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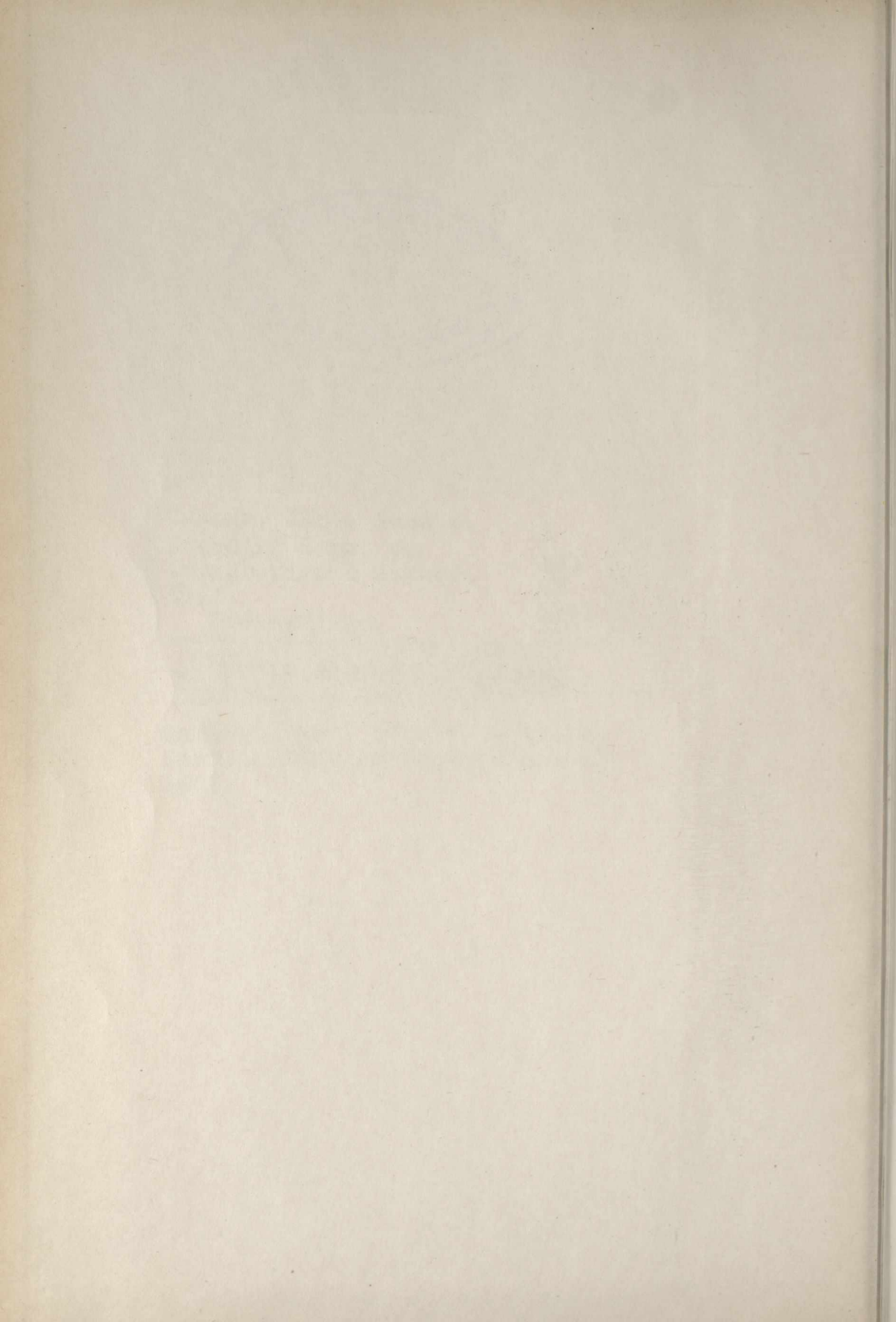
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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1951

No. 1

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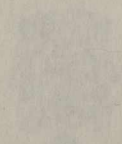
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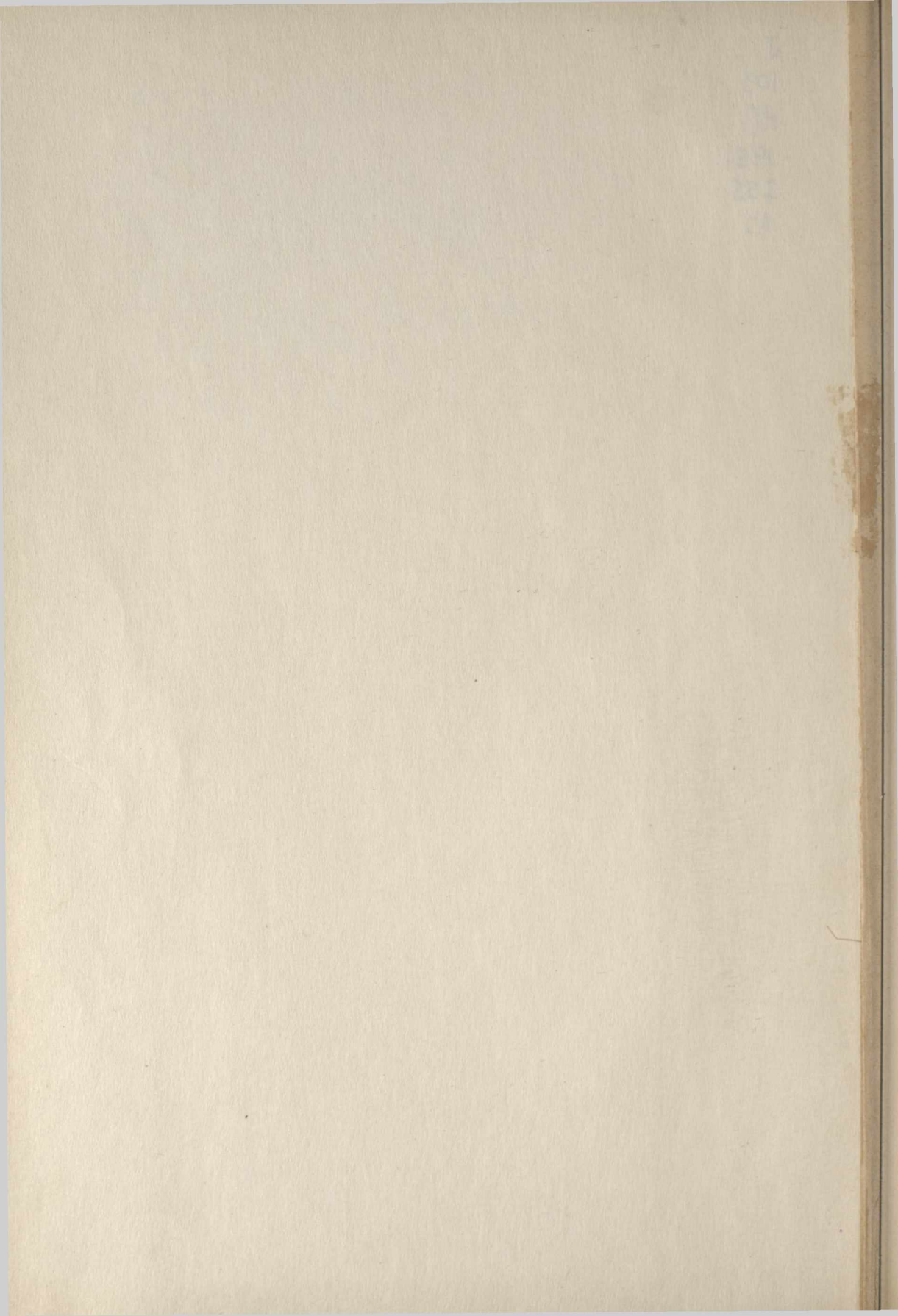
OF THE

PROCEEDINGS



THE SENATE OF CANADA

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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. 1

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1951

The Honourable Cairine R. Wilson, Chairman.

WITNESSES:

The Honourable Walter E. Harris, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration.

Mr. C. E. S. Smith, Director of Immigration.

OTTAWA
EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.
PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY
CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
1951

STANDING COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR

The Honourable CAIRINE R. WILSON, Chairman

The Honourable Senators

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

ORDER OF REFERENCE

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate, Tuesday, February 20, 1951.

“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

THURSDAY, February 22, 1951.

Pursuant to adjournment and notice the Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour met this day at 11.00 a.m.

Present: The Honourable Senators: Wilson, Chairman; Blais, Buchanan, Burke, Crerar, Davis, Ferland, Fogo, MacKinnon, Pirie, Reid, Turgeon and Wood—13.

In attendance: The official reporters of the Senate.

The Committee proceeded to consideration of the order of reference of February 20, 1951—

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.

The following were heard:—

The Honourable Walter E. Harris, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration.

Mr. C. E. S. Smith, Director of Immigration.

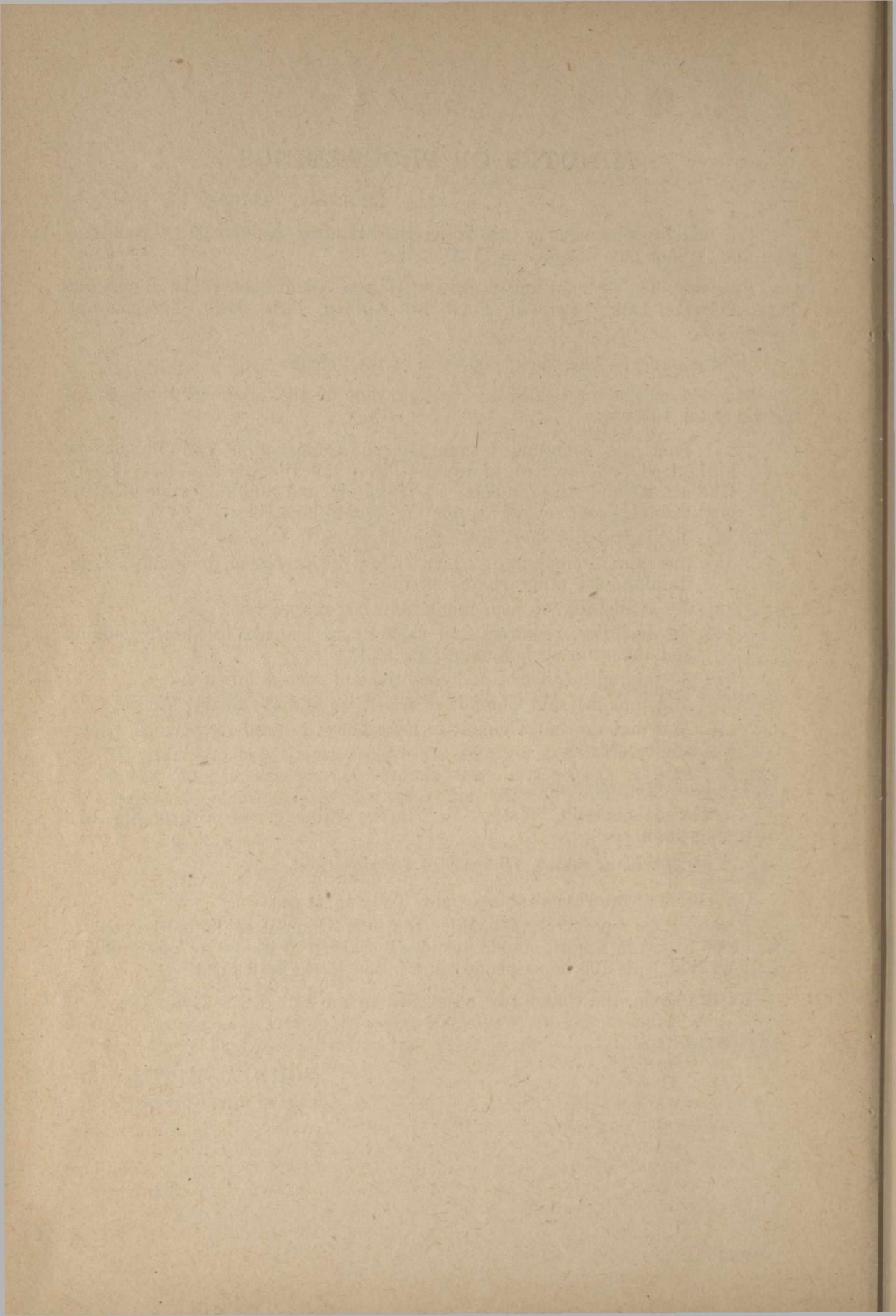
On motion of the Honourable Senator Turgeon, it was—

Resolved to report recommending that the Committee be authorized to print 1000 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 12.15 p.m. the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chairman.

