the better you tried to treat them the more determined they became to push you in a corner or up against the wall and refuse to do what you want them to do. A few moments ago Senator Wood mentioned that somebody had been given a beating.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: That happened right in Saskatchewan.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: I do not think that any employer uses a whip or anything like that on any of these people.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: This employer did use a whip.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: Of course, many a parent has found it necessary to whip even his own children. For the last seven or eight months I have had a couple of Poles in my house, and I do not think they will ever make good citizens. It is not a good thing to give them to understand that they are free to break an agreement after they come here, but that is what some of them do; instead of staying on the job where they have agreed to stay they will trot off to some other job. If they are under agreement to work in the Maritimes, for instance, some of their friends in Ontario will write down and say "Pay no attention to the agreement you made with the government. It does not amount to anything. Quit the job you are on and come to Ontario. We will see that you get a job up here all right." I know of cases like that, and I think the Department of Labour or the Immigration Branch should have some control over these people. I do not approve of beating them or doing anything at all like that, but I do think they should be made to understand that they are required to comply with the law in this country.

Mr. FOULDS: Mr. Chairman, when I spoke of compulsion I had reference only to compulsory learning of one of our languages or attendance at night classes. I feel that, by and large, they themselves are sufficiently eager to become like the other people in their community and that it is unnecessary to introduce any compulsion to bring about attendance at these night classes or the filing of declarations of intention to become citizens.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Time and again attempts have been made by governments to promote a certain language by suppressing others. One can think of a dozen instances of that kind.

Hon. Mr. DAVIS: The Durham Report recommended something of that kind in Canada.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Yes. That is an instance which brings my point right home. Such attempts have invariably been unsuccessful, and the languages which the authorities tried to suppress are still being spoken and will continue to be spoken so long as the attempts at suppression last. That is what compulsion does. But the Citizenship Branch and the organizations with which it co-operates are trying to induce immigrants to attend language classes voluntarily. I remember that when the war was on I remarked that I should like to be able to speak German, but I should not want to be made to speak it at the point of a bayonet.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I do not quarrel with what Senator Pirie said. One of the purposes of the Canadian Citizenship Council is to see that immigrants are acquainted with the fact that our laws must be obeyed and that agreements must

be respected. It may be that here and there throughout Canada there are some well-intentioned people or even people with subversive ideas who will try to create discontent in the minds of newcomers. But the observance of laws and agreements, as I understand it, is not what Mr. Foulds had in mind at all when he made his submission, which certainly appealed to me. Our whole system is founded on a respect for law and for the majesty of law. If that respect weakens, our whole fabric will weaken correspondingly. But teaching respect for law and the observance of law is quite a different thing from an effort to use compulsion in matters not related to law at all.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: How many immigrants break their contracts?

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: A very small proportion.

Hon. Mr. PIRIE: How do you know the proportion?

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Because I have had a good deal of experience with immigration matters.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: What about our own citizens? Some unions and other organizations will break their agreements. Not only Europeans, but Canadians too will do that kind of thing.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: During a great part of my life I have been associated with people who came from foreign countries and settled in the district which I represented in the House of Commons for twenty years. Those people include Ukrainians, Poles, Hungarians, Mennonites and so on, and I know that some of the finest citizens we have in Canada today are members of those racial groups in that district. In their observance of our laws they will compare favourably with people born in Canada. The present generation of these people are just as Canadian as we are. I know some families out there with ten or fifteen children, and everyone has been educated at Normal school or university. These people have gone into business or the professions and have made a most valuable contribution to the social progress of this country. They are hard workers. The first ones who came into the district settled on poor land and made a success where the ordinary Canadian would have starved to death. As Mr. Foulds says, we must allow time for newcomers to get acquainted with our way of life. You cannot make Canadians out of them over night.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there any further questions of Mr. Foulds? If not, on behalf of the committee, I wish to thank him sincerely. He has given us a great deal of enlightenment. We all know more about the work of the Canadian Citizenship Branch and appreciate it more highly than we did when we came here this morning.

Now I will ask Miss Hayward to come forward. Miss Hayward has appeared before us on two or three occasions, and we are always glad to hear her.

Miss CONSTANCE HAYWARD, Citizenship Branch, Department of the Secretary of State:

Mr. Chairman, this morning's discussion has been devoted largely to what I would call formal education of immigrants, and particularly instruction in language. That is obviously the first stage, and an important one, but I think you will agree with me that there is another stage which continues over a much longer period. Our object in developing citizenship among immigrants is to make them feel truly Canadian, and this can only come about as a result of their complete integration into our community life. This requires something more than the instruction that can be given in classes. The introduction of immigrants to local activities will be affected largely by the attitude of the Canadians with whom they come in contact. In other words, the helping of these people is a personal and individual work, and a very important aspect of the general citizenship problem. It is a work that is done largely through private and voluntary organizations.

It is the work that is being done by these voluntary organizations and the liaison between them and the Citizenship Branch that I want to bring to your attention this morning. I do not think it would be desirable for me to try to list the organizations, because, not having them written down, I might omit some of the most important ones. We sometimes forget how many problems—some of them small, but some of them emergencies—are met by the welfare agencies. And of course the requests for information are very numerous. The committee knows, I believe, of the work of the Catholic Women's League and the Y.W.C.A., who have formed a joint committee and many local groups to assist women who come here as domestics. The local groups include also representatives of many other organizations.

I want to make it quite clear that the groups who are helping these people consist of men and women, that they are not exclusively women's organizations. Church groups are playing a very important part, as are also the various ethnic groups. The Ukrainians, for example, have fairly large organizations and are able to give many kinds of assistance to the people who come from their country. Other groups, such as the Latvians and Lithuanians, are a relatively small number of people in this country. However, they do their best for their fellow countrymen who come to Canada, although I suggest that sometimes, as in the case of the Lithuanian displaced persons, a fairly heavy responsibility falls on a small organization. The Jewish organization, as you probably know, is efficient and does a complete job in assisting Jewish immigrants.

There are many other groups. Some of these can offer assistance to the newcomer at a particular time, as for instance, when he has fulfilled his agreement and is probably qualified for other work. He can be helped then by meeting people of his own occupational or professional interests, and assistance is given in this respect by university and professional groups.

A very important work is done by the Women's Institutes and the farm groups. We have had a good many inquiries from them. For instance, we may be asked where assistance in the way of training can be had for a man who is on a farm. The solution of most of these problems will depend on the interest of Canadians. It is easy enough to tell immigrants that in Ontario, for instance, there is a community program for their assistance, but many problems that face immigrants can only be worked out through the co-operation of private citizens. What finally leads a newcomer to feel that he belongs here is the helpfulness of Canadians and their acceptance of him as a citizen or potential citizen. Not long ago a man said to me "I have been naturalized for twenty years. I am a Canadian and I feel Canadian, but other Canadians call me Italian."

