CA1
EA980
C17
V.5 #1-1974
DOCS c.1

CANADA
TODAY / D'AUJOURD'HUI

Immigration

Immigration is a fact of life in Canada.

Last year some 122,000 men, women and children came to its towns, cities and farms. A fifth of all Canadians are immigrants, and almost all other Canadians except the Indians and Eskimos have a forefather or -mother who came from somewhere else not too long ago.

Canada has welcomed strangers since the first Frenchman stepped ashore; once it needed them to harvest its furs, turn its forests into plowed fields, build its towns and lay its railway tracks. Now it needs them in its mines and factories and as professional men and women and business entrepreneurs. The mines and oil fields newly developed in the Northwest Territories are full of young immigrant men earning high wages and making a good start in a new world. Canada's enormous resources remain resources until people change them into something of use. Canada must grow, and, as Immigration Minister Robert Andras pointed out last spring, newborn Canadians (like newborn Americans) are now barely replacing those who die. Canada needs immigrants and immigrants want to come to Canada. Why do they come? For a wide variety of reasons. Some, like Charles and Jean Argast, once of Indianapolis, Indiana, come to remake their lives, but most, like Arnold and Maria Murray, come because Canada is a land of economic opportunity. In this issue we tell about the Argasts and the Murrays and, in less personal terms, about the others who've sought and found in Canada, new homes.

VOLUME FIVE NUMBER ONE JANUARY NINETEEN SEVENTY-FOUR

"We figure to select as immigrants those who will have to change their ways least in order to adapt themselves to Canadian life. . . . This is why entry into Canada is virtually free to citizens of the U.K., the U.S. and France. . . ."
MINISTER OF IMMIGRATION, 1955

An Evolution of Attitudes

[A CONTINUING SEARCH FOR TOMORROW'S PERFECT CANADIAN]

Regulations under the Immigration Act of 1906 and 1910 set a basic tone — Canada welcomed immigrants from the British Isles. It did not particularly welcome those from Asia. Its acceptance of other folk fell somewhere in between.

In 1911 the American Commission on Immigration confirmed the Canadian suspicion: the "old immigrants", the ones who came to the New World in the 18th and 19th centuries from Great Britain and northwestern Europe, were the "best" immigrants. "New immigrants", from eastern and southern Europe, had a harder time fitting in. They were, for example, apparently reluctant to become citizens.

"Other things being equal, therefore," a Canadian commentator said, "immigrants from those countries and of those stocks which are readily naturalized are to be preferred as settlers to those among whom naturalization is unduly delayed." In 1927 these principles were consolidated into law. It was some time before studies began to show that the Commission conclusion on the desire for naturalization was almost exactly the reverse of what was the case. The "new" immigrants were the ones who did take out citizenship papers as soon as possible. And indeed the immigrants from eastern Europe, notably those from the Ukraine, would prove a major and lasting part of Canada's multi-cultured mosaic. The Ukrainians came first in small numbers at the turn of the century, then in two great migrations. Between 1907 and 1916, 59,861 immigrants arrived; then there was an ebb — between 1917 and 1925 only 3,670 arrived; but between 1926 and 1930 there was a great expansion, with 45,361 landing. Almost all of them went west to the Prairie Provinces. The early comers were true pioneers, turning forests into farms. They have retained their cultural identity to a remarkable degree to this day.

Selection by origin remained the cornerstone of policy through the thirties, forties and fifties. The Depression and World War II cut the number of immigrants sharply, but after World War II a new flood began.

In 1947 immigrants were eager to come and Canada was eager to have them, particularly those from the favoured nations.

"The policy of the Government is to foster the growth of the population of Canada by the encouragement of immigration," the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, told Parliament that year, and he added that "the people of Canada do not wish to make a fundamental alteration in the character of our population." But the post-war world was more complicated, and the unscathed nations had a new sense of obligation. Canada maintained its preference for the U.K., the U.S. and France, but made an effort to open its mind, and to some degree its ports, to deserving survivors of the battlefield. In July, 1946, it was decided that single men who were ex-members of the Polish armed forces could be admitted from their stations in the U.K. and Italy if they agreed to work on Canadian farms for at least two years. Over 4500 did. An arrangement was worked out to admit Dutch farmers who wished to buy farms in Canada but who were hampered by their country's currency regulations. Some 15,000 of them were permitted to enter Canada as farm labourers who would become farm owners as soon as they could extract their money from home. Canada also made a commitment to the International Refugee Organization to accept displaced persons — in the next five years 166,000 would be given refuge. After 1948 the ban against immigration by citizens of recently enemy countries was lifted; Italians began to come in sizable numbers in 1950, Germans in 1951.