Attest.

JOHN A. HINDS,
Clerk of the Committee.



MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

THE SENATE

OTTAWA, THURSDAY, February 22, 1951.

The Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour, which was authorized and directed to examine into the Immigration Act, met this day at 11 a.m.

Hon. Mrs. WILSON in the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, will you please come to order. We have with us this morning the Minister, Mr. Harris, and two of his officials, and we do not want to take too much of their time. Mr. Harris, would you prefer to make a statement and then ask questions?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: I would prefer to make a statement first.

Madam Chairman and honourable senators, it is a pleasure to appear before this committee, which in the past has shown a great deal of interest in the Department's work, on immigration particularly, but on citizenship as well. I understand that in the postwar years the committee made a very considerable examination of the immigration problem and prepared a useful report, which has been a guide for the department in the meantime. I thought that perhaps I would begin this morning by reading a short statement of what has been done in the meantime, a factual statement, and then, if you wished to ask any questions, we could perhaps clear them up.

Since World War II immigration has been actively encouraged with a view to fostering the growth of the population of Canada through the careful selection and permanent settlement of such numbers of immigrants as can be absorbed in the national economy. From January 1, 1946, to December 31, 1950, 430,389 immigrants were admitted to Canada; of these 48,461 were dependents of Canadian servicemen and 115,439 were displaced persons.

The postwar period has been characterized by a continued broadening of the classes of immigrants admissible to Canada. Order in Council P.C. 695 dated March 21, 1931, which restricted the admissible classes to certain British subjects, United States citizens, the wife and unmarried child under 18 years of age of a legal resident of Canada, agriculturists with sufficient means to farm in Canada and the fiancée of an adult male resident of Canada was subject to a series of amendments which were consolidated in Order in Council P.C. 4849 dated November 26, 1947. This regulation extended the admissible classes to include, close relatives of legal residents of Canada who could receive and care for such relatives, agriculturists entering Canada for establishment on a farm with the assistance of close relatives, persons coming forward to assured employment as farm labourers, miners, lumbermen or loggers, the prospective husband or wife of a legal resident of Canada and honourably discharged members of the Canadian Armed Forces who entered Canada under non-immigrant status. Order in Council P.C. 4186 dated September 16, 1948, amended Order in Council P.C. 4849 to provide for the admission of citizens of France on the same basis as British subjects and citizens of the United States.

Order in Council P.C. 2856 dated June 8, 1950, which is now in effect, no longer restricts Canadian immigration to certain defined categories. The regulations with respect to British subjects, citizens of Ireland, France, and the United States and non-immigrants who were honourably discharged from the Canadian Armed Forces remain unchanged. The admissibility of any other person under this order is now contingent only on his satisfying the Minister, whose decision shall be final that:—

- (a) he is a suitable immigrant having regard to the climatic, social, educational, industrial, labour, or other conditions or requirements of Canada; and
- (b) is not undesirable owing to his peculiar customs, habits, modes of life, methods of holding property, or because of his probable inability to become readily adapted and integrated into the life of a Canadian community and to assume the duties of Canadian citizenship within a reasonable time after his entry.

In keeping with the broadening of the admissible classes restrictions on the admission of enemy aliens have been relaxed. Order in Council P.C. 1373 dated April 9, 1946, provided for the admission of enemy aliens who could satisfy the Minister they were opposed to an enemy government; Order in Council P.C. 4850 removed from the enemy alien classes nationals of Finland, Italy, Hungary and Roumania with whose countries peace treaties had been signed and ratified by Canada; Order in Council P.C. 1606 dated March 28, 1950, provided for the admission of enemy aliens who were close relatives of Canadian citizens and persons of German ethnic who were not German nationals on September 1, 1939, and, finally, by Order in Council 4364 dated September 14, 1950, German nationals were removed from the enemy alien class leaving only Japanese within this prohibited category.

In addition to the relaxation of the regulations governing the admission of Europeans, significant changes have taken place with respect to immigration from Asia. By the repeal of the Chinese Immigration Act on May 14, 1947, all Asians obtained status under the Immigration Act and Order in Council P.C. 2115 of September 16, 1930. This Order in Council as amended by Order in Council P.C. 6229 of December 28, 1950, prohibits the admission of Asians except for:

“The wife, *the husband* or the unmarried child under 21 years of age, of any Canadian citizen legally admitted to and resident in Canada, who is in a position to receive and care for his dependents.”

By agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of India which became effective on January 1, 1951, provision is made for the admission to Canada annually of one hundred and fifty citizens of India in addition to those who come forward under the above regulation.

As can be seen, a vigorous legislative program during the postwar period has provided a sound basis for an increase in immigration to Canada. These legislative changes have been accompanied by a thorough revision of administrative practice in Canada and abroad with a view to reducing formalities to a minimum.

During the postwar period European immigration has been seriously impeded by the shortage of shipping on the North Atlantic. Following cessation of hostilities available shipping was primarily utilized for the movement of dependents of Canadian servicemen. By 1948, the shipping

situation had improved and 125,414 immigrants were admitted to Canada during that year. Since 1948, there has been a continued decline in immigration resulting in part from increased commercial bookings on North Atlantic ships, thus leaving less accommodation for immigrants.

In addition restrictions on the transfer of funds imposed by countries of emigration have proved a serious obstacle. A survey conducted by the Director of Immigration in September and October of last year showed that a substantial number of potential immigrants from the United Kingdom and continental Europe were prevented from coming to this country because they were unable to transfer their savings. While the dollar position of most countries which found it necessary to impose restrictions on the export of immigrant capital has somewhat improved during the past year, (notably in Great Britain) it has not been possible as yet to persuade the governments concerned to liberalize further immigrants' remittances. Negotiations are continuing, however, and it is hoped that favourable consideration may eventually be given to our representations by some of these countries.

The devaluation of currencies has increased the cost of fares in terms of Canadian dollars and has effectively reduced the amount of funds the immigrant has available for his establishment in Canada.

To assist the movement of immigrants, the Government has decided to advance part of the cost of transportation to those whose services are urgently required in Canada. Under the assisted passage scheme which came into effect on February 1, 1951, advances will be made on a recoverable basis to heads of families and single persons who do not have sufficient funds to pay their own passage. Immigrants will be required to contribute not less than thirty dollars or an equivalent amount in the currency of their country. In return for this assistance, immigrants must agree to work for a Canadian employer and to remain in the same type of employment for a period of one year or until such time as they have repaid the advance made to them by the government. To facilitate repayment, assisted immigrants will be required to authorize their employers to deduct monthly, amounts to be applied against the loans over a maximum period of twenty-four months. The assisted passage scheme is now being widely publicized abroad in conjunction with an enlarged publicity program in countries where Canada is free to recruit immigrants.

To supplement this assistance with respect to transportation costs, special arrangements have been made to obtain additional shipping facilities. The S.S. *Georgic* will make four voyages between Le Havre and the S.S. *Europa* will call at Canadian ports. Shipping companies have been canvassed to ascertain the accommodation available for immigrants in order that immigration movements may be co-ordinated with scheduled sailings.

In order that vacant space on Trans-Canada Airlines west bound flights might be made available to immigrants an arrangement has been made whereby such accommodation is provided to immigrants at a cost not exceeding \$160.00—equivalent to the cost of tourist passage by sea. The balance between the cost of sea and air passage is provided by the Canadian Government. This arrangement will make it possible for heads of families and single persons to proceed to Canada immediately without awaiting to secure an ocean passage.

In general, ocean and air transportation to Canada, as far as can be determined from advance surveys, will allow an increased flow of immigrants during 1951, providing immigrants to book passage by the earliest available means. There will be no surplus immigrant accommodation.

Based on surveys conducted in the United Kingdom and continental Europe, and assuming no change in present conditions, we expect about 150,000 immigrants this year. Of this number, it is expected that over 30,000 will come from the United Kingdom. The remainder will be drawn from Western Europe and will include some displaced persons. The legislative and administrative framework to achieve this objective is now in operation, and success will depend largely on whatever transportation and foreign exchange obstacles can be overcome.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, do you wish to ask any questions?

Hon. Mr. REID: I have some seven questions emanating from the Minister's statement. First, though, may I say that I am very pleased that we have the pleasure and honour of having the Minister with us. My first question is this. He told us the number of immigrants who have come to this country—I just forget in how many years—the number being some 430,000, and I am just wondering if he has any information as to the number of people who have left Canada during those same years.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: The number in any year cannot be determined accurately. Statistics have been given, not by this government but by others, that the number varies between 20,000 and 30,000. Among those are a good many who go to attend universities in the United States and are classed as immigrants to that country, although in fact most of them return to Canada.

Hon. Mr. REID: My second question has to do with the bringing of immigrants, and assisting them, to this country. I know that one of the provisions in the agreement is that they must stay for one year with the employer. I was wondering if any thought has been given to putting some proviso precluding, if we can, their leaving Canada. I do not know whether that prevails now. It is well known that in previous years many immigrants who found themselves denied entry to the United States were able more easily to come to Canada and, after a reasonable time of residence in this country, they left and entered the United States, and I am just wondering if any clause has been put in the agreement with those who are being assisted, saying to them "You must not only stay with the employer for one year but we expect you will stay a reasonable time in Canada on account of the fact that we have helped you to come to this land." I wondered if any thought has been given to this proviso, or if the Department think it advisable. I personally think it is advisable, but of course that is only my own opinion.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Of course the agreement in itself would keep them in Canada, if they observed it.

Hon. Mr. REID: For one year.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: The American immigration laws are fairly effective from the standpoint of quota, and I doubt very much if many of these people who came in since the war are yet admissible to the United States legally. I think it will be found on examination that a very large percentage are still with us.

Hon. Mr. REID: Regarding the one hundred and fifty settlers from India, does that include the wives? In past years we did preclude the Indian from bringing in his wife—something I did not agree with. I was wondering if the hundred and fifty we are allowing to enter into this country includes the wives of Indians?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: There is no bar against the wife under the one hundred and fifty scheme.

The CHAIRMAN: Is there any provision for Pakistan?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: No. The proposal is that a suitable arrangement of the same kind, although the numbers may be different, should be made with Pakistan.

Hon. Mr. REID: I am glad the chairman brought up that question, because, as the minister probably knows, there is a very intense situation between Pakistan and India; and I trust that we will not be placed in the position of seeking to take sides favourable to one country and against another, especially as between Pakistan and India. Regarding Kurt, the German who came here after doing all the cruelties to our people, has he been granted complete citizenship?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Kurt is a prisoner-of-war.

Hon. Mr. REID: Is he out of prison, or has he been allowed to remain in this country?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Perhaps we are not understanding who we are talking about. Is it Kurt Meyer?

Hon. Mr. REID: Kurt Meyer, yes.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: He is undergoing a sentence of life imprisonment, and does not obtain any status whatever.

Hon. Mr. REID: That clears that up. What have the provinces done? Ontario went out on a move of her own last year to bring in immigrants by air, I think.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: They brought in immigrants up to, I think, the spring of 1948, and then did not continue the scheme. My recollection is that they brought in 10,000 immigrants under that scheme. Perhaps there were a few more. The province of Ontario is presently conducting a campaign in the United Kingdom to obtain skilled workers for certain industries in that province.

Hon. Mr. REID: Is assistance to be given to Great Britain this year?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: By this government?

Hon. Mr. REID: Yes.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Well, we will give this assistance I have described: all but \$30 of transportation costs to the head of a family or a single worker whose skills are needed in this country.

Hon. Mr. REID: My last question has to do with the regulations under which the immigrant is allowed to come to this country. You mentioned the word "social." The question has been raised very seriously in certain parts of British Columbia, does that word "social" include "religious"? That is, in the matter of suitability of immigrants.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: I do not think that Justice has ever ruled on that point. I would give the off-hand opinion that it did not, but it would be my own personal opinion.

Hon. Mr. REID: I hope not, but the question is raised very seriously in British Columbia, that that is one of the requirements. I know that immigrants, women or men, are not asked what religion they are.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: That is right.

Hon. Mr. REID: But the question has been raised under that word "social."

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: I have had no case come to my attention in which anybody was excluded on religious grounds.

Hon. Mr. REID: No, not excluded, but rather favoured.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: There is no favour given whatever to any person because of religion in the matter of admission to Canada.