I think it is an obligation of the Liaison Division of the Citizenship Branch to give these voluntary organizations as much assistance as possible. We find that they want material, they want opportunities to consult on problems, they want help in preparing programs. An important point which was suggested here earlier this morning is that we cannot help these people as we should without showing good citizenship ourselves. Democracy cannot be taught by lectures. If we tell them that democracy means equality of individuals and then discriminate against them in an organization, we are not likely to have any worthwhile effect upon them. We have to make it clear to them that we wish to take them in with us. I feel that the time and effort that a great many individuals put into voluntary organizations, working on behalf of immigrants, is in itself a demonstration of good citizenship. Since I have been in the Citizenship Branch I have been particularly interested to notice how many voluntary organizations have a citizenship convenor or committee.

I am not giving any detailed description of our work, because it depends on what particular group of immigrants an organization is dealing with, and also whether the organization is in a city or a rural area. But in general I may say that we fit in and work with these organizations. I believe that by working together with these organizations we can show immigrants what we mean by Canadian democracy, and that in this way we are helping to strengthen the fibre of our own citizenship.

One development that I think is worth noting is the trend toward the formation of co-ordinating committees in the larger centres. One realizes that, with the present heavy influx of immigrants into large cities such as Montreal and Toronto, there must be a large number of organizations helping the immigrants. Sometimes one organization may not know what another is doing. In Montreal representatives of more than thirty organizations met and set up what is called the Montreal Council for New Immigrants. If duplication of effort and gaps are to be avoided, it will be necessary to have such co-ordinating committees in all the larger centres. I believe that a start along this line has been made in one or two other places.

Another useful thing we think would be additional liaison work between the Citizenship Branch, or perhaps the Advisory Committee on Citizenship, and these local organizations. With so many organizations in one city one can well realize how difficult it would be for each of them, by its own efforts, to keep in touch with the several departments of the federal government, and how much time and effort could be saved by a local co-ordinating body. This matter is under consideration at present.

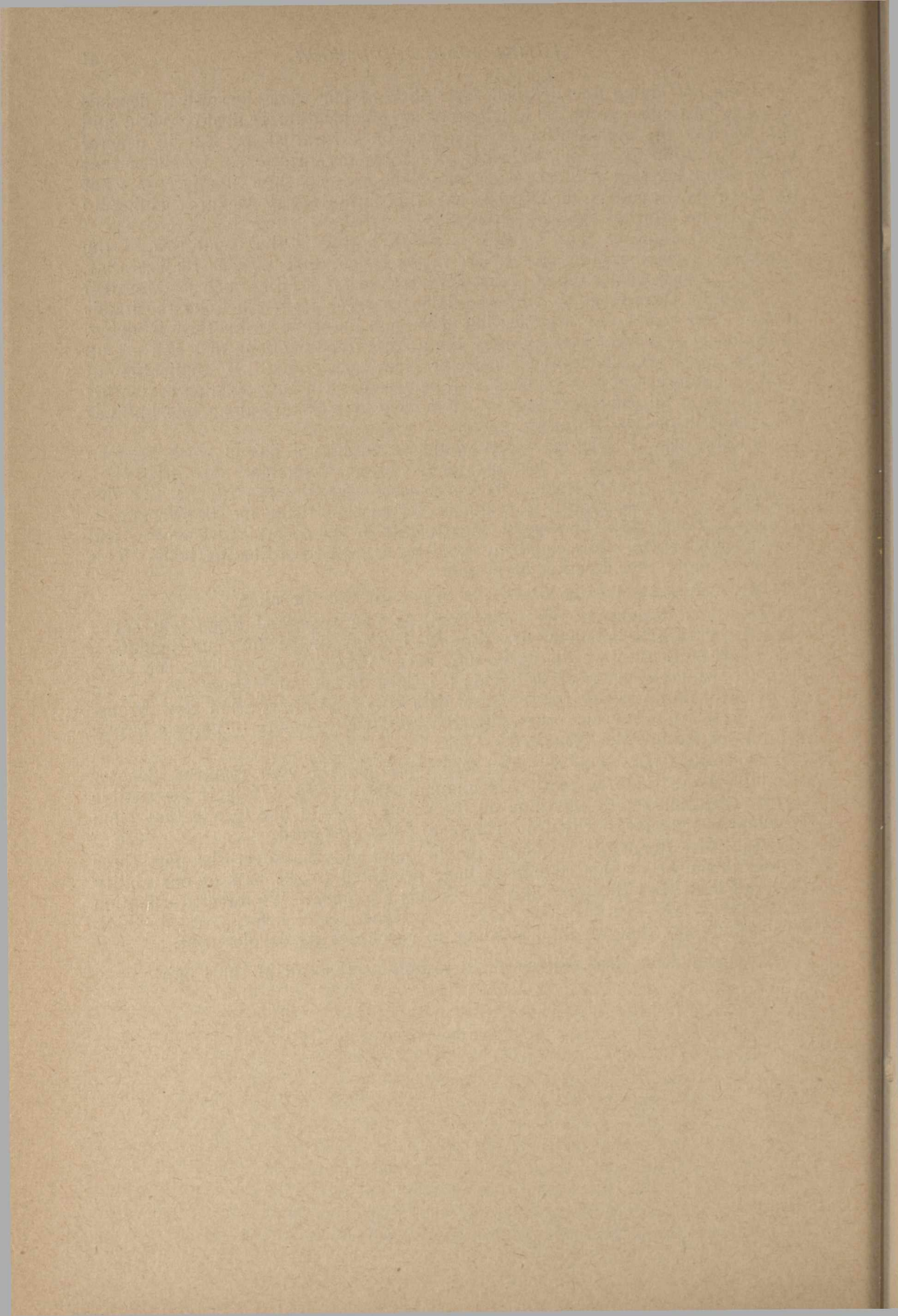
Mr. Chairman, that is all I have to submit this morning.

Hon. Mr. BURCHILL: Mr. Chairman, as you remarked when you called Miss Hayward, this is not the first time she has appeared before our committee, and I am quite sure we all agree that every time she comes here she gives us much valuable material and makes a most favourable impression. I am particularly proud to say this because Miss Hayward comes from New Brunswick, in fact from my own town. It gives me much pleasure to move a hearty vote of thanks to Miss Hayward.

The CHAIRMAN: The applause which has greeted your remarks, Senator Burchill, shows that the motion is unanimously carried. If it is permissible for the chairman to say anything on the point, I should like to add that I am in complete agreement with this tribute to Miss Hayward.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: I should like to point out that over the past three or four years we on this committee have promoted to the best of our ability the work that Miss Hayward and Mr. Foulds are doing. We directed attention to it when it was in its earliest stage as a departmental activity, and I think I can safely say that we shall continue to encourage its development.