In 1950 the Government broadened the admissibility base: the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration could admit any person who, he felt, was "a suitable and desirable immigrant having regard to the climatic, social, educational, industrial, labour and other conditions." The favoured nations were still favoured; persons from the U.K., the U.S., France, Ireland, Australia and South Africa were excluded only if they had criminal records or serious contagious diseases. Persons from Belgium, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Switzerland could come if they were skilled in certain trades. Farmers and farm workers, domestics and nurses were admitted from the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Greece and Finland. A gesture was also made

COVER PHOTO: © THE FAMILY CIRCLE ®

toward some members of the Commonwealth — 150 immigrants could henceforth be admitted yearly from India, 100 from Pakistan and 50 from Ceylon.

In 1953 the Governor in Council was given unlimited authority to prohibit immigration on the basis of nationality, ethnic origin, occupation, customs, habits and, in general, unsuitability. The Canadian Supreme Court soon ruled that though the Governor General had the authority, he could not delegate it sweepingly to the Minister. The preference remained with the favoured nations, but was enlarged. Immigrants from southern Europe, who had been admitted only when they had a relative in Canada who acted as their sponsor, were to be admitted as easily as those from northwestern Europe. Asians could only be sponsored by relatives who were actually Canadian citizens.

These policies were of enormous significance (to Canadians and immigrants alike), for immigration in the post-war years was at a fevered pitch. Between 1951 and 1955, some 792,000 immigrants were admitted, 28 per cent of British origin. Between 1956 and 1960, some 783,000 were admitted (282,000 came in 1957 alone); one-third were of British origin and 17 per cent were from Italy. Those from Italy were mostly sponsored. There were also hardship admissions; in 1956, 36,000 Hungarians were admitted after the uprising, many of them students or teachers, including the whole faculty of forestry from the University of Sopron.

The specific favouring of northern Europeans was reinforced by selective recruiting. As the Minister told Parliament: "If anyone comes to our offices and he appears to be a likely person, we do our best to get him to come; but this is not our policy in all countries and there are some countries in which we do no promotion at all." A Canadian recession slowed the in-flow from 1958 to 1961, although 3,500 refugees (some handicapped by tuberculosis) were admitted in 1959 in support of World Refugee Year.

In 1962 Mrs. Fairclough, the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, announced a new approach — future stress would be on education, training and skills, not on point of origin, though in terms of recruiting, the favoured were still favoured. In 1964, of thirty-two immigration offices abroad, four were in the U.S., six in the U.K., fifteen in northwestern Europe, three in southern Europe, and four in the rest of the world (Cairo, Hong Kong, New Delhi, Tel Aviv).

There were none at that time in Latin America or the Caribbean.

In 1966 a Government White Paper made a specific resolution: there would be no discrimination in immigration by reason of race, colour or religion. A point system was adopted, giving weight to such matters as age (a point was subtracted for each year of age over thirty-five), education, ability to speak English or French, and occupational skills. The patterns of immigration had already been changing. In twenty post-war years, from 1946 to 1965, two and a half million persons had arrived in Canada, a third of them of British origin, but 15 per cent had been Italian and at one brief point, from 1958 to 1961, the Italian in-flow had been greater than the British. Despite France's status as a favoured nation, French emigration to Canada has always been slight.

Most recently, the patterns have shifted notably and the flow has slackened. Some 122,000 immigrants came to Canada in 1972, including 5,021 Asian refugees from Uganda admitted by special provision. This was a gain of only 106 over 1971 when no such refugees came in and far below the peak years of the fifties. Of the latest arrivals, 18.5 per cent, or 22,618 persons, came from the United States. Britain was second with 14.9 per cent, or 18,197, Portugal third with 8,737, Hong Kong fourth with 5,094, the Uganda refugees sixth, Italy (once a major contributor) seventh with 4,608 and Greece eighth with 4,016. The Philippines sent 3,946 and Jamaica, 3,092.

Canada's Immigration Policy is still evolving and the present time is one of particular ferment. Mr. Andras, the Minister, said recently that the present Act, written basically in 1952, is no longer adequate.