Hon. Mr. REID: All right, I will accept that. That is all I have at the moment.

The CHAIRMAN: Were you able to overcome the difficulty of Volkssdeutsche who had been impressed into the S.S. Korps? I know they have been excluded.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: The Volkssdeutsche are generally admissible since Order in Council P.C. 1606 was passed, I believe it was in March, but if they had served in the German Army their records are examined. But the mere fact that they served in the German Army is not in itself a bar to their admission.

The CHAIRMAN: I know there are a large number of agriculturists from the Danubian Basin who were excluded at the time; also, some of the Baltic people.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: I think it can be said that it is the personal record of the individual which counts.

Hon. Mr. REID: What is the attitude of the Department regarding those Japanese who left British Columbia and fought for the Japanese and against us?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: The Japanese are not now admissible, according to our regulations.

Hon. Mr. REID: Of course, the peace treaty has not yet been signed. That also is a matter which is interesting a great number of people. They are not against the Japanese in general, but they are against the Japanese who deliberately left Canada, after receiving all the benefits and very often education here, and fought against us, and now seek readmission, claiming to be Canadian citizens.

The CHAIRMAN: I think Mr. Jolliffe reported last year that none had come back. They are not readmissible.

Hon. Mr. REID: Could the minister tell us why Australia is making more progress in the matter of obtaining immigrants from Great Britain than Canada has, particularly in respect of British artisans. According to press reports, the numbers that have migrated from the Old Country to Australia are two to three times as many as have come here. I may be wrong. That is just a press report.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: I think you are right in that. There are quite a number of factors in the Australian migration. First, the country has now the population that Canada had roughly forty-old years ago. We indulged in a great mass movement of people to the western provinces in the first twelve or thirteen years of this century. The second factor is that Australia was favoured by the exchange situation, under which a resident of the United Kingdom can take all his funds with him to Australia or New Zealand, or to any sterling area. That has been a great incentive in the past three years. In addition to that, the Australian government, instead of doing as we are now, loaning money, actually has granted as a subsidy a very large part of the cost of transportation—in some cases, from the immigrant's home in the United Kingdom direct to the place where he takes employment in Australia. I think the figures of migration from the United Kingdom to Australia last year are something like 100,000, and the same figure is aimed at this year. Generally speaking, the Australian movement of immigrants exceeded ours only last year; we had more in preceding years than Australia had. I presume it is a matter of opinion whether we could absorb the numbers that they contemplate absorbing at the present time.

Hon. Mr. REID: Has the minister any information as to the requirements that Australia asks of these immigrants compared to ours?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: They have no bars particularly now, other than the good sense that we all observe as to the character of a person who is seeking to come;

and they are taking from every racial group and every national group that we are, so that I think the actual requirements are approximately the same.

Hon. Mr. REID: What I had in mind was when they got there, as to employment, remaining a year and so forth. Have you any information on that?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Mr. Smith says that those that go on their own are not required to make any agreement, but those who are granted assistance in going have to engage themselves to work for two years.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I was delayd in getting here, Madam Chairman, and I may be inquiring about matters that have been already discussed. But I understand, Mr. Harris, that you have developed a policy of assisting immigration by paying passages. Is that limited to the United Kingdom?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: No, it is not limited to anyone except those whose skills are not urgently needed, or dependents of persons who are coming to this country. The restriction is, simply, that the person must have a skill which is considered urgently needed in this country; and there has been a long list of these skills made and sent abroad to the various offices. And then the person must show he needs the assistance. If he has funds of his own there is no point in our loaning the money.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Is he expected to repay it?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Oh, yes, he has to repay the full amount we loan him.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: What are the possibilities for German immigration? I understand that the restrictions arising out of the fact that technically we are still in a state of war with Germany have been somewhat lifted.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Lifted entirely on September 14. There is no restriction now against Germans as Germans. There is still a restriction against certain groups of Germans who we feel would not be acceptable in this country.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: Who makes that decision?

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Have you in mind any—I should not use the word “encouragement”—but, do you hope to get some substantial number from Germany?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: I think the numbers from Germany will be higher this year than last, when somewhere between five and six thousand came. The volume of German immigration depends, again, on the question of money. German marks can only be used in a limited way. We think that we will have quite a considerable increase in the numbers. You asked, senator, who made the decision as to the groups. The decision is that persons who were pronounced Nazis, war criminals, and persons in that general class—

Hon. Mr. WOOD: Who examines them?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Our own immigration officers examine them, and the information available to them is quite varied.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I would think that it would be wise to have a, shall I say, rather careful screening of these people. But personally I am strongly in favour of immigration from Germany, from Denmark, Holland and other Scandinavian countries, if we can get it, because invariably these people have done well in Canada when they have come here. My colleagues from Western Canada will bear me out when I say that a substantial element of the German population have been thrifty, law-abiding and have made good progress.

Hon. Mr. MACKINNON: And in Ontario too; Western Ontario.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: And those in Western Ontario. I think it is desirable to increase that element in our population. The same is true of the Danes and of the Scandinavian people generally, particularly of the Dutch. Where we made a mistake during our heavy Ukrainian immigration of forty to fifty years ago

was that we permitted some undesirable elements to come in, and they were the people who made trouble for us. I recall a citizen of Ukrainian origin, who had become a successful Canadian citizen, saying to me on one occasion that our policy respecting admission of Ukrainians had been too liberal. Some of those people had been obliged to leave their own country because of having got into trouble with the authorities and took advantage of the easy means of getting into Canada. They were the people who made trouble for us, but the great bulk of the Ukrainian immigrants became excellent citizens and today their descendants are found in all walks of life.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: I understand that a proportionately larger number of people is coming in from Holland than from any other European country. Are those Dutch people going into agriculture, mostly?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Yes, they are exclusively agricultural workers, who come here to take assured farming work and who will eventually buy farms, if they can.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I am sure they will, too.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: I should modify my statement by pointing out that this year we are going to bring in a few artisans from Holland, only some 25 or 30, as an experiment. The others are exclusively farm workers.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: They are being located throughout the whole of Canada, not in any particular section?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: That is right. Their location is partly a matter of their own choice. Some of them have friends and try to get as near as possible to them, but as a rule an agreement is worked out with the employment services and these people are scattered throughout the whole country.

Hon. Mr. REID: Can the Minister tell us how the screening of would-be immigrants, particularly displaced persons, is done? Men familiar with the continent of Europe, some of them having lived there, have come to me and said that we are admitting a considerable number of persons from the D.P. camps who did not reveal their true colours when being examined and since coming to Canada—I am speaking particularly of some who have come to British Columbia—have turned out to be followers of Stalin. On numerous occasions I have received emphatic statements to this effect from people who themselves were born in the countries from which the displaced persons are coming. Could the Minister tell us where his officers get the information about would-be immigrants and how these people are screened? I ask that because there is no doubt in my mind of the existence of a movement to infiltrate into Canada and other countries as many as possible of certain people—men and women—who, if we have trouble with Moscow, will be on hand to help the Russians. What steps are taken to guard against the entry of immigrants of that kind? I know that the screening is difficult, because some people who might give every indication of being prospectively good citizens could be hiding their real feelings. At least half a dozen times before I left to come to Ottawa I was told that undesirable people are being admitted here.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: The immigrants are in two classes. First, there are the displaced persons, who come forward under the International Refugee Organization. Since the end of the war we have admitted about 115,000 of these. To a large extent they are persons who have been in camps in Western Germany and Western Europe, and one can assume, so far as it is safe to assume anything, that they were wartime refugees either from Germany or from the area that was about to be dominated by Russia. And of course it was part of the agreement with the International Refugee Organization that they would not harbour war criminals. In the immediate postwar years a serious attempt was made to find people accused of being war criminals and see that they were given an opportunity to prove their innocence. Before the I.R.O. would send forward

any prospective immigrants for Canada it would screen them, and then our own teams would screen them. In some cases we would, in any event, form the opinion that applicants for admission were not desirable. I am quite sure that the screening was as thorough as it was possible to make it. It may be that in the immediate postwar years of 1946-47 the records of some persons had not caught up with them and an error was made here and there, but I am quite sure that in the later years all the information that could be obtained about prospective immigrants was obtained before they came forward.

Now the second class comprises those who do not come forward by the International Refugee Organization. We have our own officers to screen them. We have the normal means of checking the record of individuals, and this checking is done before approval is given to the admission of any person. I realize that there are rumours abroad that such and such a person in Canada is or formerly was a Communist and should not have been admitted. And occasionally we hear it said that such and such a fellow is a Nazi. Whenever any charge of that kind has come to our attention I have invariably written a letter to the person complaining, inquiring about the nature of his complaint, and I have tried to follow it through, and I must say that in the twelve or thirteen months that I have been on this work not more than four or five complainants have replied with information which could possibly be of use in determining whether the person complained against was improperly admitted. I really doubt very much if there are many who have deceived the screening officials.

HON. MR. REID: I was just wondering where your officers got their information in the European countries, from what authorities and so on.

HON. MR. HARRIS: I do not think, Senator, that they would want me to answer that question.

HON. MR. REID: The United States authorities seem to have a system that enables them to keep close tab on a lot of people. They evidently have a good many Canadians tabbed. Half a dozen people in my own riding have been prohibited from crossing the border. I hope that we have as good a system.

HON. MR. WOOD: You must have a large number of "Commies" in your district.

HON. MR. REID: Take care that you have not got as many in your own.

HON. MR. BUCHANAN: In the course of a debate Senator Gershaw, who himself is a doctor, criticized the medical inspection of immigrants, and said that some of them were medically unfit. What is the procedure? Is the inspection done by our own doctors or do we depend on doctors in the countries from which the people come?

HON. MR. HARRIS: I think that Mr. Smith could give the answer on that technical point.

MR. C. E. SMITH, *Director of Immigration*: We have our own doctors appointed at all the various posts throughout Europe, and the medical inspection is conducted by them. We insist upon an X-ray of the chest of every immigrant. At the present time the X-rays are not being taken by our own doctors. Every immigrant must at his own cost provide an X-ray film of his chest, and this is reviewed by our radiologist and the medical staff provided for us through the Department of Health and Welfare. That is, the clinical checking of every immigrant's health is done by our own medical service.

THE CHAIRMAN: I have heard that some difficulty was created at times because of the admission of a father, on the understanding that his family would follow him here, and later on a child of the family has been unable to pass the medical examination.

MR. SMITH: When the head of a family comes forward, all members of his family must be medically examined at the same time, to ensure that there is no

possibility of permanent separation of any members of the family. Occasions do arise where subsequently to the original examination of the dependents some disease occurs to one member of the family and prohibits his admission for the time being, or maybe permanently. Those are exceptional cases. When the head of a family comes forward, all members of the family are examined at the same time.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: As I recall, Senator Gershaw said he himself knew of cases where medically unfit persons had been admitted. My recollection is that he said some of them were suffering from tuberculosis and other serious diseases, and he questioned whether immigrants were subjected to as strict medical examination as should be given to them before they left Europe for Canada.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: The problem is, as of course medical men would realize, that one can be found medically fit today and have tubercular trouble by the time he arrives here from Europe. Cases of that kind are bound to occur from time to time. However I can say this, perhaps, in confidence, that a very large number of complaints we have against the medical examination is that it excludes too many people.

Hon. Mr. REID: Is there an age limit on artisans who may be admitted? As we know, men of forty-five or fifty years of age and over who become unemployed find that as a rule it is difficult to procure new employment in industry, because the superannuation or retirement schemes of many firms make it imperative that only younger men than these be engaged. Records of the Unemployment Insurance Offices show that large numbers of men over fifty are unable to find work. If artisans up to forty or forty-five years of age are admitted into the country, is there not a danger that they, or a good many of them, may find themselves in the same difficult position as people in that age group who are already in the country? I am not necessarily objecting to the admission of these older artisans; I am simply inquiring as to policy.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: There is no particular age limit, but we hope that as a rule the immigrants will be in a younger class than those you mention. The small number of artisans that we are going to bring from Holland this year, as an experiment, will be sent to small towns, where workers of that type are urgently needed. The Dutch people seem to prefer to go to small towns, and we do not believe the admission of these artisans will cause any trouble. In all probability most of them will become self-employed. The requirements for artisans, skilled workers, in large centres are determined in advance by consultation and co-operation with the Department of Labour, and so far as possible we guard against displacement of Canadian workers.