The committee then adjourned, to resume at the call of the Chair.



1949

THE SENATE OF CANADA



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

Immigration and Labour

On the operation and administration of the
Immigration Act, etc.

No. 4

WEDNESDAY, 27th APRIL, 1949

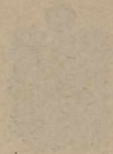
The Honourable Cairine R. Wilson, Chairman.

WITNESS

Dr. Alfred A. Valdmanis, Professor of Economics, adviser to the
Immigration Branch, Department of Mines and Resources.

OTTAWA
EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., B.A., L.Ph.,
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY
CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
1949

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA



PROCEEDINGS

STANDING COMMITTEE

Investigation and Report

On the operations and management of the
University of California

1913

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1913

His Honor the Governor, at the City of San Francisco

WITNESSETH

That I, the undersigned, Governor of the State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the report of the

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON THE OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AS REPORTED TO THE GOVERNOR
JANUARY 22, 1913

STANDING COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR

The Honourable CAIRINE R. WILSON, *Chairman*

The Honourable Senators

Aseltine	Dupuis	McIntyre
Blais	Euler	Murdock
Bouchard	Ferland	Pirie
Bourque	Fogo	Robertson
Buchanan	Haig	Roebuck
Burchill	Hardy	Taylor
Campbell	Horner	Turgeon
Crerar	Hushion	Vaillancourt
Calder	Lesage	Veniot
David	Mackenzie	Wilson
Davis	McDonald	Wood

ORDER OF REFERENCE

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate, Thursday, February 10, 1949.

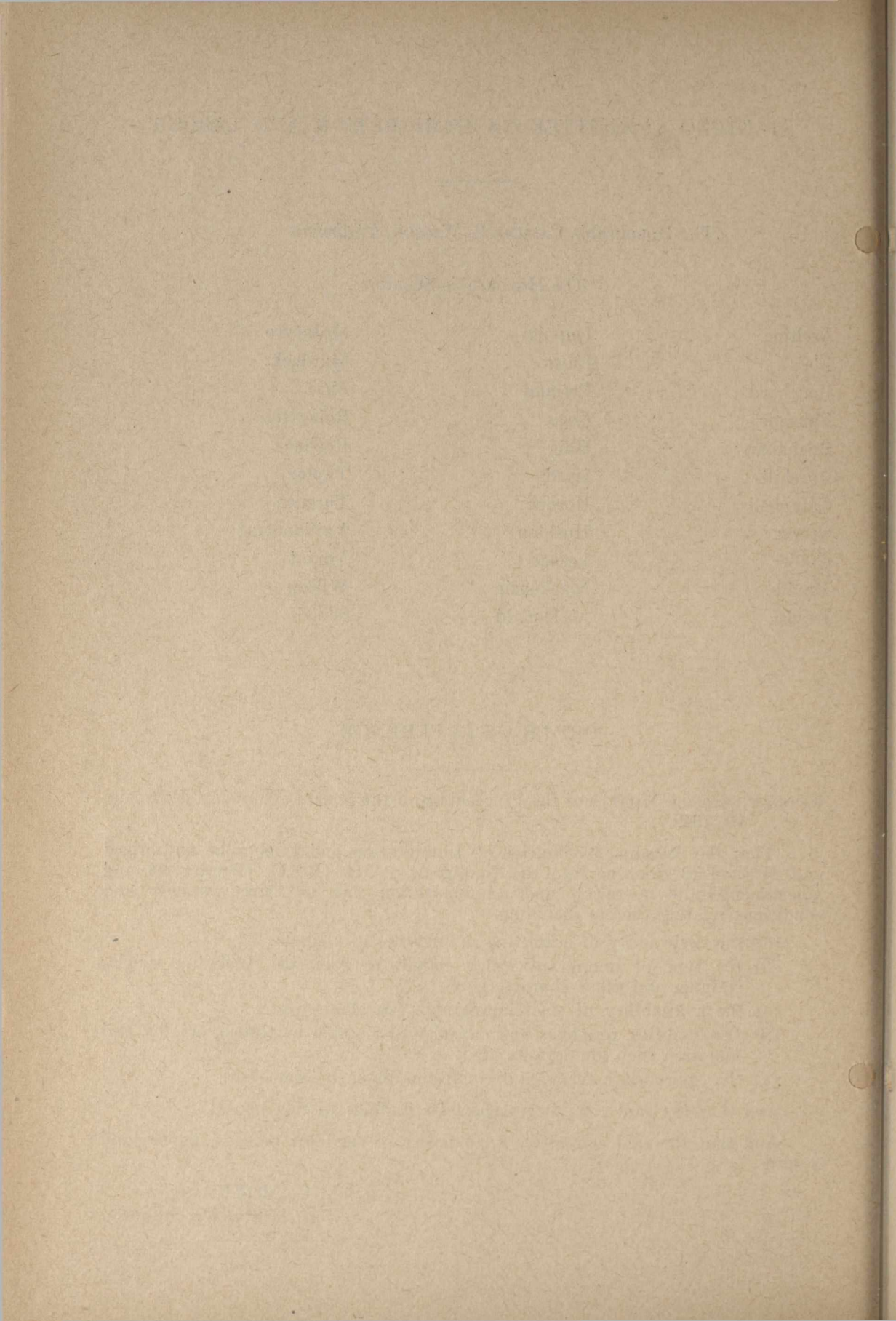
“That the Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour be authorized and directed to examine into the Immigration Act (R.S.C. Chapter 93 and amendments) its operation and administration and the circumstances and conditions relating thereto including—

- (a) the desirability of admitting immigrants to Canada.
- (b) the type of immigrant which should be preferred, including origin, training and other characteristics.
- (c) the availability of such immigrants for admission.
- (d) the facilities, resources and capacity of Canada to absorb, employ and maintain such immigrants, and
- (e) the appropriate terms and conditions of such admission;

And that the said committee report its findings to this house;

And that the said committee have power to send for persons, papers and records.”

L. C. MOYER,
Clerk of the Senate.



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, April 27, 1949.

Pursuant to adjournment and notice the Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour met this day at 10.30 a.m.

Present: The Honourable Senators: Buchanan, Burchill, Crerar, Dupuis, Ferland, Hardy, Horner, Hushion, Turgeon, Veniot and Wood.—11.

In the absence of the Chairman the Honourable Senator Crerar was elected Acting Chairman.

The Committee resumed consideration of the Order of Reference of 18th February, 1949, directing the Committee to examine into the operation and administration of the Immigration Act, etc.

The official reporters of the Senate were in attendance.