"A new immigration policy must be based on a general agreement about the kind of Canada we want tomorrow," he said. "We must define well-founded objectives about how fast our population should grow, how it should be spread between cities and rural areas and among the various regions and what kind of social and cultural environment Canadians want."

The Minister also announced the formation of a special task force to study the question. A senior official from External Affairs, R. M. Tait, was named chairman of the force, and Fernand Renault, a well-known journalist, was named associate chairman. The Minister will publish a "Green Paper" outlining policy options and the perceived consequences of each. The Green Paper will be discussed publicly and privately next summer and an Immigration and Population Conference will follow. It is anticipated that very basic changes may be made.

"The task," Mr. Andras said, "is enormous and difficult."

LIBRARY DEPT. OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTERE DES AFFAIRES EXTERIEURES

The Old Immigrants

[THE 19TH CENTURY WAY WAS NOT SMOOTH]

Most 19th century immigrants to Canada came from the British Isles. Before 1900 there were many immigrants and few tourists and it was easy to tell them apart; the occasional tourist was almost surely a wealthy Englishman or American out to bag a moose or catch a trout. The immigrant was usually Scottish, English, Irish or Welsh and he was seldom well off and often desperately poor. He and his wife and children travelled on slow ships, often in squalor amidst triumphant disease. Here are some random passages from a book entitled *British Emigration to British North America, the First Hundred Years,* by Helen I. Cowan, published by the University of Toronto Press.

"The year of 1812 had shown the colonies' need for an increase in population. While the war was still under way, Lord Bathurst, secretary for war and the colonies, consulted . . . officials about his plan for turning to the advantage of the empire, the spirit of emigration which . . . prevailed in the Scottish Highlands. . . . According to some few theorists, the vast undeveloped wastelands of the colonies could be used for the good of the whole empire, of the landlords with overcrowded estates, of the manufacturers seeking new markets, of a government striving to quiet agitators. . . .

"In anticipation . . . terms for 'Settlers Proceeding to Canada' were drawn up . . . the Chancellor of the Exchequer . . . assured the House . . . that no encouragement to emigration had been given, but that . . . 'the object of the government was merely to direct those determined to emigrate and change their destination from the United States to His Majesty's possessions.'

"Under the heading, 'Liberal Encouragement to Settlers', the first official notice . . . appeared in the Edinburgh newspapers on Feb. 25, 1815 . . . the inducements offered . . . were liberal: transportation to the colony; free grants of 100 acres of land to each head of a family, and to the sons on coming of age; rations for eight months or until establishment; axes, plows and other implements at prime cost; and a minister and school teacher on government salary. In return the emigrant was to produce a satisfactory recommendation of character . . . and deposit . . . on his departure 16 pounds for himself and 2 pounds for his wife, the whole sum so deposited to be returned two years later in Canada when he was satisfactorily settled on his land.

". . . The best example of a well-conducted emigration during the first half of the 19th Century is that from Sussex . . . where the Earl of Egremont . . . brought about the formation of the Petworth Emigration Committee in 1832. The purpose . . . was not to shovel out paupers but 'to remove from the minds of persons of all classes the notion that emigration to Canada is banishment, and to cherish the idea that it is only a removal from a part of the British Empire, where there are more workmen than there is work to be performed, to another, a fertile, healthful and every way delightful portion of the same empire, where the contrary is the case.'

". . . At the end of the period, one of the most controversial clearances . . . took place from the estates of Lord Palmerston and Sir Robert Gore Booth in County Sligo . . . the emigration agent at St. John . . . accused Gore Booth of shovelling out the old and infirm and asserted that Lord Palmerston's emigrants wore the foulest rags and the children appeared stark naked. Some of the emigrants at once became public charges and the citizens of St. John protested in shocked surprise that a minister of the Crown would permit such heartless treatment. . . . Whatever may have been the fate of the individuals in the New World, Palmerston's property enjoyed the benefit of the removal. Within the year its tenants were described as prosperous in contrast with the multitudes. . . ."

At the top, left, are the first members of the famed Doukhobors to come to Canada. They came as religious refugees from Russia in 1899, aboard the ship Lake Huron. *Free land brought future farmers. The pioneers shown in the middle, left, were awaiting the land-rush starting gun in Saskatchewan near the turn of the century. Most immigrants did not have motor cars and when they moved to settle the plains they lived in whatever shelter they could find. In the middle picture, right, is the Barr colonist camp in Saskatoon. The year is 1903.*

The new world homes borrowed their style from the lands left behind. Theodosy Wachna, once of Galicia, built these in Stuartburn, Manitoba. Even before he built a proper home, the immigrant farmer cleared the land. The Dutchmen, at the lower right, are ready to chop the bush.