Hon. Mr. REID: Do immigrant artisans find any difficulty with the unions?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Not particularly.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I would not worry very much about the point brought up by Senator Reid. Records for the past sixty years or more show that immigrant artisans usually sort themselves out after they get here. Most of the Europeans who came to Canada forty and fifty years ago had no funds whatever. From my own personal observation I know that they were people of a good class, for the most part, willing to work, and that they found work; and, generally speaking, today their descendants are happy and prosperous citizens, making a fine contribution to our Canadian economy and life. If we commence to draw the lines too closely we shall get ourselves bound up in a lot of rigidities that will be impossible to administer and will largely defeat the purpose we have in mind, the getting of more people into this country. My own view, for what it is worth, is that it is desirable to put the emphasis as far as possible on the admission of people who would go into agriculture. We hear a lot of talk about the shortage of food in the world. The Food and Agricultural Organization

is continually raising warning signals that starvation within a few years is a prospect facing the peoples of certain countries. Here we have tremendous potentialities for the production of foodstuffs of all kinds. And the European, whether he is a German or a Ukrainian or of Dutch or Danish origin, is deeply rooted in the land. His ambition is to have a bit of land he can call his own, which he has not always enjoyed in the past, and if you get that class of people in this country they will make their way. I do not think for a moment it is possible to have a completely effective screening apparatus, because you may have coming in, under cover, some person who is deliberately planning for subversive reasons to get into this country. But, for instance, take the Latvians and the Esthonians: they were driven out of their own country, the Baltic, and settled by Germany in a part of Poland: then, when the new Polish boundaries were fixed at the end of the war they were driven out of there and a large number of them became displaced persons. I think that in probably ninety-nine cases out of a hundred when you get immigrants of that type they are both anti-Nazi and anti-Communist. They know what these things mean, and their influence in this country would be a good influence. I recall that a few years ago a number of these people came over to work in our mines, and one of the mine managers, in charge of quite a substantial mine, told me that they had a very wholesome influence among the foreign labour employed by his company. Why? Because these people knew from their own experience what Nazism and Communism meant and they wanted nothing of that kind in this country, and they were able to tell their compatriots here what it meant. But I come again to the point that as far as can be done, in a general way I think the emphasis should be placed on those who will go into agriculture, because they will give the least trouble in the future and make the largest contribution to our economic life.

Hon. Mr. REID: I do not think that Senator Crerar was here when I asked the question how many immigrants have left Canada. I believe one of the great problems facing this country is how to keep our people here. If my memory serves me correctly, information was given in one of our committees that probably over the past ninety years, when one compares the number of immigrants coming to Canada with those who have left, the difference numerically is very small. Now that is a startling picture, because I maintain that you cannot expand this country to any great extent if about as many as are coming in are leaving to go to the United States and elsewhere. With the senator's remarks about the experience of the last sixty years I have to agree, but I maintain that the best immigrants who came to this land were those who came of their own volition. We have had experience not so very long ago with assisted immigrants which was not too satisfactory. I am all for bringing in settlers. Heaven knows we want this country to be populated. But one of the great questions facing us is, not only how to get immigrants in, but how to keep an awful lot from going out, because we can never build up this country if about as many leave us as are admitted.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: Surely we are getting more than we are losing. Canada's population has increased about 3,000,000 in eight of nine years.

Hon. Mr. REID: When a population grows to a certain size the natural increase is pretty large. I could give you figures which would surprise you.

The CHAIRMAN: I think the outflow is nothing to what it was at one time.

Hon. Mr. REID: Do you remember the figures?

The CHAIRMAN: Oh, yes, I remember them.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: Senator Crerar has mentioned the people from the Baltic states. I have been interested in similar groups, particularly the Esthonians. Numbers of them settled in parts of Southern Alberta. One of

their leaders, a former President of the Parliament of Esthonia, who carried on a newspaper, and who died some time ago, discussed with me problems of his people. He mentioned that a considerable number of them, refugees I think, had gone to Sweden, and they were anxious to come to Canada. Knowing these people as I do, I do not think there is any more desirable class of settlers. I would say the same is true of people from all the Baltic countries. As Senator Crerar has said, they have had experience of communism; and we would not have much trouble screening them in that respect.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: There are two points. One, mentioned by Senator Crerar, is that the emphasis should be on agricultural settlers and workers. Last year just about fifty per cent of the admissions were of agricultural immigrants. As to the other point, with respect to Esthonians, we have noticed the desire of these people in Scandinavian countries to come, and we have increased the staff in Stockholm, are opening new offices in Oslo, and we expect something like 10,000 from that area, particularly refugees from the Baltic states.

Hon. Mr. ISNOR: I am not a member of this committee, but if I may have permission to do so I would like to ask a question. I have in mind particularly, of course, the province of Nova Scotia. Out of the 86,422 immigrants that entered Canada last year, about 35,000 were adult males. Of that number, I note by the report, 16,000 were farmers. The minister mentioned the 1947 agreement with the Netherlands. We in Nova Scotia years ago, as Mr. Jolliffe and Mr. Smith will remember, were able to procure a certain number of Dutch settlers, who are very, very prosperous, and we speak of them in the very highest terms. If Senator Kinley were here he would, I know, want to raise this question; that is why I am doing so. I am wondering, and the people of Nova Scotia are wondering whether there is any working agreement between the various provinces, and if Nova Scotia is doing all that it should be doing to see that a larger number of that particular type of farmer immigrant remains in Nova Scotia, instead of just coming through that port of ours and taking the train and going to Central Ontario or Western Canada. Records show, of course, that instead of a fair proportion remaining in Nova Scotia, 40,000 pass on to Ontario, and from there they go to Alberta, British Columbia and other provinces in the west. Now, I wonder if the minister will be good enough to tell us as to the working agreement, if any, existing between the provinces and his Department with respect to placing such type of immigrants on our farms in Nova Scotia. The second question I would like to ask him to touch on would be as to the shipping facilities. If I caught his statement correctly, they will be brought in through United States ports. Was that mentioned?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: No, I did not mention United States ports.

Hon. Mr. ISNOR: Well, I am not sure. But perhaps you would touch on the shipping facilities. I would hope that all immigrants, particularly those to whom you pay transportation charges, would be brought to this country by the nearest sea route.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: As to the latter the port of Halifax will, no doubt, be grateful to the Department of Immigration for having asked and persuaded some of the transportation companies to increase the number of calls at Canadian ports during this year, because an examination made by Mr. Smith last fall disclosed that if we had a good movement of immigrants we would not have the accommodation for them. I think perhaps he can give you exact details on that. Similarly he can perhaps explain better the agreement with the provinces in respect to these immigrants.

My recollection is there is no agreement with any province except with the province of Nova Scotia in a matter which is connected with land settlement, if I recollect.

Mr. SMITH: There is no agreement as such between the Department of Immigration and the Nova Scotia officials, but there is a close working arrangement. We get from the Netherlands authorities a list of suitable immigrants for placement in Canada, and those lists are sent out to our offices, and through our offices in Nova Scotia, and with the co-operation of your Land Settlement Branch of the Department of Agriculture in Nova Scotia, we work in close touch with each other and we get the greatest number of opportunities for the placement of the families possible. In Nova Scotia there are not too many opportunities for placement of these Dutch families, to whom I assume you have reference, that other provinces have, due to lack of housing. But wherever there is a chance for us to place a family for a year or two years until the immigrant has saved enough money or has become sufficiently acquainted with Canadian methods of farming, we take it, and place just as many as possible. We have our own men in the field—I am speaking of Nova Scotia and the other provinces as well—to develop as many of these placements as we can get, so that, once the period of assimilation or the period of experience is acquired, and they get sufficient capital to go out and rent a place of their own, or purchase under a share agreement or crop payment plan, or on a long-term arrangement with an individual, or, as in the case of the province of Nova Scotia, through financial assistance granted through the Land Settlement Board Act of the province, they can begin operations on their own. As you are aware, in the last year, in the province of Nova Scotia, we brought from other provinces in Canada several families that had been selected by our settlement officials and by your Land Settlement Branch officials, and placed them in the Antigonish and Inverness areas on farms that were purchased by the Nova Scotia Land Settlement Board, and advanced, I think it is, fifty per cent of the value of the farm plus two-thirds of the cost of the equipment. The immigrant pays the initial payment. This is a splendid opportunity for those who have acquired experience and who have enough money to make the initial payment and take advantage of the provincial loans. As soon as we place one of these persons who had been working on a farm, that is put him on his own, we fill the vacancy on the farm with another new arrival. As time goes on I think we will see that the Nova Scotia Land Settlement Act will be taken advantage of to a far greater extent than it has been in the past. It started only last year, and I understand there is a possibility of the settlement of about fifty families this coming spring.

Hon. Mr. ISNOR: Thank you very much. Madam Chairman I have a further question which I should like to ask, if I may. What action, if any, would your department take, Mr. Minister, in response to an inquiry for the location of an industry related to the fishing industry? I know the Netherlands Embassy is very active, and is interested in Nova Scotia. If an inquiry were received concerned a fishing district, as to whether or not there was an opportunity of establishing an industry closely associated with it, what would be your policy in response to such an inquiry?

Mr. SMITH: Our settlement service does not confine its activities to agriculture, but extends to all phases of the establishment of persons who have experience which would apply to the fishing industry or to any other small business. Many of the Dutch have asked if we could take and find opportunities for persons interested in the establishment of various lines such as a baker, a cabinet maker, or any small artisan type. The same would apply to the fishing industry.

Hon. Mr. ISNOR: But you have recently had an inquiry concerning the establishment of the fishing net industry?

Mr. SMITH: No; it has not come to my attention.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: Could you give us an estimate, Mr. Minister—naturally, it would be only a rough estimate—of the new settlers that you hope will come into Canada in the year 1951?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Do you mean settlers other than immigrants?

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: Immigrants?

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: The numbers who may come, depending on a number of factors, could run to 150,000. That will depend to a very large extent on the availability of transportation; and we think that the figure is about the maximum possible under any circumstance. The figure for the month of January is roughly 50 per cent higher than that of January, 1950. In January, 1950 we brought in about 3,700, and in January, 1951 approximately 5,500 have come in; that is about 50 per cent increase, instead of the 100 per cent which would be required.

The numbers applying to our offices abroad now are much greater than they have ever been before, within recent memory, and we think that if transportation facilities are available the figure that I mentioned will be about correct.

Hon. Mr. REID: I wish to ask a question concerning paragraph (h) of subsection 1 of section 3 of the Immigration Act, which is headed "Prohibited Classes".

Immigrants to whom money has been given or loaned by any charitable organization for the purpose of enabling them to qualify for landing in Canada under this Act, or whose passage to Canada has been paid wholly or in part by any charitable organization, or out of public moneys . . .

My question is, what is the chief reason for such prohibition, and is the regulation still in effect in view of the fact that we ourselves are now giving assistance to immigrants to come here? What is the difference between our giving them assistance and some charitable body in another country giving it to them.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: My understanding is that at various times charitable organizations have financed the migration to Canada of certain persons, and so as not necessarily to exclude these people, but rather to regulate the flow, this section was put in which, as you see, is not absolute; consent can be given by the Deputy Minister to whom application may be made.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: In response to a question by Senator Reid earlier about the movement of people out of Canada into the United States, you said that we had no figures of the breakdown. My thought on that point is that most of the movement across the border is not amongst agricultural people, but more amongst mechanics. From my experience, I know that wages are higher over there in some occupations and some people go over and stay, but I do not find very much movement of farmers, at least out of my part of the country, into the United States. I do, however, find a movement of others than new settlers; some of them are native born Canadians, and they go to the United States and take what looks to them to be a better job than they could get here.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: The figure I gave of course is an estimate based on the information given by the United States authorities and on reports and computations which have been made by various government branches which have a limited knowledge of the problem in their particular field. But, I think you are quite right, Senator, that only a very few of them would be agriculturalists; as a matter of fact, we are getting some agriculturalists from the United States, particularly in the western provinces. We had considered last year the possibility of trying to encourage immigration from the western States, along the line that had been in effect fifty years ago; that point is being considered, having in mind the cost of the work. There were, I think, 7,800

Americans came to Canada last year, and that figure—which of course is a round figure—will be exceeded this year. Quite a few of those persons are businessmen seeking obvious opportunities for investment, and quite a few of them are farmers from the western States. We naturally would like to increase that number considerably.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: The oil fields are dragging them up.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: I think you know that, Senator.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: The movement of persons to Canada from the United States has been going on for at least seventy-five years; some people are always interested in moving to where they think there are better opportunities. I recall two nurses who graduated last year from a recognized hospital in Canada, were immediately offered positions in the United States at higher rates of pay than they could secure in Canada. I do not think there is anything alarming in that situation; after all, the United States population today is over 150 millions. Within another decade it will probably be 170 millions. As that population increases the requirements for Canadian products of one kind and another increases. I have never regarded as anything serious the fact that every year a number of Canadians go to the United States. The future is with Canada so let us have faith in that.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Senator Crerar, at page 21 of the Annual Report there is a tabulation of Canadians who have returned to this country after having been abroad. As a matter of fact, the balance is much better now than it ever has been.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Certainly.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: The opportunities are greater in Canada.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: And that balance will continue to improve.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: I should think so.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: Madam Chairman, as a member of this committee who is strongly in favour of increasing the number of immigrants to Canada and in taking every possible measure in order to retain our own people, I should just like to say a word of appreciation for the work that is being done by the Minister and his departmental officials in this regard. I think they are carrying out their responsibilities in an excellent manner, and as a member of this committee I would like to thank them for co-operating with this committee.