Dr. Alfred A. Valdmanis, Professor of Economics, adviser to the Immigration Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, was heard with respect to conditions in the Baltic countries during the war, gave a resume of his own experiences and advocated that Canada permit entry of a larger number of Baltic people from displaced persons camps in Europe; and was questioned.

At 11.00 a.m. the Committee adjourned till 2 p.m. this day.

At 2 p.m. the Committee resumed.

Dr. Alfred A. Valdmanis was again heard and questioned.

At 3.05 p.m. the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chairman.

Attest.

A. FORTIER,
Clerk of the Committee.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Monday, 10th May 1910

The meeting was held at 8.15 p.m. in the Lecture Theatre of the University of Cambridge.

The Chairman, Mr. J. H. Jeans, presided. Present: Mr. J. H. Jeans, Mr. G. H. Darwin, Mr. R. S. Searles, Mr. J. H. Poynting, Mr. J. H. Jeans, Mr. G. H. Darwin, Mr. R. S. Searles, Mr. J. H. Poynting.

The Chairman proposed that the meeting should be held at 8.15 p.m. in the Lecture Theatre of the University of Cambridge.

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MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

THE SENATE

OTTAWA, Wednesday, April 27, 1949.

The Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour, which was authorized and directed to examine into the Immigration Act, met this day at 10.30 a.m.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR in the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, there is another meeting commencing at 11 o'clock, which I am sure most of you would wish to attend. We have with us Dr. Alfred A. Valdmanis, Professor of Economics and Adviser to the Immigration Department in Ottawa, whom we could hear now and then adjourn to attend the other meeting. If anyone has questions to ask of Dr. Valdmanis we could resume following the other meeting. I now call on Dr. Valdmanis.

Dr. ALFRED A. VALDMANIS: Mr. Chairman, and honourable senators, I was invited to appear before you today, but frankly I have no prepared statement. It was my understanding that I would be expected to speak about immigration matters, particularly affecting the immigration of displaced persons and refugees. I am one of those of whom you might ask questions because I have worked with refugees and displaced persons for some time.

The CHAIRMAN: Doctor, would you give us in a word or two your background and your associations.

Dr. VALDMANIS: I am a Latvian, and am still a citizen of that country; I arrived in Canada on October 13 last, coming from Geneva. I am a former civil servant of Latvia. As you know, the Latvian ministers are not politicians. We follow almost entirely the system of government in the United States. The ministers are picked by the President, who is a politician, but his ministers are, let us say, experts. My former position in Latvia was a member of the government of that country. I held my government post until Soviet Russia took over the Baltic countries, and I was among the Russian prisoners. Of course the first thing that country did after it crushed the Baltic countries was to imprison the former government.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: They imprisoned both the government and its employees?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes, but I happened to be among the first; I was a member of the government at that time. The chairman will scarcely allow me to take the time to explain the doctrine and practice followed when a country is taken over. They crush not only the government of the country taken over—that is to say, it does not only mean a change in government.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: But it does mean a change in government also?

Dr. VALDMANIS: It means that, but that is a small sector of the change which takes place. They eliminate the leading people, the government, the political leaders, the economic leaders and all the leaders in industry, trade, commerce, banking, finance and the important real estate owners, including—and this is rather peculiar—the socialist democrat leaders. It is considered that the latter is the greatest competitor of the invaders. Those things are not entirely realized in the western world.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: What do you mean by "eliminated"?

Dr. VALDMANIS: That means they take the people away and as a rule you never see them again. I have no right to say they kill them.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: That is my interpretation of "elimination"—they do away with them.

Dr. VALDMANIS: They do away with them.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: But you are here now.

Dr. VALDMANIS: I am here. The younger people of the government were held for a special trial. As you will recall, when the Russian-German war broke out, the Germans conquered the Baltic countries. The population of Latvia and Lithuania rose in eight or nine days to meet the situation and then the Germans took over. The Germans liberated Russian political prisoners, of which I happened to be one.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: You were liberated by the Germans in their occupation?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes. It was July 1941 when I was liberated by the Germans when they took over Latvia and all the Baltic countries. We thought that liberation meant real restoration of independence and freedom. As a matter of fact when Field Marshal Von Kuechler, the German commander on the eastern front, made the proclamation we understood he was acting in the name of Hitler. He announced the German army was coming as liberators. Because of this announcement the population of the Baltic countries rose against the Russians. It is a fact that some Baltic refugee groups are wrongfully labelled "Baltic SS men". To my mind these people would be the best immigrants to come to a country like Canada. But you must first understand a little of their background.

A word should be said about conditions in the Baltic countries during the Russian occupation. You will excuse me for using this expression, but 97 to 99 out of 100 of the population said that if the devil himself should come back from hell to drive out the Russians he would be welcome. So in June 1941 a man stood up and ordered his army to invade Soviet Russia—this man was Hitler. His armies were welcome in the Baltic countries as liberators, particularly after Field Marshall Von Kuechler made the announcement that they were a liberating army.

So in a matter of about seven weeks we were liberated, but soon the people of the Baltic countries realized that the Germans had not in fact liberated them and restored to them their freedom. If honourable senators will refer to the map they will appreciate that regardless of likes or dislikes the western democracies were so far away from us that there was no possibility of practical co-operation with them. We were between the Russians and the Germans. You might put on your record that during the first world war we lost forty per cent of our population, and we as a nation knew we could not survive another such war.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: How did it cost you forty per cent of your population?

Dr. VALDMANIS: We took part in the war, if I dare say so, on the Russian side. As you will remember, early in 1917 the Russians abandoned us. We had our own regular units and our national force, and for some time the Baltic group held the eastern front and did not give up until they were almost all killed or taken prisoners. We lost forty per cent of our population and it was the age groups of 18 to 45

Hon. Mr. HORNER: You mean forty per cent of the army?

Dr. VALDMANIS: No, of the population. We lost almost our entire army, and that was forty per cent of the population. We were previously a population of two and a half million people, and were reduced to one and a half million. I should like to tell you later, if I am asked questions, of how the political leaders built up our country without that lost generation. We remembered that first great war, and now we knew that we could not survive another such one. We had to do something to survive; we had to place our hopes somewhere. In 1941 the German armies were advancing rapidly to crush the Soviet forces. We remembered that the independence of the Baltic countries

was proclaimed in 1917-18 as a direct result of the collapse of Russia and Germany and now we thought perhaps history would repeat itself, that the Germans would crush the Russians and that after a while the Western Powers and those of us who survived would crush Germany, and the small Baltic countries and relatively small Poland would rise again. That was the plan. But there was no immediate hope for close co-operation with the Western Powers.