The U.S. Sends Its Teeming Masses

[INCLUDING SOME THOUGHTFUL MIDDLE-AGED PEOPLE]

Each year Canada and the United States exchange citizens on a scale which may be unique in history.

Last year, over twenty thousand people left the U.S. to live in Canada. At the same time, Canada saw over twenty thousand of its citizens move to the U.S. The two-way flow is historic. Between 1897 and 1930, 1,435,338 Americans went north, 120,000 of them in the single year 1912.

The Americans who've chosen to leave their native land are not, as one might think, mostly young; young adults are a small part of the whole, less than 10 per cent. The qualifying standards are designed to favour persons in their late youth or their early middle age. In recent years much attention focused on young men from the United States who were deserters from the armed forces or who went to Canada to avoid the American draft. Canada treated them as it treated all other persons crossing the border — they were accepted as visitors or landed immigrants, depending on their desires and qualifications. The military status of persons seeking entrance into Canada has never been a factor in deciding admission. At no time were deserters or young men avoiding the draft a major percentage of the Americans coming into Canada.

The Americans who go to Canada also differ remarkably from the stereotype that the word "immigrant" suggests. Immigrants were once assumed, correctly, to be men and women simply seeking a decent living.

In the calendar year of 1971, a total of 24,366 Americans took a one-way trip north. Of that number, 1,487 were classified as "owners, managers or officials."

Another 4,828 were professional people: 774 professors or principals, 797 school teachers, 178 graduate nurses, 211 religious professionals, 154 authors, editors or journalists, 188 musicians and/or music teachers, 237 social workers, 186 science technicians and 379 miscellaneous professionals.

Charles and Jean Argast, a couple in their forties who left their Indianapolis suburb in the spring of 1969, were typical. After sober (and one can honestly say, prayerful) consideration, they moved to Vancouver in British Columbia. Their motives are difficult to put into words— they felt that it was necessary that they remake their lives in a new land, and they went to Canada because it was at once foreign and familiar and it promised a kind of freedom they sought.

The move was difficult — they were breaking the ties of a lifetime. Charles, a partner in a prosperous electric appliance company, sold out his share and started in Vancouver as an employee, not a boss, at a markedly lower salary. Jean had to cope with the enormous problems of moving twelve people from one home and one country to another — problems of manners, customs, friends, schools and identities. Charles had to qualify as a landed immigrant under the point system: he gained points for education — he had a university degree from Marquette, two years of law and was studying for an MA in theology; but lost points for age — a minus for each year of his age over thirty-five. He needed fifty points out of a possible one hundred and he made it.

The Argasts were and are committed people. They were active in public service and ideological groups in Indiana, including one called "Hoosiers for Peace." They moved after years of consideration and many exploratory trips, but having decided, they did not hesitate.

"Once you start walking across the border," Charles said then, "you'd better keep walking."

They found a pleasant nine-room house in Coquitlam, on the outskirts of Vancouver, and, as they told *Life* magazine then, they had immediate positive reactions. "Canadians are more oriented to people and their needs and less to a system," Charles said, and Jean noted that they could easily spend their weekends in the British Columbia wilderness "exploring all the niches and crannies and getting away from the urban octopus." She said she felt as if they were "stepping back a generation or two."

That was four years ago.

Immigrants are admitted to Canada on the basis of a point system. Points are given for things such as educational level, age, occupational and professional skills, and the ability to speak English and/or French. Persons desiring more specific information may obtain it through the nearest Canadian consular office.

They have since moved to another pleasant house in north Vancouver. They are surviving, and they are glad they came, but, Jean Argast says, the transition was more difficult than they'd anticipated. Charles has a new job working with prisoners in the penitentiary as a counsellor and program director. He is, Jean says, "very competent and very happy." However, their income is only half of what it was in Indianapolis.

The older children had some trouble adjusting, though the younger ones had none at all. "The schools are much more relaxed and the young kids feel it." Most surprising to Jean Argast was the slow but final realization that they were no longer at home. "It took a good year and a half to realize that I was still an American — that I felt like an alien. I should have expected that — but I hadn't. Canada has a lot of differences." She found, for example, that Canadians are much more frugal. With her income diminution she has learned to be frugal too.