The CHAIRMAN: I have no hesitation in endorsing your remarks, Senator Turgeon. I am sure every member of the committee agrees with them.

Hon. Mr. HARRIS: Thank you, Madam Chairman. You have found that the officials know a great deal more about this than I do, but we have endeavoured in the past year to make the formalities as easy as possible for the right persons to come to Canada. We think that this year this fact will be shown by the numbers who will come.

The CHAIRMAN: With regard to the numbers going to the United States each year I might say that I had a good deal of experience with refugees who have graduated from our own universities. The majority of them would have preferred to have stayed in Canada but they just could not find openings here in their field of work. I know of one gentleman who has retained his Canadian citizenship with the hope of returning to this country.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: New people will create more openings.

The CHAIRMAN: Undoubtedly.

The committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

The history of the United States is a story of growth and expansion. From a small collection of colonies on the eastern coast, it grew into a vast nation that stretched across the continent. The early years were marked by struggle and hardship, but the spirit of independence and self-determination prevailed. The American Revolution was a turning point, leading to the birth of a new nation. The years following were a period of rapid growth and development, as the United States expanded its territory and its influence. The Civil War was a defining moment, testing the nation's unity and its commitment to the principles of liberty and equality. The Reconstruction era followed, a period of challenge and progress. The United States emerged as a world power, its influence extending across the globe. The 20th century brought new challenges, but the United States remained a beacon of hope and a force for good in the world. Today, the United States continues to grow and evolve, its history a testament to the power of the American dream.

1951

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1951

The Honourable Cairine R. Wilson, Chairman.

WITNESSES:

The Honourable Milton F. Gregg, Minister of Labour.

Mr. A. MacNamara, Deputy Minister of Labour.

Mr. F. M. Hereford, Assistant Director, Special Services Branch,
Dept. of Labour.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR

The Honourable CAIRINE R. WILSON, Chairman

The Honourable Senators

Aseltine,
Beaubien,
Blais,
Bouchard,
Bourque,
Buchanan,
Burchill,
Burke,
Calder,
Campbell,
Crerar,

David,
Davis,
Dupuis
Euler,
Ferland,
Fogo,
Haig,
Hardy,
Horner,
Hushion,
MacKinnon,

McDonald,
McIntyre,
Pirie,
Reid,
Robertson,
Roebuck,
Taylor,
Turgeon,
Vaillancourt,
Veniot,
Wilson,
Wood—34.

ORDER OF REFERENCE

Extract from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Senate, Tuesday, February 20, 1951.

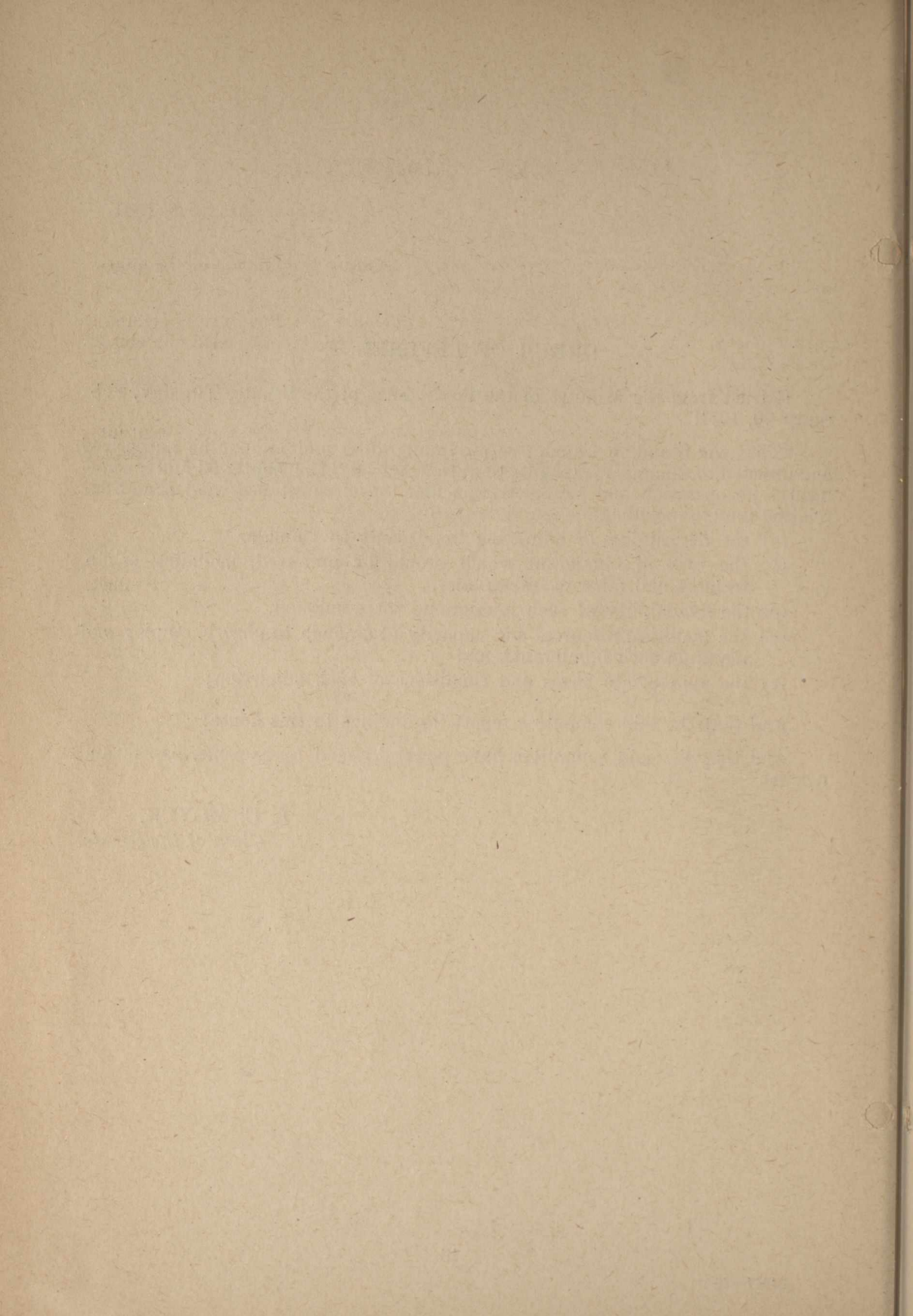
“That the Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour be authorized and directed to examine into the Immigration Act (R.S.C. Chapter 93 and amendments) its operation and administration and the circumstances and conditions relating thereto including:—

- (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

THURSDAY, March 8, 1951.

Pursuant to adjournment and notice the Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour met this day at 11.00 a.m.

Present: The Honourable Senators: Wilson, Chairman; Beaubien, Buchanan, Burke, Crerar, David, Davis, Horner, McDonald, McIntyre, Reid, Roebuck, Taylor, Turgeon, Vaillancourt, Veniot and Wood—17.

In attendance: The official reporters of the Senate.

The Committee resumed consideration of the order of reference of February 20, 1951, directing the Committee to examine into the operation and administration of the Immigration Act, etc.

The following were heard:

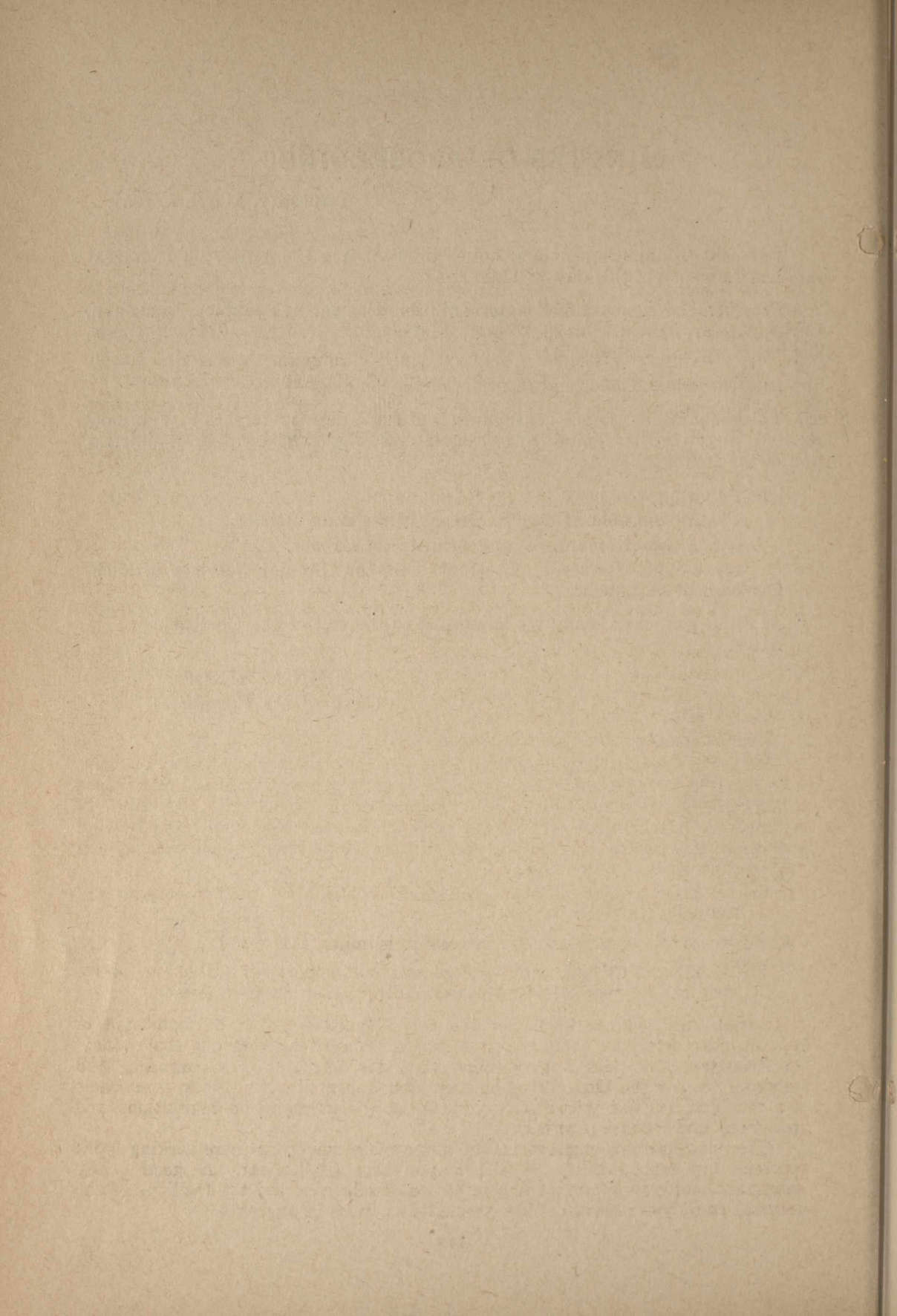
The Honourable Milton F. Gregg, Minister of Labour.

Mr. A. MacNamara, Deputy Minister of Labour.

Mr. F. M. Hereford, Assistant Director, Special Services Branch, Department of Labour.

At 12:10 p.m. the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chairman.
Attest.

JOHN A. HINDS,
Clerk of the Committee.



MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

THE SENATE

OTTAWA, Thursday, March 8, 1951.

The Standing Committee on Immigration and Labour, which was authorized and directed to examine into the Immigration Act, met this day at 11 a.m.