You honourable senators know better than I do what was promised in the Atlantic Charter, signed by President Roosevelt and the Prime Minister of Great Britain. The Atlantic Charter, which was later joined by the Honourable Joseph Stalin, seemed to be our only hope. You will recall that the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Great Britain demanded from German occupied countries the formation of military forces, to be kept temporarily underground. This was what we did. We formed our Latvian underground movement in July. Later, in November and December, we were joined by Lithuanians and Estonians also. I happened to be one amongst the few survivors of the former government members, so it was only natural that I became chief of this resistance movement.

Hon. Mr. Wood: This was after the Russians took over again?

Dr. VALDMANIS: No. The Russians were out. The Russians retreated in a hurry. Hitler and his armies were very deep in Russia. We formed our underground forces as required and demanded by Churchill and Roosevelt, hoping that Hitler and his forces would crush Russia somewhere, and then the time would come when all these underground forces would be called up against the only remaining foe, the Germans. This was our plan. This was also the plan of the Balts, the Poles and so on. You will later see how it worked out.

The Germans discovered this organization early in 1943, and they arrested the leaders. I was brought to Berlin, the capital of Germany, and I had to face a German S.S. trial. Then the Swedish Government intervened in my case. This, again, is a story which it will not be easy for you to appreciate. In your country you have no titles, no ranks and no civil awards. You know that is not the case in Europe. We have titles, we stick to them, and we have military and civil awards, medals,—“orders”, we call them. I happened to have decorations of extremely high grades from a number of European countries, among them the award of Grand Commander of the Stella Polaris (or Northern Star) of Sweden. It is the highest decoration that the Swedish Government would give to anybody. According to the rules of this order, the family is under obligation to return the decoration to the Swedish King in the event of the death of the awardee. So if I did not live any more, my wife and children were under the obligation to return the decoration to the Swedish King. Using this as a pretext, the Swedish Ambassador to Berlin intervened in my affair. He was repulsed by Herr von Ribbentrop, the German Foreign Minister. Von Ribbentrop refused to give him any information, on the ground that it was a German internal affair. He explained to the Swedish Ambassador that as an occupied country Latvia was completely under German jurisdiction, and what the Germans were doing in an occupied country was an internal matter. The Ambassador agreed, but told von Ribbentrop that he was interfering on another basis; that the King was very interested to get back the decoration if the man was not alive any more. At this time Hitler was extremely anxious to be on good terms with the Scandinavian countries, particularly Sweden, so my execution was postponed for a week, then two weeks; and at that time postponement of an execution was almost sure to mean that you saved your life. So I survived. I said this in reply to the question of an honourable senator, how it comes about that I am still alive. It is hard for me to explain. These are the material circumstances, but the experience has caused me to believe that there is something more than only man in the world, that there is something else that rules the world.

I was ordered by the Germans to make economic planning for them. I was taken to Biberich-am-Rhein. Biberich is a small city not far from Wiesbaden, which is an important and well known city of Germany. I had to do planning work for the Germans on cement, gypsum, lime, limestone and alabaster. Indirectly it was economic planning for war. The Germans knew that I was one of the Latvian Government trainees. What means a Government trainee in the Baltic countries?

I mentioned to you that 40 per cent of the population was wiped out as a result of the first war. Our political leaders decided then to train for leadership. They picked out a great number of young promising boys in the elementary schools and gave them special education. I happen to be one among them. Every school year, and later every academic year, we were re-selected in a very rigid manner. I remember that in 1929 there were hardly more than a dozen of us. So you can understand the way they dealt with us. When we graduated from our own universities we were sent abroad. To each one a special field was assigned. Mine was the field of economics, trade, industry and finance. I was sent first to Germany, and became special assistant to Dr. Schacht, the President of the German Reichsbank; later to France, England, Belgium, Holland—every European country. In that way we prepared our future economic industrial and financial leaders. The Germans remembered me from that time, and they ordered me to do some planning; so in a certain sense it was the price I had to pay for my life.

In 1945, after the collapse of Germany, I joined for a short while the staff of Field Marshal Montgomery, and worked on matters affecting prisoners-of-war. I had a particular interest in this work, because among these prisoners-of-war in the hands of the English there happened to be some 20,000 Baltic young people, the so-called Baltic Waffen S.S. We shall be able, I hope, to discuss that later. When this question was solved, the Chief of Staff of Field Marshal Montgomery recognized that these men had not been S.S. men and had nothing to do with the S.S., and in January, 1946, they were released from German prisoner-of-war camps and became bona fide refugees and displaced persons. I then joined the staff of General Eisenhower, later that of General McNarny, and finally, General Clay.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: How did you come to be in contact with Montgomery?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Through Field Marshal Alexander, who, after the first World War took part in the Baltic war for freedom. He headed a British observers' unit; but you know, honourable senators, that it sometimes happens that these small "observing units" take some part in the fighting too. So Field Marshal Alexander who was a British lieutenant colonel at that time did a job which our government considered to be important from a military standpoint. He got the highest military awards from our country and the rank of a Latvian colonel. Remembering this, I wrote him a letter when he was Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean forces and I reminded him that Latvian soldiers were in distress and expected some help, and he wrote a letter to Field Marshal Montgomery. Later I went over to the American headquarters and was attached to the Civil Affairs Division of the Headquarters of the European Command, United States Forces, as an adviser on refugee and displaced person matters. In September 1947, at the instigation of the American army, I went over to Geneva to become a senior staff member of the International Refugee Organization.

The CHAIRMAN: Dr. Valdmanis, we wish to continue this study but we have to go to another meeting at 11 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. HARDY: I am very interested in the Latvians and I should like to ask this witness a question now. We brought out three Latvians. We brought out two the first time, and one had a sister over there whose husband had been an officer in the Latvian army and who had been deported to Russia

under the Russians. She has two young children which are about to celebrate their fourth and sixth birthdays respectively. It was very difficult to get these people out, as you will understand, because there was no man with them, but we found some work for the mother to do and we have had the children in our house since last October. This woman has not heard from her husband for something over four years. Would that be about the time of the deportation?

Dr. VALDMANIS: That is right.

Hon. Mr. HARDY: I was wondering what would be the chances of that man surviving?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Honourable senators, there is no chance.

Hon. Mr. HARDY: No chance?

Dr. VALDMANIS: No chance. She must forget about her husband.

Hon. Mr. HARDY: She came down with threatened tuberculosis and for the last three months she has been in one of our consumptive sanatoriums. We brought the children back to our place and the aunt is still in our employ. These are well educated people of a good class. One has found a good place in the Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto, and the other has stayed with us right along and I think she is going to be married and move to the United States. I do not know what will be done with the children but we have practically adopted them for the time being. I am wondering if there would be any chance of this woman getting in touch with her husband.