"We are surviving and we are glad we came, but it has been difficult."

And the climate of British Columbia is almost, if not quite, perfect.

"This has to be one of the nicest places in the world," she said, "except when it rains."

Tourists Should Now Buy Round Trip Tickets

[AN EXPERIMENT IN EASY IMMIGRATION WHICH PRODUCED UNEXPECTED RESULTS]

Persons illegally in Canada who failed to register by midnight, October 13, 1973, can be deported without appeal.

As Robert Andras, Minister of Manpower and Immigration, put it, the Department now has "no choice but to start proceedings."

Mr. Andras, with the help of Parliament, has spent the last year making painful adjustments in Canada's immigration laws and policies.

The first was the cancelling of the opportunity for "tourists" to become Canadian "landed immigrants." The opportunity was first offered in 1967, and it seemed like a good idea at the time. Before that, persons wishing to immigrate to Canada had to first apply at a Canadian office in their own countries for immigrant visas and to get them they had to meet standards involving their health, occupations, age, aptitudes and education. The Government altered the procedure to save a small number of people a great deal of trouble — people who came to Canada as tourists and who found they liked it so well that they wished to remain. Under the new dispensation, they could apply for landed immigrant status on the spot without making the long trip home.

"It was intended and expected to be used by only a handful of persons," Mr. Andras said.

It was soon being used by tens of thousands and the authorities grew increasingly suspicious.

"I cannot bring myself to believe that people who sold their houses and possessions and in other ways burned their bridges in their home countries were being completely frank when they said on arrival at a Canadian port of entry that they were here only for a visit," Mr. Andras said. He added that he did not wish to appear to blame the bogus tourists too much.

"We cannot forget that these are human beings, many of them, no doubt, the unfortunate victims of unscrupulous, self-styled immigration counsellors who may have convinced them for a fee that they were doing no wrong in short-circuiting the law." The circuits were, however, being shorted on a scale not seen since the New York City electrical blackout. Over 30,000 persons who entered as tourists were applying for immigrant status each year. Most were accepted, and those who were turned down had exhaustive rights of appeal. They used them. The Immigration Board of Appeals was soon overwhelmed.

In November, 1972, the Government suspended the "tourist" right. It also made it clear that the suspension (and a few months later its cancellation) did not mean that Canada wished to discourage immigration; new offices to handle immigration applications would be opened in the U. S., Africa, Southeast Asia and South America. The first nine were all in the U.S. — in Boston, Buffalo, Detroit, Minneapolis, Seattle, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Dallas and Atlanta.

The final cancellation of the privilege (in June) still left problems behind; the Appeals Board had 17,472 pending cases. Processing them at the rate it had been (100 a month), it would need a decade to catch up. There were also tens of thousands of persons illegally in Canada who'd come with the intention of applying under the "tourist" provision, but who'd been prevented from doing so by the November suspension. The Government expanded the Appeals board to catch

up with the potential deportees and announced a last chance for the rest to register as immigrant applicants. Immigration Centres remained open from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. on weekdays and from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. on Saturdays. By the October deadline, 37,901 had registered, and 99 per cent of them had qualified as landed immigrants. Many were recent graduates of Canadian colleges and universities and Minister Andras was pleased. "Canada will certainly benefit from this high calibre of registrant," he said.

It does seem that the problem has now been disposed of. Immigrants and tourists will continue to be most welcome but it will no longer be practical for the former to pretend to be the latter.

The Murrays Come to Calgary

["I HAVE NO WORDS TO EXPRESS IT . . ."]

Arnold and Maria Murray are recent arrivals. Maria is twenty-nine, slim, with dark hair and eyes and a gentle voice. She was born in central Spain, in the town of Plasencia in the Province of Caceres. Her father died when she was four and she was raised by an aunt in Malaga. She began to pursue opportunity when she was sixteen and just out of school — she went to England and worked as a mother's helper and in hospitals while learning the language. She worked there for nine years, learned the language and met her future husband, Arnold. Mr. Murray was a photographer and ambitious. In 1969 they decided to pursue the future somewhere else — "My husband said Canada is a good country and I said, 'very well'." Mr. Murray came first and Maria followed in three months with their daughter, Rosemary. Arnold landed in Montreal and then, after considering the opportunities, moved to Calgary in Alberta. He started his own photographic business. Maria came to Calgary and suffered cultural shock. "I was very much depressed, but I got to know a lady who was working at a hospital and she introduced me to a little group of people and someone suggested that I should go to school. The [Department of] Manpower thought that was a fine idea." In two years Maria raised her education level from the fifth to the eleventh grade and became a qualified multi-language stenographer. Last July she got a job as a secretary in the Romance Language Department at the University of Calgary. She attends French classes one hour each morning (and gets "excellent" marks). This summer she plans to enroll as a regular part-time student. "I am going to graduate as something. When I finish my French classes I am going to investigate and decide what I'll take next."