Hon. Mrs. WILSON in the Chair.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we have with us today the Minister of Labour, the Honourable Milton F. Gregg, and his deputy, Mr. Arthur MacNamara.

Mr. Gregg, would you like to say something about your department first?

Hon. Mr. GREGG: As you wish, Madam Chairman. As I understand it, your attention at this sitting is to be directed more particularly to the work of our department in relation to immigration.

The CHAIRMAN: I thought that would follow our last meeting; I trust it meets with the approval of other members of the committee.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: Madam Chairman and Honourable Senators, I should like to say that I consider it a very great honour to have the opportunity, as the new Minister of Labour, to appear before this committee. I know that it has in the past given careful consideration to its two-pronged task, namely, immigration and labour. We were given to understand that you were presently studying matters affecting immigration. Consequently, the statement I have prepared for presentation this morning is based upon that information. Nevertheless, at later sittings I hope that there will be an opportunity to bring us before you on matters affecting labour proper.

The CHAIRMAN: We should like to have you.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: First, may I try to set out in a few words what we conceive to be our role, with regard to this business of getting new Canadians established in our country. Perhaps I could put it to you briefly this way: The policy of the Federal Department of Labour and associated National Employment Services in this regard is to co-operate with the Department of Citizenship and Immigration as may be necessary,—

(a) to assist in the choice of immigrants suitable for current employment openings in Canada.

I would stress the word "current", because it is important. And,

(b) to assist in the placement of immigrants in employment after they arrive in Canada, and to foster the continuity of their employment.

—On that very general basis perhaps the committee would be interested to hear in more detail an outline of how we have been carrying out that policy. On February 22nd last I understand that the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration and the Director of Immigration appeared before your committee, and provided detailed information concerning the immigration regulations and operations under those regulations.

The placement in employment of immigrants who come here seeking work becomes the responsibility of the Department of Labour. A good many immigrants come forward on the nomination of relatives, and the facilities of the national employment services are available to those immigrants.

In 1947, in co-operation with the Immigration authorities, a technique was introduced for the mass movement of immigrants who were selected, according to occupation, to meet labour shortages in this country. This arrangement has become known as the "Group Movement Plan", and applied originally to D.P.'s only. May I pause here, Madam Chairman, to say that we should like, as quickly as possible, to dispense with the expression "D.P."; but for purposes of definition here I cannot very well do so. We hope it will soon disappear from our vocabulary.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: What is meant by the Group Movement Plan?

Hon. Mr. GREGG: It is a plan that has been extended to other nationalities in a small way which I shall indicate.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: What is the word you would substitute for "D.P.'s"?

Hon. Mr. GREGG: I think they should be called new Canadiens, of course. But the expression "D.P.'s" was used at the beginning and has stuck. The people themselves, I understand, do not like the term, and they wish to be called and to become "Canadians" as quickly as possible.

This plan has proved to be a very practical way of moving a large group of immigrants, because they are selected for industries where it is known that they can be placed in employment without delay. Those who come forward under a Group Movement Plan sign an undertaking to the Minister of Labour agreeing to accept and remain in the employment for which they were recruited for a period of one year. The employers making application for these workers provide written guarantees that they will provide employment for at least one year at prevailing wages and working conditions. In addition, it is the responsibility of the employer to locate suitable housing. All applications for group movements of immigrants are very carefully screened; first, to make sure that the labour is in fact required and cannot be provided from other sources within Canada, and secondly, to check on the bona fides of the applying employer.

Applications for group movements are approved after consultation between the Department of Labour and the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, and are then transmitted to the departmental representatives abroad. The Department of Labour has a staff of six people in Germany at present with headquarters at Karlsruhe, where the Canadian Immigration Mission in Germany is located. These Labour Department officers carry out the initial selection, which is a screening to determine that applicants are occupationally suitable. The Labour Department officers are followed by the security officers, the doctors, and the immigration officers. While the headquarters is in Germany, the Labour Department officers carry out selections, as required in Italy, in Belgium and other countries on the continent. From the summer of 1947, when we first commenced these group movements, until March 1, 1951 a total of 46,767 workers have come forward under the arrangements outlined above. Of this number, 45,220 were D.P.'s, 902 were nationals of Malta, which is greatly over-populated; there were also 588 Italians, and 57 domestic workers selected in the United Kingdom.

I have here, Madam Chairman, quite a detailed tabulation of these.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD: Might I ask the minister how many to each province. Have you that?

Hon. Mr. GREGG: I have not in this tabulation, senator. We could get that, I think, Mr. MacNamara?

Mr. MACNAMARA: I think we have it here, sir.

The CHAIRMAN: You can put that on the record.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: Yes. Classifications as to vocations and the numbers received in each of the years 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, and the total. Perhaps I could put that on the record, and the other question—

Hon. Mr. McDONALD: That could go on *Hansard*.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: I can read the totals, if you like, These are the totals by Provinces for the whole period which I quoted, up to March: Newfoundland, apparently, is not here, because it was not in the picture until this last two years: Prince Edward Island, 67; Nova Scotia, 405; New Brunswick, 315; Quebec, 8,921; Ontario, 26,258; Manitoba, 3,511; Saskatchewan, 1,399; Alberta, 3,769; British Columbia, 978; Yukon, 95; then here are 1,049 that are undetermined as to which province they are going to enter. Including all these that I have read, the total is 46,767.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: What period does that cover?

Hon. Mr. GREGG: That covers the period from when this work began, in the summer of 1947, until the 1st of March this year, 1951.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: None of these workers went to the Northwest Territories, for instance to Yellowknife?

Mr. MACNAMARA: None were placed there. It may be that some have moved in.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: I suppose that if there were one or two they might be included in the Yukon total.

Mr. MACNAMARA: Yes, that is true, sir.

The table referred to by the Minister is as follows:

March 1, 1951

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

Workers brought to Canada in Group Movements

	Calendar Year					Total
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	
Woodworkers	3,438	355	10	689	650	5,142
Miners	260	2,612	1,052	446	165	4,535
Farm workers						
General farm workers		2,814	1,599	1,830	4	6,247
Farm couples		352	688	242	40	1,322
Farm families			119	86	4	209
Sugar beet workers			233	245		478
Sugar beet families		432	1,478	704		2,674
Special Church groups			340	411	44	795
Construction						
Hydro	92	1,904	504			2,500
Track maintenance	270	1,840	333	193		2,636
Other		801	18	421	23	1,263
Manufacturing						
Metal		406	10			416
Textile and apparel	36	2,697	651	21	8	3,413
Boot and Shoe		150	10		14	174
Other		93	104	3		200
Services						
Domestics	696	6,297	1,917	666	100	9,676
Domestic Couples		488	692	394	80	1,654
Special family groups		12	56	19	2	89
Widows with children			192	28	1	221
Restaurant workers				34		34
Nurses		41	20	8		69
Displaced Persons from Sweden		174	1,329	679	20	2,202
Miscellaneous groups		32	757	61	28	878
Totals	4,792	21,500	12,112	7,180	1,183	46,767

The foregoing figures include 45,220 Displaced Persons, 902 Maltese, 588 Italians and 57 Domestics from the United Kingdom.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: Workers who come forward under our group movements are met at the port of entry by Department of Labour reception officers. In the case of large groups going to industrial employers, arrangements are made to send the workers right through to destination where they are met by a representative of the employer. Domestic workers, farm workers and other individuals who are assigned to employers in small numbers are usually sent on arrival to one of the Department of Labour reception hostels. The Department operates two of these hostels, one at St. Paul l'Ermite just outside Montreal and the other at Ajax, near Toronto. Each hostel can provide accommodation for approximately 800 persons should the need arise. Farm workers, domestic workers and others sent to the hostel usually remain for a day or two, which permits them to rest a bit after their long journey and gives the National Employment Service officials an opportunity to interview each of them and thus be in a better position to assign them to suitable employers.

Because of housing shortages and the class of employment to which some D.P.'s are assigned originally, workers coming forward under the group movement plan usually proceed in advance of their dependents. When the worker has become established, he then makes application for his dependents who are given a medical and examined by the Immigration officers in Europe at the same time as the worker. However, there are some instances where we are able to locate employment and where suitable housing is available for family units and a total of approximately 13,000 dependents have come forward with the worker in the first instance. In those instances where the married worker came forward alone our experience has been that it has taken a relatively short time for him to locate housing and send for his family.

When we first started the group movement plan, it was confined almost entirely to D.P.'s, but from the figures given it will be noted that 1,547 persons other than D.P.'s have been brought forward under this plan. Lately we have found that it has not been possible to meet our labour shortages through the immigration of D.P.'s and group movements from other countries have resulted. The Italian workers who have come forward included 80 skilled terrazo workers, 100 men for employment underground in metal mines and about 400 men for employment on farms in the Province of Quebec. A total of 902 Maltese Nationals have come forward as workers under the group movement plan as at March 1st. For the most part, these are men who were employed in H.M. Dockyard during the war and a large proportion of them have gone into the construction industry, and manufacturing industries principally in the Province of Ontario.

One of the heaviest demands for workers has been for women to take domestic employment in private households and in institutions. Up to March 1st, we have brought forward more than 9,800 unattached women from D.P. camps for this type of employment and in addition, over 800 married couples for similar work. The number of people available for this employment from among the D.P.'s is practically exhausted and we are searching for other sources of supply. In November, 1950, we commenced, as an experiment, the selection of domestics in Scotland for movement to Canada. The question of payment of ocean transportation is a deterring factor in moving domestic workers, other than D.P.'s. As your Committee knows, the International Refugee Organization has provided ocean transportation for D.P.'s. In the case of the girls selected in Scotland, we developed a plan of lending the girls their fare on a repayment basis. The girls are required to pay \$30 towards the fare and the balance of ocean transportation is met by way of a government interest-free loan. The amount of the loan is recovered by monthly deductions of \$10. These deductions are made by the employer who refunds the amount to the Department of Labour. The Department of Labour pays the cost of rail

transportation, meals, etc., from the port of entry to place of employment provided the girl completes her undertaking to the Minister of Labour to remain in employment as a domestic worker for a period of one year.

The first movement of domestic workers from Scotland took place in November, 1950, and up to date a total of 57 girls have arrived. At the present time, 369 Scottish girls have registered for interview by our representatives in the United Kingdom, 53 of whom have been rejected for various reasons. Our expectations are that an additional 200 Scottish domestic workers will have been interviewed for movement to Canada between now and July.

Another feature of the Department of Labour's arrangements to meet labour shortages through immigration is the extension of the Employment Service clearance system to the United Kingdom. Under this arrangement, an employer requiring workers in the United Kingdom may place an order with his Local Office of the National Employment Service and request that it be placed in clearance to the United Kingdom. Such orders are transmitted to the Department of Labour Office in London, England. Our officials there work very closely with the British National Employment Exchange System, the Canadian Immigration officers and other federal and provincial agencies in the United Kingdom. This system of international clearance of job opportunities gives every indication of being a successful one.

By way of illustration, one employer placed an order for 300 workers for clearance to the United Kingdom. In a very short time the order was not only filled, but in fact was over-subscribed and the employer has agreed to take more than the 300 workers originally applied for.

A few minutes ago, I pointed out that the supply of D.P.'s suitable for employment as domestic workers was about exhausted. This is also true in a general way of D.P.'s for other occupations. There is not a very large number left who would make suitable workers. This is a good thing to be able to report in one respect as it shows that a large part of the problem of these D.P.'s has been taken care of during the past few years. Another class of worker which we are no longer able to obtain from among D.P.'s in any great numbers is men for underground work in mines. The medical requirements for such workers are rather rigid, particularly in respect to the condition of the lungs. To meet the requirements of the metal mines for workers who cannot be provided from within Canada, or from among the D.P.'s, we have arranged for a group movement of German Nationals for this employment. At the present time, the mines through the Canadian Metal Mining Association have applied for 800 German mine workers, and there is every likelihood that if the movement is a successful one the numbers will be increased.

The difficulty in bringing workers from Germany is the matter of payment of transportation. In this movement of miners, the employers have established a revolving fund from which they will advance the cost of transportation to those who are selected for employment. This expenditure will be recovered from the wages of the worker over a period of eighteen months. If the worker stays on the job for the eighteen months he has agreed to stay, the employer will refund that portion of the transportation costs spent on travelling from the port of entry to the place of employment.

With regard to the outlook for 1951, we expect that we will be faced with labour shortages of greater proportion than we have had to deal with during the past few years.

The demand for farm workers will be heavy and men are required in larger numbers than they have been for a good many years for work in the bush. This year most woods operators are planning on cutting right through the summer.