Dr. VALDMANIS: Honourable senators, there is no chance. There is no chance of survival. This was the fate of the officers of the Latvian army. The officers from a full colonel on were invited to attend a military training course being held at Moscow and they were taken away. Nobody has heard about them since. The lower grades of officers were trapped at a military training centre in Latvia and shot down. They were not wiped out completely, 100 per cent, but generally speaking this was their fate. They were shot.

The committee then adjourned, to resume at 2 p.m.

At 2.15 p.m. the committee resumed.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, will you please come to order? I would suggest, if it is agreeable to the committee, that Dr. Valdmanis might continue his story. This morning he gave us an interesting statement about his own background and experience, and I would suggest that he now deal with the particular problem that he at present has before him, the problem of displaced persons.

Dr. VALDMANIS: Mr. Chairman, I should like to add only a few words to my story of this morning. I think I told you that I left the American headquarters at Frankfort for the headquarters of the International Refugee Organization in September 1947, and I took over the planning division of the I.R.O. For quite a time I was responsible for planning the rehabilitation or resettlement of refugees. Early in January 1948 the headquarters of the I.R.O. decided to send me to Canada to approach all the provincial governments and discuss with them the possibility of settling Balts in Canada. But a colleague of mine, who happened to be a Canadian, Wing Commander Robert Innes, Director of the Resettlement Division, advised us that in Canada this was not a provincial but a federal matter, so the proposal to send me to Canada for that work was dropped.

After the United States adopted its Displaced Persons Bill, in July last year, the planning of refugees' resettlement in the United States came formally to an end. The remaining countries in which important numbers of refugees could be re-settled were Canada and Australia. As you know, gentlemen, Australia has embarked on a very vigorous scheme of immigration; it has decided to increase its population to twenty or twenty-five millions within fifteen years. That is quite a scheme, and I believe that to a certain degree it will succeed. Those of you who have been in Europe and have happened to talk to Balts in displaced persons camps will agree with me that they always say the country in which they would like to settle down is Canada. I believe that is mainly because this country is so much like our own, in the physical sense. The climate is exactly the same. The Balts are practical people who know how to build up a country, because every twenty or twenty-five years they have been involved in a major war and have had to start from scratch again. On the other hand, they are a very sentimental people, and those who have emigrated to Australia say in letters to their friends here, "Imagine celebrating Christmas in a swimming pool!"

In July of last year I was invited by McGill University and the Lady Davis Foundation of Montreal, presided over by Dr. James, to become Professor of Economics at McGill. I came to this country in October, but I still had the refugee problem in my mind, and after a talk with Dr. Keenleyside, Deputy Minister of the Department of Mines and Resources, and with Senator Wilson, I decided to leave Montreal and come to Ottawa. I joined the staff of Carleton College as a Professor of Economics and Political Science, and by special Order in Council I was employed as a consultant to the Immigration Branch here.

As to the special problem of displaced persons in Europe, I think you already know the general background. During the war the Germans took over many countries in Europe. The able-bodied persons in those countries were sent to Germany to do various classes of work. According to the Nazi doctrine, it was up to the "super race" alone to bear arms. That was a doctrine much like the old Romans used to have. The Nazis decided that their wars should be fought by members of the "super race," and that the duty of other peoples was to supply that "super race" with food, materials of war, and so on. In pursuance of this doctrine some nine to ten million European people were brought into Germany for what was called forced labour, and it is these people that made up one group of displaced persons and refugees. Another group, broadly speaking, consisted of soldiers taken by the Germans and made prisoners of war. The third group were men who during the last war wore German uniforms or uniforms much like those of the Germans and who fought the Russians but no other allied country. These latter at the very first opportunity went over from the eastern front to the western and surrendered to the British and American forces. This group is known as Baltic ex-soldiers, sometimes called "Baltic Waffen-SS". The fourth group of displaced persons consisted of civilians from northern and eastern Europe who were brought into Germany by the German Administration and military police force when the Germans had to retreat. That was in 1944 and 1945, when the Russians advanced. The Germans, in retreating, carried out Hitler's scorched-earth policy, burned down everything and carried the population away. At the time of Germany's collapse, in 1945, the people displaced by Germans in these ways numbered some twelve millions. After Germany's collapse the first thing these people wished to do was to return to their homes, and, generally speaking, they did this where possible. But large numbers of them could not recognize their former countries as their homes any longer, for those countries had become dominated by Communist dictatorship and turned Communist. It was the policy of the British and the Americans to avoid forcible repatriation, and because of this policy some 1,500,000 of these displaced people remained in Europe.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: You mean in the German section of Europe?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes, in the German section of Europe, in the western zones of Germany and Austria. I forgot to mention that a good many people in the last group I referred to, the civilians taken by the Germans and brought into Germany, were overtaken by the rapidly advancing Russian forces and made prisoners and carried away. There is not a single refugee or displaced person in the parts of Europe dominated by the Russians. Everybody is either a loyal Soviet citizen or a war criminal. The loyal Soviet citizens have been called out to work in building up the country, and you know the fate of the so called war criminals.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: Are there no displaced persons from eastern Germany?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes. Nobody knows exactly, but the headquarters of the American Command—and I told you I had worked with them for a year or so—made an estimate of from 6,000,000 to 9,000,000 Germans, or people of German origin, have been driven out from their former homes and have come into the western zones. That is one of the reasons why, in my opinion, it is so difficult and practically impossible to restore Germany's economy by any means. The Americans tried for a while to repatriate some groups of displaced persons by force, but they learned that the people would prefer suicide to returning to their country. It took some time for the Americans to realize that these people who preferred death to returning to their own country were not war criminals. When this was realized the repatriation by force was stopped.

The question you might have in your minds, honourable senators, would be what do the refugees and displaced persons look like. Well, I am one such person.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: But they are not all as good looking as you.

Dr. VALDMANIS: Thank you very much, but I am just one of them.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: The racial origin of the Latvian is somewhat that of the Swede or Norwegian, is it not?

Dr. VALDMANIS: About the same. According to the scientists, our history goes back some 4,000 years before Christ; and the scientists say we are from the Indo-European stock, an old European tribe almost completely wiped out. The Latvians and Lithuanians are Indo-Europeans. Esthonians, Finns, and old Hungarians, say the scientists, belong to an Asiatic race; but if you look at the features of these people you can scarcely discern any Asiatic characteristics. But scientists are scientists, and they trace us as far back as 4,000 years, plus 2,000 years of Christendom, a total of 6,000 years. They can prove almost anything.