The Murrays live in a comfortable apartment in the middle of Calgary. Rosemary is now eight and happy in school. Arnold has a mobile photography van and is doing well, though Maria feels he is working too hard. "He works twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week," she says. Maria finds Calgary a very pleasant place, but the dry climate is hard on her hair and skin. She is grateful to Canada for giving herself and her family a new life. "I have no words to express it. I must simply say I love it. I never thought that I would have such opportunities. In Canada anything I wish to do, I can do it."

Refugees

Canada is proud of its contribution to the solution of the refugee problem. It is second only to the U.S. in providing homes for the displaced. The 37,000 Hungarians admitted after 1957 constituted the greatest influx experienced by any country on a per-capita basis. During the World Refugee Year, 1959-1960, Canada admitted 3,508 persons, including 325 tubercular persons and 501 members of their families. When Czechoslovakia was occupied in 1968, 9,149 Czechs came to Canada. In May, 1962, 100 Chinese refugees from Hong Kong were accepted, and since then 25,000 Chinese immigrants have come from there. In 1971 the first of some 240 Tibetan refugees were admitted. In 1972, Canada admitted 4,700 Asians from Uganda. This fall Canada offered itself as a haven to the 2,000 Chilean refugees registered with the U.N. and sent special immigration teams to Chile, Panama, Honduras and Argentina. So far only 20 Chileans have actually arrived in Canada; 50 have secured visas and another 125 applications are being processed.

Farm Boy Paints the Town

[KURELEK FINDS SUCCESS IN TORONTO]

In the myth, the immigrant lands, works hard at low wages, lives poorly (but better than he did in the old country) and dreams. His dreams come true, if not for him for his children.

The myth is easily romanticized; we like to think our fathers' or our grandfathers' or our great-grandfathers' lack of conveniences, frozen foods and fancy clothes was balanced by warm family ties, a rich ethnic culture, wholesome labour and a housewife who could convert cabbages into dishes fit for kings. It was seldom that pleasant.

The Ukrainians came to the Prairie Provinces in the early years of the century in great streams and they were and remain distinctive in culture, language and religion. They were also typical of those immigrants who had to grapple with a strange new language as well as a strange new world.

William Kurelek is today a celebrated Canadian painter, but his road to success was always difficult and often overwhelming. He began on his immigrant father's farm in Alberta and advanced painfully through public schools, hard manual work, the university, loneliness, random travel and a period in a mental institution. He arrived in time at Toronto where he is today, a remarkably balanced and intensely religious man. We offer some excerpts from his autobiography, Someone With Me, *published by the Center for Improvement of Undergraduate Education at Cornell University, and pictures from his* Oh Toronto, *recently published by New Press, Toronto.*

"I was born on the third day of the third month in 1927 on a farm near Whitford, which is 75 miles northeast of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. My father, Metro Kurelek, had emigrated to Canada as a young man from the village of Boriwtsi in the Province of Bukovina in the Ukraine. My mother was born in Canada, but her parents had also come from Boriwtsi. My father's early life was hard and uncertain despite his own father's being a fairly prosperous village farmer. Bukovina was then part of the powder keg collection of nations which spawned the First World War. Father's education was abruptly cut short in his third grade. The battle front between the Russian and the German and Austrian armies passed several times over the village. . . .

". . . my father arrived with a mere nine dollars in his pocket and a small wooden suitcase . . . an uncle was a storekeeper in Willingdon, Alberta. And a Mr. William Huculak, a prosperous farmer of Whitford, had given promise of employment so father could work off his passage. . . .

". . . fortunately, considering his temperament, my father's first ten years or so of life in Canada were in the all-Ukrainian district around Willingdon. . . . My grandfather (that's my mother's father) was the original pioneer of the District. When he came over as a boy with his father at the turn of the century the land was complete wilderness—bush patches, wild grass, migrant bands of Indians, mosquitoes, bears. . . .