Under the group movement plan, we have placed orders for 16,000 D.P.'s to help meet anticipated labour shortages. The indications at the moment are

that we may not be able to get the required number from among the D.P.'s and if this proves to be the case, we will have to look for sources of supply elsewhere.

If there are any questions which members of the committee would like to ask, we would be glad to try to answer them.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD: How many requests has your department had for farm labourers?

Hon. Mr. GREGG: How many individual requests or for how many people?

Hon. Mr. McDONALD: Individual requests?

Mr. MACNAMARA: I think the answer to that is that the farmers are a little backward in putting in their applications. We have very few.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD: Could you not set a deadline by which time the applications had to be in?

Mr. MACNAMARA: We do advertise the need for putting in the applications. We have statements announced on the radio and we advertise in the local newspapers. As to setting a deadline, we would probably be the first to break it if we had to.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD: The Dutch farmers seem to be very acceptable here. Are you getting any applications from the people in Holland?

Mr. MACNAMARA: Yes, quite a number. We expect the total this year will be the biggest of any. We are hoping for 15,000.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD: What about the other countries near Holland? What about Denmark, for instance.

Mr. MACNAMARA: We have not had any movement from Denmark.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD: Just mainly from Holland?

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: What would be the average wages for these farm workers?

Mr. MACNAMARA: The farmer starts them in around \$45 a month. The peak for a good farm hand would be around \$100 a month.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Would that include board and lodging?

Mr. MACNAMARA: Yes, sir.

Hon. Mr. REID: I was rather interested in hearing that some company or firm sent representatives to England, when they found they wanted 300 workers, and the statement was made by the minister that the demand for 300 workers was quickly over-subscribed. In view of that I am wondering what has been done to take up that surplus labour that seems to be willing to come here from the United Kingdom?

Mr. MACNAMARA: Well, the great block in bringing people in from the U.K.—and that is where these people were recruited from—has been the matter of transportation. As the Hon. Mr. Harris mentioned the other day, arrangements have been made to meet that situation by the applicant paying \$30, and the federal government of Canada loaning the balance.

Hon. Mr. REID: There would be no difficulty in getting the 300. I am just wondering why we are searching so keenly the continent of Europe if there is such a surplus in the Old Country? I am of the opinion that that surplus will grow, because over the past few years many British manufacturers have located their businesses in this country. In speaking to one of them he told me "When we get well established in Canada and can turn out goods cheaper through your production methods here, we will likely do all of it from Canada." As I say, I am wondering why we are searching the continent of Europe so much. I am not objecting to that, but if there is a surplus in the U.K., especially in the mechanical line, why not bring them here?

Mr. MACNAMARA: The answer is simple. The surplus people spoken about as being obtained from the U.K. are tradesmen. What we are seeking in Europe is the farm hands and other basic industry workers who do not require the skill that these people for aircraft work require. I think it is possible to get a considerable number of skilled people from the U.K. On the other hand, we know it is quite impossible to get farm hands from the U.K.

Hon. Mr. REID: What is the demand in Canada for mechanics as compared to the demand for labourers?

Mr. MACNAMARA: It is very much smaller.

Hon. Mr. REID: I know in speaking to a representative of one of the departments the other day I was told that the big difficulty is in getting technical men in connection with war production. I was told that they just could not find them.

Mr. MACNAMARA: Let me say that there is always a difference of opinion as to this matter of a shortage of skilled men. For example, take the matter of electricians in the city of Toronto. There was a good deal of talk about getting some electricians from the U.K. for Toronto. A statement was published in one of the trade journals in England warning electricians about coming to Toronto. In effect this statement said "We cannot find work for our union members, so what is the use of you coming to Toronto. Anyway, you cannot go to work unless you pay a fee of \$100 to the union". I think it is true that there are electricians out of work in Toronto. On the other hand, men with some electrical knowledge have been needed for the aircraft factory at Malton. The number of skilled people which we need is very much in the minority as compared with those without skills.

Hon. Mr. REID: Probably some action should be taken to counteract such a damaging statement, for those people might apply conditions in Toronto to all of Canada. While electricians are not required in Toronto, they may well be in demand in other places.

Mr. MACNAMARA: That is true.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: When I was in New Zealand recently I heard a speech by the Minister of Immigration of Australia, Mr. Holt, in which he described the arrangement which Australia had made with the United Kingdom whereby the United Kingdom was paying for the transportation of immigrants to Australia.

Mr. MACNAMARA: The money was being paid by the Australian government for the transportation.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: I did not understand it that way. I have not yet received the text of that speech, but I will forward it to you when I get it. The Minister made it amply clear that his country had an arrangement with the United Kingdom whereby the United Kingdom was supplying the money for transportation.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: That is a sterling area.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: That is true.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: I think that is the reason for the arrangement with Australia.

Hon. Mr. REID: We had \$65 million to the credit of the United Kingdom which could have been used to bring immigrants to Canada; now it has been given to the Prairie farmers.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: I do think the fact that Australia is in the sterling area has something to do with it.

I should like to mention one point arising out of my earlier remarks that there were 902 Maltese came to Canada. Madam Chairman, it has come to

the attention of at least one member of the committee that there was some grief with respect to some of the Maltese at Ajax. Out of the number of 902 I think there were some 6—at any rate a fairly small proportion—who were very much dissatisfied and sorry that they had left Malta and come to Canada. The hostel manager at Ajax did all he could for them; and the deputy minister wrote each of the complainants a fatherly letter. That did not have the desired effect on all of them, but it did on one or two; and the remaining complainants are gradually being taken care of. I think there are two which we have yet to settle. To make sure that the incident did not have any ill effect on future arrangements, the people of Malta were kept informed of the situation, and they took steps to determine whether the complaints of those few were legitimate. I took the liberty of forwarding Senator Roebuck a copy of a letter which came to us the other day.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Two members of the Maltese parliament wrote to me about the matter. It seems that 26 of these men had written lurid letters to their parliamentary representatives in Malta, complaining about what had taken place here. I am very much obliged to the minister and the deputy minister for keeping me informed on the situation, and I have written several letters to members of parliament in Malta. We do not want any misunderstandings to result from the incident.

I was greatly impressed with the fact that these people were receiving excellent food at Ajax; nevertheless, they wrote silly complaints about it. I was also greatly impressed with the patience shown by the officials in the handling of these grouching, disagreeable people who were ungrateful for the assistance that was given to them, and were causing all the trouble they could. They would not take jobs when they were offered to them.

On the other hand, there is this to be said that these men came to Canada at the first of the winter season with insufficient clothing. They were from a soft climate and used to indoor work; they were incapable of doing the outdoor work which we require here in Canada. I do think, however, the incident will have its uses, in informing the Maltese people to some extent of conditions here and what they must guard against. I read a letter from a Maltese official thanking Canada for its generosity in supplying some of these poor immigrants who came here with good warm clothing. That is all very fine, and I think it will work out to the good rather than harm.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: I think that is true. The complaints were mainly concerning food and clothing, the latter of which was legitimate. Certainly, their clothing was not heavy enough for the Canadian climate, and steps were taken by the officials to co-operate in overcoming the difficulty. As to the food, it happened that shortly after the matter came up Mr. MacNamara and I had to be in Toronto in connection with the conference for the handicapped, and we took our own way of investigating the quality of the food. We came to the conclusion that there was no justifiable grounds for complaint on that score.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: Was the number who complained six or twenty-six?

Hon. Mr. GREGG: At the outset, when the first letter was written, there were twenty-six, and it gradually boiled down to the point where we had what you might call a hard core of six.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: There were six, and they got the others to sign the letter. They wrote to the British High Commissioner complaining about it.

Mr. MACNAMARA: May I make a general comment about the Maltese? The Mediterranean around December would no doubt look pretty good to most of us. I think that is the reason for the trouble. These people wanted to go back home. In answer to your question, Madam Chairman, we are continuing to bring these people in; we hope to reach a quota of about 200 a month. The arrangement is very satisfactory, for the Maltese government pay all transportation costs.

Hon. Mr. REID: What is the working arrangement between your department and the Immigration Department concerning workers who come here on their own? As an illustration I will cite a case that came to my attention while attending a meeting in Ottawa recently. A particular family came to Ottawa some three months ago. The father, who is not an old man, and the son had spent all their working years as rolling mill experts. They landed here in Ottawa only to find no employment available to them. They appealed to me to see if I could give them any information as to where suitable employment could be found.

My question is whether, in the case of mechanics who come from the old country on their own, there is any working arrangement between your department and the Immigration Department as to where they shall go. There are, I understand, men and women who of their own volition set out to come to Canada without any guidance as to where they may obtain employment for which they are trained. In the case I have cited the father and son have no chance of obtaining employment in a rolling mill in Ottawa, and it seems to me that if word of their difficulties gets back to the old country it will not do us any good.

Mr. MACNAMARA: There are some who just get on a boat without telling anybody where they are going, but there are officials in our immigration offices in London and in Canada House who could advise them as to employment conditions fitting their skill in Canada. Of course people do not always do things the way they should do them, but they should go to an immigration office in the U.K., and there are several of them, the principal of which have available a counsellor who can advise them.

Hon. Mr. REID: Is that fact widely advertised, so that prospective immigrants may know what is available to them?

Mr. MACNAMARA: Yes; it is being built up, senator. We do not claim to have a perfect organization by any means, but we try to see that steamships and other means of transportation can furnish each of the new Canadians with information as to where they can obtain help in Canada. For example, they are told the national employment service is at their service. We went so far as to give out pamphlets. These pamphlets are handed to them, giving them addresses of National Employment Offices. As to working with the Immigration Department, we work hand in glove with them, and we certainly make no moves without letting them know; and the reverse is true.

Hon. Mr. REID: But I am just wondering if they work hand in glove with you. You are looking for labour and they are looking for immigrants.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: Oh, yes, on all points. And if that man came without having made any employment contact overseas—arrived, we will say, in Halifax—all he would have to do there would be to walk up to the National Employment Service in Halifax, and that office should be able to tell him where he would stand the best chance of locating in Canada.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Mr. Minister, in respect to the admission of immigrants, to what extent, if any, is the policy governed by the ability of the Labour Department to find work for the incoming immigrant?

Hon. Mr. GREGG: I think I will ask the Deputy in a moment to go into that more explicitly, but off-hand, as we stand now in March, our employment situation in Canada is beginning to level off. For instance, this week will show slightly less than last week in the number of people registered at the National Employment Offices seeking employment. That is quite a bit ahead of last year; we have now some 75,000 less listed seeking employment than at this date last year.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD: What was the total number of applications for work in Canada in all the provinces?

Hon. Mr. GREGG: 375,000 it was last year this date, and it is just over 300,000 now.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD: Have you the figures for the provinces?

Mr. MACNAMARA: I do not remember them. I am sorry.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: We could submit them to the committee at a future sitting.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: That would be seasonal.

Mr. MCNAMARA: I would say it is 90 per cent seasonal.

Hon. Mr. McDONALD: There is one problem that worries me, and has for some years, and I know it has troubled many people in the province of Nova Scotia; it is that of the young men and women, particularly in the coal-mining areas of Nova Scotia. I understand there is quite a lot of unemployment there at the present time, and I know that your department has done considerable in moving them to other areas where there was work; also you have carried on splendid vocational courses. I am wondering whether Mr. MacNamara would give us a statement of how those vocational courses are "making out" and if there is a hope of getting more and more of these people whom I have mentioned into these courses and training them to become most worthwhile citizens.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: May I just complete my attempted reply to Senator Crerar? In view of the fact that we are facing now, a period of greatly enlarged demands for labour, particularly skilled labour, in the armed forces and in defence production as well as in ordinary production, we do not feel that the employment opportunities will act as a brake on the encouragement of immigration. I think the main brakes on it will be shortage of money for transportation on somebody's part and, side by side with that, the shortage of transportation itself. Would that be true?

Mr. MACNAMARA: That is quite true, sir.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: If those two difficulties can be overcome, or alleviated, I do not think there is any doubt but that there can be found employment for the people that the Department of Citizenship and Immigration bring in.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I was not concerned so much with the matter of finding employment for them, Mr. Gregg, but to get at the basic policy. I think it is probably true to say that there are hundreds of thousands of people in Europe today who would willingly come to Canada and find some way of their own of getting here and some way of making their own way after they got here,—simply to get to a country where they escape from the miseries of Europe. Now, is it the policy of the government to hold down that type of immigrant because these people might create a measure of unemployment in Canada or someone might object to their coming, or something of that kind?