The people, as I say, look like myself. If I may say so, I think there is no basic difference between yourself and myself except that you have a passport to a fine country and I have a passport the validity of which is considered questionable by all countries behind the Iron Curtain and further, you are in possession of what you have earned, gained by birth, by education and hard work, and we have lost it. This seems to be the basic difference.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: Before the last war was your country similar to others. that is with a few very wealthy people and a great many poor? Is prosperity general throughout your country?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Prosperity was general throughout. Honourable senators, after the first great war we had no outstandingly rich men. We had them before, but as you will see by looking at the war map of the First World War, our

country formed a front and was almost completely destroyed and crushed. Subsequently, we fought a war with Soviet Russia in 1919, and as the Russians were not strong at that time we happened to win. After that war we decided that the only way our people could survive was to keep out of a situation where we would have a few very rich men on the one side and very poor ones on the other. For instance, we nationalized our farm land from two hundred acres up, and distributed the property among farm hands and people who were willing to work.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: Did the government buy this land or take it?

Dr. VALDMANIS: The government took it and paid a small amount for it.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: It was almost a form of Communism, was it not?

Dr. VALDMANIS: It was for the purpose of saving the country from Communism and maintaining capitalism. We had had a short period of Communism in our country and the provisional National government had to choose whether we would lose everything, including our lives, or sacrifice some of the private property. We chose drastic measures, but we were faced with a life or death position. By taxation methods we kept the people on a certain level, so that we have had not many rich people and almost no poor. I hope to God that you will never have to apply such emergency methods in this country.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: You are talking about the people who wish to come to this country. I think the committee is concerned with the type of people we might expect, as to whether they are Socialists, Communists, or what they are.

Dr. VALDMANIS: I would like to plead for the Balts. As to the creed of these displaced persons, first of all they are good Christians, Catholic and Protestant; the Esthonians are entirely Protestant, the Latvians are predominantly Protestant, the Lithuanians and the Poles are Catholic. As to political creed, you will agree with me that the school of hard experience is the best teacher. These people have come through that school. You will scarcely find a single family who has not been hurt in some way under Communism. Take such an extremely lucky person as myself, who cannot explain how he is still alive: I told your chairman a few moments ago that I have three children of my own and a fourth one which we adopted in 1941, four months old, and whose parents were deported to Siberia. I have a half dozen close relatives in Siberia, if they are still alive. So, as I say, you will scarcely find a single Balt who has not lost one or more of the members of his family. This has made them to hate Communism.

Only a few days ago I read in the newspaper of a Russian spy being caught in Calgary. He had entered this country as an alleged Latvian displaced person. I should like to call your attention to this fact. The Russian spy finds it one of the best means of entering Canada to tell your selection team that he is a Latvian. Your selection teams already know the background of the Balts, and when they are told that the applicant is a Latvian, an Esthonian or a Lithuanian, they readily know there can be no question of the applicant being of a reddish or pink nature. I think a statement as to their skills might be interesting for your record. I am in a position to give you the official statistics, as the American headquarters for which I worked has them. Here is the general classification:

	Per Cent
Construction and maintenance, including brick-layers and masons, generally people who work with their hands in construction work	6·7
Administration, clerical and commercial	11·3
Agriculture, forestry, dairy, food processing	24·5
Health and sanitation, including doctors, X-ray technicians ...	3·2
Miscellaneous services, and that is blacksmiths, linotypists, barbers, watch-makers	9·1
Tailors and seamstresses	6·2
Domestic and related services	10·0
Communication, transportation, supply	7·6
Artists	1·0
Professionals, including lawyers, engineers, scientists	6·4
Recreational workers and teachers	0·2
Metal trades, electroplating, metalsmith-in general, metalwork	2·1
Mining, chemical and processing	0·4
Coopers, wool and leather workers	4·5
Labourers	2·5
Inexperienced persons	2·3
Students	2·0
	<hr/>
Total	100·0
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Hon Mr. WOOD: All these people are available as immigrants?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes, sir

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: Where are they now?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Mainly in Germany in the British and American zones of Germany.

Hon Mr. DUPUIS: Cannot people come out of Latvia now?

Dr. VALDMANIS: No.

Hon. Mr DUPUIS: They are on the other side of the "Iron Curtain"?

Dr. VALDMANIS: That is right.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: Did you mention any percentage of farmers?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes, sir.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: The proportion of labour, 2 per cent, is small.

Dr. VALDMANIS: Inexperienced labour.

The proportion qualified for farming, forestry, dairy and food processing altogether is 24·5 per cent

I can leave this table with you for the record, because I do not believe that any office in Canada has these figures. They are official figures, which were presented and considered last year by the United States Senate.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: You are speaking of Balts?

Dr. VALDMANIS: No, I am speaking now of Balts plus Poles plus Yugoslavs.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: Do you know the entire number that are still remaining in these sections of Germany constituting the British and American zones?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes, sir, I do. The total number of refugees and displaced persons in camps is around half a million.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: Yet?

Dr. VALDMANIS: There are Balts to a total number of roughly 100,000, or 97 thousand some hundred.

That is as far as these people are concerned. I have told you about the groups already, and I wish to add a few words about the so-called Baltic ex-soldiers who belong to the category of inexperienced labour, and whom you should be very eager to get for this country. These are the young men who took part in this war, and who sometimes, but wrongly, are referred to as Baltic Waffen S.S. people. It was in the second part of 1943 and the first part of 1944 when the German high command began to realize that they might lose the war, and they dropped the policy I referred to, the policy that only the most dignified Germans, the "super race," were to be allowed to bear arms, and they were quite anxious to get any help anywhere they could. Now, they knew the people in the Baltic countries very well. I am sorry that I have not the time to discuss Communist doctrine, but I may say generally that it contains four periods. One of them is the period called "Reconstruction on Socialist lines." According to Stalin's own doctrine—I am speaking now as a professor of political science—it begins with a sudden crash of the old community. This period of Communism set in in the Baltic countries on the night of the 13th-14th June, 1941. In a single night 1 per cent of the population was arrested and brought away—men, women and children. As you remember, on the 22nd of June the war started. When the Russians withdrew, being driven out of those countries by the Germans, the position was—and the Germans knew it very well—that almost every family in the Baltic countries had lost some members by Russian action. Now, in 1944, a second Russian invasion threatened. I wish to be absolutely frank with you. We considered both as evils—the Germans and the Russians—but we were forced into a position where we had to choose between two evils. Of course, when one is in such a position one tries to choose the lesser evil. So it appeared to the populace that the lesser evil was the Germans; and when the Germans, contrary to international law, mobilized the male population of the Baltic countries, the people, though not very willingly, indeed hesitatingly, let themselves be mobilized. Then they were pressed into uniform.