". . . It was typical of those hard-driving times that my father was immediately put to work. At 4 A.M. the next morning, he was already shovelling a wagon of grain. My earliest impression of grandfather was that of a bluff loud-voiced man who drove his own car and was something of a drinker. . . . He rubbed my father the wrong way almost at once. . . .

". . . of the hardships of those very first years . . . I have only a kaleidoscopic collection of memories . . . I . . . wasn't even aware of having lived through the Depression until I read about it in school in my late teens. The big crash came, as everyone knows, in 1929, but it was a few more years before the plummeting of grain prices and bad crops finally forced my father to sell his Alberta farm and head for Manitoba to make another ambitious beginning.

". . . In memory I see these old country women sitting around a table loaded with food. In the next room is a profusely decorated, beflowered open coffin surrounded by burning candles. Behind that, in the corner stands a giant gilded Byzantine cross reflecting the flicker of the candle flame. A similar picture I have of that time, almost like a woodcut printed in blacks, yellows and oranges, is of us arriving by wagon on a chilly spring evening for the Easter all-night vigil. In the Shandro churchyard are many large bonfires surrounded by scattered groups of men folk warming their hands and chatting. The women with their Easter baskets go right in. I stand with mother on the women's side of the

Above, *Early Afternoon on Scarborough Bluffs*, mixed media, 48 x 24 inches.
Right, *Handel's Messiah at Massey Hall*, mixed media, 39½ x 14 inches.
Opposite, *It's Hard for Us to Realize*, mixed media, 23¼ x 48 inches.

church since I'm not yet considered to be a man. . . .

". . . now came the day of that traumatic growing-up experience — starting school. . . . It was a chilly, raw, grey early spring day — a perfect backdrop to our own feelings. . . . We'd talked . . . in Ukrainian and this was taboo in a mixed race community. There were all nationalities. Slavic and German people combined just slightly predominated over Anglo-Saxons. So that very first recess we found ourselves standing alone against the school building while all those shabby, somberly dressed children played their own games around us. . . . But things there were to get worse, much worse. . . .

". . . Once in a while my mother would try to elicit our sympathy for father. I can still hear her as we stood together and father was off in the distance on the binder, cursing the horses. 'You mustn't be annoyed with him — he's trying so hard to succeed and it's not working out'. . . . What bothered me — flabbergasted is a better word — was that he was so angry at us, his helpers, not because we were lazy — we weren't — but because we were inexperienced. . . . 'How can that be right?' I asked myself. . . .

". . . One day the young foreman, trying to find work for us so we'd appear to be busy, sent four of us up a three story concrete extension of the elevator to fetch a large wooden door. As I lifted one of the front corners of it . . . I felt my corner jerk. Someone shouted. Looking around I saw at once that Dmytro lying way down below, unconscious in a pool of water from which projected concrete butts, bolts and all. It was a thirty foot fall. . . . Taken to a hospital he recovered and returned to work within a few days. In actual fact he should have been dead. In my discussion with him about it he told me that he'd been saved by prayer. In that split second he was falling he had prayed to be spared. . . . My real interior convictions . . . were conditioned by the intellectual life of the university. And that . . . was secular humanism. The more I got involved in that humanism, the more I became convinced I myself could answer all life's questions and understand what life was all about — given enough time and good health. I had, I think, what theologians call 'pride of life.' I explained to (Dymtro) that he'd been saved by chance alone, that if the fall could be duplicated exactly mathematically and mechanically, he would survive again. He still insisted his prayer and faith in God had saved him, although a little more thoughtfully, as if perhaps considering my reasoning. . . ."

Canada's ten millionth immigrant arrived at Toronto on May 30, 1972. He is Dr. Richard Swinson, thirty-one, a psychiatrist, formerly of Leek, Staffordshire, England. With him are his wife, Carolyn, thirty, and their three children, Robert, Ian and Emma Catherine. Dr. Swinson's sister, Mrs. Carol Panton, left, was on hand to greet them. Mrs. Panton immigrated three years earlier.

This newsletter is published monthly except July and August. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Canadian Government. Unless specifically noted, articles are not copyrighted and may be reproduced. If you have questions or comments on these or other Canadian subjects, please be in touch. Address and telephone number below.

CANADA
Today/D'Aujourd'hui

The Canadian Embassy
Office of Information
1771 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036
202: 785-1400

Return Requested

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BALTIMORE, MD.
PERMIT NO. 1167

DESIGNED BY JAMES TRUE