Hon. Mr. GREGG: In reply to that, sir, I think it would be fair to say that the policy of government is to attempt to maintain an even course amongst these factors that you mentioned. For instance even if there were plenty of ships available—I think this is what you mean—the government would not want to bring in people for whom we could not now or very quickly find employment.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Does that mean, Mr. Gregg, that we have accepted the principle of the government finding employment for people?

Hon. Mr. GREGG: I put it in the wrong way—for whom employment could not be found by themselves or through employers, or through N.E.S. offices or any other plan we have in vogue now.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: Right there, Mr. Minister, you spoke of bringing people in, but Senator Crerar was referring to people willing to come, to pay their own way, and to take a chance of finding their own livelihood in this country, as many of our best people have done. Is it the policy of the government to refuse admission to numbers of these people who are willing to come and take their own chance?

Hon. Mr. GREGG: An individual who can pay his way, who passes the security test and can give assurance that he is able to establish himself—I mean, who has sufficient financial resources that he will not be a burden—would I think be passed without question by the Immigration people.

Mr. MACNAMARA: There is no doubt about that.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: There would be very few of those, though.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Many of the immigrants who came to this country fifty years ago had not \$5 of assets when they got to their destination. But the first thing they did was to go out and take a job, any job they could get; and as a result they have developed our resources, they have increased the wealth production of the country, and they have made a great contribution to the country's success. Is that sort of thing shut off today?

Hon. Mr. GREGG: No, I would say not. Bearing in mind, of course, that the very nature of things since the last war has caused immigration in mass movements. The man in the position of the immigrant of fifty years ago to whom you referred, having nothing in his pocket, would now perforce have to come within one of these plans to get over. If he were a man who could buy a farm or had enough to establish himself when he got here, and could pass the screening overseas, he might come in and thus find his own way in the old fashioned manner you mentioned.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: If he came to one of the government's European offices and said, "I would like to go to Canada; I am physically fit and mentally sound; I have nothing but my willingness to work; may I be admitted?", what would you say?

Mr. GREGG: Well, he would have to report to the overseas Immigration authorities, and be checked for security. He should go to the Department of Labour man, who, would test him on his qualifications as to appropriate opportunities in Canada. If he could pass those tests and had enough money in his pocket to pay his fare, and could get passage I think he could come over.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I think that is an important point.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: In the good old days necessity was the mother of invention. There were no baby bonuses and other forms of socialism that we have today. In other words, we can only support a few on a very high standard.

Hon. Mr. REID: When you are screening—perhaps I should not use that word—prospective immigrants as mechanics, labourers or farm hands, is age taken into consideration? I ask that question in view of the tendency today in Canada not to employ men over 45 years of age.

Mr. MACNAMARA: The employer usually places a top age limit, and if we are working on a group plan we pretty well stick to that age. As to domestic servants, we do not bring in the older girls.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: That is a good thing.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: We were speaking a moment ago about mechanics. It has become something of a necessity now in Western Canada for a farm labourer to be something of a mechanic. Western farmers have a lot of expensive machinery. I had a personal experience with a D.P. who found a mowing machine new to him, but when he was given a scythe to work with in the garden he was all right. First-class mechanics are needed on our Western farms.

The CHAIRMAN: In view of the tremendous demand for domestic workers, has the department thought of getting some from Italy?

Mr. MACNAMARA: The difficulty of getting domestic help from Italy is largely one of cost of transportation. I was making some inquiries as to whether we might find a Santa Claus who would put up the money to bring some of these people here. I was talking to the people at the Italian Embassy, but there does

not seem to be any source of money for this purpose. The only hope at the moment is the fact that the International Labour Organization is having a meeting under the auspices of the United Nations on March 27, and one of the things they will be discussing will be the movement of people from countries which have a surplus population. I am taking steps to tell them at that time that we could take people right away if they could find say \$200,000 to advance fares to bring them here.

Mr. REID: I was rather intrigued by the statement made with respect to domestic service. In speaking of those coming from Great Britain you said 57 were from Scotland.

Mr. GREGG: Everyone is familiar with their high qualities.

Hon. Mr. REID: Yes, but are there any from Ireland, Wales and England?

Mr. MACNAMARA: We have not gone to Ireland yet.

Mr. REID: I am just wondering why. I am told that the girls from that country are exceptional.

Mr. MACNAMARA: We shall have to send somebody to Ireland to make a study. I was reserving that job for myself.

Hon. Mr. REID: I heard that there was a group of some 5,000 in Northern Ireland who were prepared to come to Canada. I should not say they were prevented from coming but I am wondering why they did not do so.

Mr. MACNAMARA: This movement of Scotch girls is really just an experiment. We have had a woman officer in Scotland for two or three months, and if this scheme looks like a success we shall extend it.

Mr. GREGG: Mr. MacNamara, Senator McDonald was inquiring about vocational training in Nova Scotia.

Mr. MACNAMARA: Yes. As to vocational training in Nova Scotia we have recently increased our classes by arrangement with the government of Nova Scotia. I believe there is a good chance that through the activity of the vocational training classes the young fellows you spoke of will be taken into other industries. There are some jobs available now in shipyards, and other jobs are developing. The idea is to work some of these young chaps into other industries.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: A few years ago the Lutheran Churches in Canada and the United States collected quite substantial funds to move some of their co-religionists from D. P. camps to Canada and the United States. Have you any information as to how that scheme worked out so far as Canada is concerned?

Mr. MACNAMARA: Very well, and it is continuing.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: They looked after their people when they came here.

Mr. MACNAMARA: They found a family of the same religion.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I know, but they discharged their responsibilities of looking after them pretty effectively, did they not?

Mr. MACNAMARA: Yes.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Do you recall the extent of that movement?

Mr. MACNAMARA: I have not got those figures, Senator.

Mr. HEREFORD: There were approximately 700 Lutheran families who came to Canada.

Mr. MACNAMARA: Probably two to three thousand people.

Mr. HEREFORD: Yes.

Hon. Mr. DAVID: Have you any statistics that would establish approximately the number of immigrants who came to Canada as farm hands or as farmers and who have since moved to cities?

Mr. MACNAMARA: We do keep track of them for a year, but after their year is up they move. The best information we have is that 55 per cent of the young fellows brought out as farm hands stay on the farm and the rest move.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: Fifty-five out of 100 stay on the farm?

Mr. MACNAMARA: Yes.

Hon. Mr. REID: What happens when a domestic servant or farm labourer moves elsewhere after serving six months with his first employer? The reason I ask that question is that many complaints have been made to me by those who have taken domestic servants and after, shall I say, educating them to the ways of Canadian life, they lose them. Somebody comes along and offers the girls more money and they leave, and I have been told by quite a few people that they will not bring any more immigrants to Canada to train them and then have this happen.

Mr. MACNAMARA: Well, these people agree to stay in domestic service for a year. That does not mean there is a "deep freeze". They do not agree to stay with the same employer, and we find a constant necessity for changing them. Sometimes it is the employer who would like to have domestic help changed and other times it is the girl herself who demands to be moved. We move them around quite a lot.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: What length of time do they agree to stay in domestic service?

Mr. MACNAMARA: One year.

Mr. TURGEON: After one year they are free to move?

Mr. MACNAMARA: Yes.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: You give them a certificate of the fact that they have stayed for a year?

Mr. MACNAMARA: That is true.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: And some of them value those certificates very highly.

Mr. MACNAMARA: They claim to base an estimation on their value, but sometimes I am not too sure that they are very valuable.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: The persons who hold them value them.

Mr. MACNAMARA: Out of 46,000 workers, some 30,000 have been given certificates.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: That is pretty good.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: To return to the vocational training question, Dr. MacNamara. Do you train these persons for all the different trades? I ask that question by reason of what happened in Manitoba last spring, after the floods. There was a great deal of repair and construction to be done and—

Mr. MACNAMARA: We did not train any fishermen.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: We could not get carpenters, bricklayers or any such tradesmen. Do you train men to do that work?

Mr. MACNAMARA: We will form classes for any trade if the applicants are there. The difficulty in Manitoba would be that the young men would not come to classes because they could get work quite easily. The minister has just pointed out to me that the matter of training is a partnership arrangement with the provinces; the province puts up half the cost, and the initial recommendation comes from the province.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: Do those who take the courses pay anything?

Mr. MACNAMARA: No.

The CHAIRMAN: If the questions have been exhausted, I should like to say how grateful we are to the minister and to Mr. MacNamara for appearing before us today, and I think every member of the committee would like to see them back on the labour side of the question.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: At your call, Madam Chairman.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: Before Dr. MacNamara leaves, may I ask him whether he is still receiving requests from sugar beet areas to bring in labour from Europe, or is labour being supplied from other sources in Canada? For years requests were made to bring labour for this purpose from Europe.

Mr. MACNAMARA: The requests this year are higher than ever before.

Hon. Mr. BUCHANAN: Will you be able to meet those requirements?

Mr. MACNAMARA: We will be able to meet some; but I am not sure that we will be able to meet the entire demand.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: In the years since the end of the war we have heard a good deal of evidence of the large number of D.P.'s. It would be interesting to hear the figures on the number of these poor people still remaining in D.P. camps.

Mr. MACNAMARA: Do you mean the ones left in the camps?

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Yes, actually in the camps.

Mr. MACNAMARA: Speaking from memory, it is about 400,000.

Mr. HEREFORD: I do not think it is quite that high—perhaps 200,000.

Mr. MACNAMARA: And many of them are not employable.

Hon. Mr. TURGEON: Does that figure include so-called hard core group?

Mr. HEREFORD: Yes.

Hon. Mr. REID: Do some of them come from Yugoslavia?

Mr. MACNAMARA: They come as refugees, from protective areas in Germany.

Hon. Mr. REID: I realize that I should have asked my next question of the Minister of Immigration, but I have always been interested in those Yugoslavs who sold all they had in British Columbia and bid farewell to Canada. They never came back to Canada.

Mr. MACNAMARA: They would have to come as refugees.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Provided they can get out of Yugoslavia.

The CHAIRMAN: I have in my home two Yugoslav girls; they walked over the border.

Hon. Mr. REID: They would not be in that group which sold out and went back to Yugoslavia.

The CHAIRMAN: No; they came as refugees.

Hon. Mr. REID: I have always been interested in that group, because I believe that they will someday want to come back.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: As well as those persons remaining in D.P. camps in Germany, there is a large number of displaced Germans who were never in the camps, but who became displaced in Poland when a part of Germany was given over to that country. Although Stalin has prevented any peace treaty arrangements, I understand the government is allowing some Germans to come in.

Mr. MACNAMARA: That is true. The minister mentioned a group of German nationals being recruited for hard rock mining companies. We now have orders for 800 of them.

Hon. Mr. HORNER: They would also make very good farm hands.

Mr. MACNAMARA: Yes. But the question of transportation costs comes up.

Hon. Mr. DAVID: Is my information concerning the Bata Shoe Company correct, that out of about 26 experts with the company before the end of the war, some 22 went away after hostilities were over?

Mr. MACNAMARA: Do you mean that they left the Bata Shoe Company?

Mr. DAVID: Yes. Would you know about that situation?

Mr. HEREFORD: The company has received in the neighbourhood of 150 to 175 displaced persons. They are not all Czechs or Slovaks, but the most of them are. Most have stayed with them, but about 50 per cent of the women have left to go to the cities.

Mr. MACNAMARA: You are asking whether some of these people left the company after the war?

Mr. DAVID: The question I wanted to ask was, if some 22 experts went away after the war, how many have made application to come back?

Mr. MACNAMARA: I do not know.

Hon. Mr. DAVID: I understand that some have made application to come back to this country.

Mr. MACNAMARA: I have no information on them.

Hon. Mr. WOOD: Do you mean they went back to Czechoslovakia?

Hon. Mr. DAVID: They left the country, and now want to come back.

Mr. MACNAMARA: If the subject is of special interest to you, we could get the information on it.

Hon. Mr. REID: Before the minister and Mr. MacNamara go, I should like to compliment them on the efforts they have made to encourage employers to hire men over 45 years of age. The film that has been put out on this subject is very fine, and points to the fact that a man of 45 years of age is still useful.

Hon. Mr. GREGG: Thank you very much, Senator Reid. We felt that it had two aspects: One is the human side, and it is the more important; the other is the fact that we are going to need such men for production over the next few years.

The CHAIRMAN: Thank you, gentlemen.

The committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