You will agree with me, honourable senators, that a drafted man has no choice. I believe even in these democratic countries, if a man is given an order to take this and not that uniform, he takes it. So the people got a sort of uniform which was something between that of the regular German army, the Wehrmacht, and the S.S. The difference from the S.S. was that they had no letters, no "S.S."; had not the double flash mark; but they wore instead the national colours of their own country. They were ordered to fight the Russians along their borders. They were going to prevent the Russians from coming back. This is what the young men did and they did it very bravely. More than half of them lost their lives in action. A little less than half were withdrawn and ordered to defend eastern Germany. When the Western Allies advanced and crossed the Rhine River, these soldiers got away and broke through the German lines and surrendered to the forces of Eisenhower and Montgomery. They became prisoners of war and pending investigation they were sent into special camps for SS men.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: In other words, they were classed as German SS men?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes. As a matter of fact, for a short time they were considered to be even worse than German SS troops. It will be recalled that almost every European country had men who voluntarily joined the German SS. This happened in France and Belgium and in many other European countries, and these people were considered just as bad or worse than the German SS men themselves. There was a period when the western headquarters operated under the impression that everybody caught in a uniform like the SS uniform were SS men themselves. Well, these people to whom I have just referred were rehabilitated and released in December of 1945 and January of 1946, because they had nothing to do with the SS. As far as Great Britain and the United States are concerned the status of these people is absolutely clear. Likewise, as far as the headquar-

ters of the International Refugee Organization in Geneva is concerned, their status is clear. In the screening directive issued by the Geneva headquarters, which I helped to draw up, these people are recognized as bona de displaced persons. They are being admitted into Australia also.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: We do not admit them here?

Dr. VALDMANIS: No, you do not.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: You are trying to sell us on the idea that we should admit them; is that your idea?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes. It is my belief that these people are the ones you want from the standpoint of the Canadian immigration policy. They are almost all single; they are young and physically strong. They are strongly anti-communist, additionally so for the reason that they cannot go back because they have fought the Russians and know how the Russians would deal with them.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: That is why the communists here are opposed to them; they want them to go back because they know they will be shot?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes. Honourable senators, if I may speak for these refugees and displaced persons I wish to say that there are a great number of them who would make extremely fine citizens in your country. In these northern European countries, these Baltic countries and Finland, the people still believe in God. If you enter these camps you will see that these people have themselves built little churches. Many Canadians who have already dealt with these people have found them to be most satisfactory. Although they might have belonged to classes prior to the war where they did not do domestic gardening, or farm work, these people have readily adapted themselves to these jobs. They are much like myself. Their past has been crushed; their former lives smashed. They have to start anew much like our fathers did after the First World War. These people are ready to start from scratch in a new life.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there many families among these people?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: You said a moment ago that they were mainly single.

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes, as far as the ex-soldiers group is concerned. Let us say that there are from nine to ten thousand single people among them. Australia is presently eager to take these people and having no alternative they are going to that country in large numbers.

The CHAIRMAN: Are there many elderly people among these 500,000 that you have mentioned?

Dr. VALDMANIS: There are. I guess 4 or 5 per cent would be the age of 55 or more. The Baltic people, much like the Chinese, have a strong feeling about their families and they are not willing to leave them behind.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: Before they were forced into Germany and forced to take arms against Russia, did these people live in the Baltic countries?

Dr. VALDMANIS: That is right.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: What was the form of government in these countries before the war? Was it a democratic form or dictatorship? What kind of system of government did they have?

Hon. Mr. WOOD: Was it an elected government?

Dr. VALDMANIS: It was a democratic government until May 1934. It was an elected parliament with a multiparty system much like the system presently employed in France where you never have a stable government; where the governments come and go almost every month. In 1934 the leaders faced the situation where an extremely small group assisted by local fascists aided by Hitler threatened to overthrow the government. At this time the governments were coming and going and the democratic prime minister, having obtained a

vote of confidence, dissolved parliament in a single night. The Prime Minister of Canada is entitled to dissolve parliament, but we had no similar provision in our constitution. Therefore this dissolution of parliament by a legitimate prime minister was actually an illegal act. Almost simultaneously with this act, the leaders of the Lithuanian and Estonian governments did the same thing, and the following period has been referred to by the Russians and people who are not our friends and by many people who have been misled by the Russians, as a period of dictatorship. Estonia was lucky enough to introduce a new constitution and this was adopted by plebiscite. My own country was not so fortunate. Our new constitution was prepared but not introduced in conjunction with a military treaty which Russia forced on the Baltic States in October 1939.

After we were forced to accept this treaty the Prime Minister decided it was not worth while to have a plebiscite, because the result of it would not be recognized. So it was not democracy in the western sense.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: As to the liberty of the people, were the farmers, for instance, allowed to cultivate their lands as they pleased, to raise crops of their own choice, or were they ordered to do this and that?

Dr. VALDMANIS: They were not ordered to do anything. As to political liberty in the country, perhaps I might illustrate that by the fact that only the communist party in the Baltic countries was outlawed, declared illegal. The reason for that was that in our war of independence, from 1919 to 1922, the small communist group in our country, acting on an order given by Lenin, who was then the chief communist, rose and struck at the back of their fighting brethren. According to our law and international law, and I think according to your law also, such a thing was high treason, and after independence was restored one of the first acts passed by parliament declared the communist party illegal. When Russia overthrew our government, on the 17th of June, 1941, there were exactly 106 communists in jail, and 16 so-called Fascists.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: That was all?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: Were labourers allowed to take whatever jobs they chose?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: They were not dictated to at all?

Dr. VALDMANIS: No.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: What about the system of education? Did you have free schools?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes, free schools. In this country you have many private schools; and almost every college and university is a private institution, sometimes subsidized by the government. But throughout continental Europe, not only in my country, all the schools are state or municipal schools.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: Was liberty of thought allowed?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Of course.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: And liberty of religion?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Of course.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: Was the liberty of the press recognized?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes. As to religion, I do not know what the system is in Canada, but in our schools religion is an obligatory subject. I am not referring to confession of religion but to religion as a subject.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: That is taught in the schools?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes, in every school it is an obligatory subject.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: So you claim that liberty of the human personality and liberty of thought were inculcated in the minds of the children?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes, sir.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: So they know what liberty means?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes. Not only that, but the children are taught the meaning of almost every political doctrine. They know what the doctrine of communism means, and the doctrine of fascism. We do not have to guess about those things.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: So you know how to choose?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: You have your wife and children in this country, doctor?

Dr. VALDMANIS: Yes, I have.

I feel that I must thank you, Mr. Chairman, and honourable senators; you have been very patient with me. I am fully aware of my incomplete English and the difficulty you might have had in understanding me. If at any time you would like data or certain information dealing with particular groups of refugees I would be only too happy to meet with you and discuss the problem. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. DUPUIS: Mr. Chairman, I should like to thank this witness and to suggest that since he has had such a short time to express his thoughts that he be given time to write them out and distribute them amongst our members.

The CHAIRMAN: His remarks will appear on our record.

The committee adjourned to the call of the chair.

