



The Canadian Immigration Historical Society  
La Société Historique de l'immigration canadienne  
C.P./P.O. Box 9502, Terminal "T" /Terminus Postale "T", Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 3V2

## C.I.H.S. BULLETIN S.H.I.C

I.S.S.N. 0843-8242

ISSUE NO. 12 (FEBRUARY 1993)

### FROM THE EDITOR

This is the twelfth issue of the BULLETIN and only my second, so again bear with me as I iron out the kinks of putting this newsletter together. Already I have my first apology to make. For those of you who noticed our first attempt to include a photo perhaps you also noticed that I forgot to include the name of the individual that appeared with our dear departed friend, Harry Cunliffe; note that on Harry's left was pictured J.R. (Robbie) Robillard and that the picture was taken in front of Ottawa University during our Hungarian Symposium, April 1990. My apologies to Robbie! I hope everyone enjoyed their holiday season and is looking forward to a happy and prosperous new year. Please, anyone out there who is interested in helping out, or in contributing an article or two, contact me at 819-953-0721. Also it's great hearing from our friends around the world, so thanks for taking the time to drop a line. I hope you don't mind us sharing your news with our membership!

### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

#### Membership

We are enclosing an extra copy of the Bulletin. Could you pass it on to someone who you think might like to join the Society? (We thought of asking members to pass along their own copy but decided against it. Given our bureaucratic training, most of us would want to file it. We also think that the Bulletin is becoming so

interesting it's not fair to ask people to give it away!)

The Board is looking at other ways of publicizing the Society. For example, we are going to develop a brochure which could be given out to potential members.

#### Future Events

The Board is working on two major events. Mike Molloy is giving us a hand on planning the symposium later this year on the Ugandan Refugee movement. Mike was, of course, very much involved with that movement. His boss at the time and the director of the movement, Roger St. Vincent, has indicated he will return to Canada for the symposium. (Roger's memoir on the movement will be published soon by the Society and will be a valuable background document for the symposium.) We are discussing the symposium with representatives of the groups involved and will keep you informed.

The second event is a project on the Displaced Person movement. We are working closely with Employment & Immigration Canada to make sure that our project complements their plans for celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Immigration Service in 1994. We would like to collect the memories of officers and participants about that movement. Again, we will pass on information as the plans begin to firm up.

Very best wishes for 1993.  
Regards,  
John Hunter

### NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Dear CIHS;

We are in the midst of some very big changes in our lives so this year there will be only these few lines and the change of address below. Bob is on pre-retirement leave and will start the new business in early January. We are busy buying furniture for our new office, finding a serviced flat, and to make matters worse I've just learned I'll have to have an operation on my varicose veins in December. I'll be in a better position to fill you in on all the news next time around. Seasons Greetings and All the Best in 1993...signed Bob and Norma Puddester  
Nov. 92

(Ed. Note: Thanks bundles for these short notes. We really love to hear what's happening from our membership. And by the way good luck in your new business Bob and Norma!)

Dear CIHS;

I have been here at the Cdn embassy in Kiev since late Sept. and must say that it is not like any place I have been before. Moscow, where I worked from 1983-85 was different. While Ukraine is very much an independent country as one of the successor states of the former Soviet Union and very proud of it, many of the old attitudes remain. After all, many of the people doing various things are from the old system. Nevertheless things are changing and it will be interesting to see how things will have developed two to three years from now. I have been to Moscow since arriving here and find that although it has more things to

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tempt people with dollars, I prefer the atmosphere here in Kiev.

The Embassy here is still under development. My section is the only one in the Embassy building while the rest of the sections are located in a hotel. This will change though, as our Ambassador wants us all working together under one roof. This will mean a lot of construction and renovations over the next while. None of us --we are 10 Canadians-- are in permanent accommodation yet. Apart from myself, everyone else is still in one of two hotels. I am in an apartment leased by the government but expect to move to a somewhat better apartment, which will be within walking distance to work and close to downtown, yet on a quiet street. It's main drawback is that it is in a building without an elevator and is up some 82 steps. So visitors be warned.

The people I am working with are good, both Canadians and Ukrainians. Some of the Canadians are people with whom I worked in the past.

I have a car, a Lada/Zhiguli, which is somewhat crude and boxy although the price was right. Our staff are quite adept at scrounging for gasoline (which is in short supply) so we are able to keep our tanks full. While the weather is still reasonable, I hope to get out of the city a little bit, if only to Kanev where the poet Schevchenko is buried and which is a place of pilgrimage to all Ukrainians.

Kiev itself is a very attractive city, built on bluffs overlooking the Dnipro River. There are lots of architectural monuments, including the St. Sophia cathedral which, for the most part, dates from the 11th century. There are also lots of charming 19th century quarters in which to wander as well as tree-lined boulevards. Our office is situated in a very picturesque part of the old town, very close to St. Sophia and the Golden Gate. The city has real charm and could be as attractive a tourist destination as Vienna or

Budapest in 10 years or so. I have seen a lot of the city already but there is still lots to see.

I have been working on my Ukrainian and I am glad to say it is coming along. While Russian is still widely used in Kiev, it is now perfectly acceptable to speak Ukrainian. Also Ukrainian is spoken in parliament and is used in government announcements. I suppose Ukrainian will supplant Russian in the course of time.

I will spend Latin (or Western) Christmas in Kiev. Since most people will be away so I will be acting Ambassador for about two weeks. For Ukrainian Christmas a group of us are planning to get together in Warsaw to celebrate with at another colleague who has a good-sized house. Next year I will host the get together as where would be more appropriate to celebrate Ukrainian Christmas than in Kiev.

Well I should close for now. I wish you all the best of the season. Regards, Bob Shalka.  
Nov. 27, 1992

(Ed Note: Thanks Bob!...Wishing you were here!  
ha ha)

Dear CIHS;  
It was very nice to receive your brief note on my renewal notice, which arrived here about mid-July. Post has been extremely busy one over the past two years. I had intended to resign in August but External made me an offer I couldn't refuse (but wish I had) to extend to August 93. And so I have.

I'm now running the trade portfolio which strikes at the heart of the dilemma for Ukraine -how to get an economy going. Interesting work.

Regards to the Drews and Bullocks. I was sorry to hear about Harry Cunliffe. Many memories of him - all good ones. With the return of the visa people to CEIC I would imagine the Historical Society should discover additional

energy through a common cause. Yours truly,  
Nestor Gayowsky, Minister-Counsellor,  
Cdn Embassy, Kiev, Ukraine.  
Oct. 31, 1992

(Ed note: Keep those letters coming!)

Also, Valerie Knowles, an Ottawa Freelance writer and also a CIHS member, published last July, a book titled "Strangers At Our Gates - Canadian Immigration and Immigration Policy, 1540-1990". It has 218 pages, 28 illustrations and retails for \$19.99. If you're interested in purchasing a copy, you can contact Dundurn Press, 2181 Queen St. East Suite 301, Toronto, M4E 1E5 or call (416) 698-0454. CIHS of course wishes Valerie great success with her latest work.

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### CHARLES MAIR...A plaque in his honour

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If you recall from a previous article we published on Charles Mair, Jim Cross told us that in front of the Post Office in Lanark, Ontario, a plaque had been erected to honour this individual. Recently, one of our Directors, Al Gunn was driving through the town of Lanark and decided to stop and check out this plaque.

The plaque is attached to the front wall of the post office and reads as follows:

"Charles Mair, 1838-1927  
Journalist, poet, advocate of western expansion, and an original member of the Canada First movement, Mair was born at Lanark, Upper Canada. A controversial figure during the Red River uprising (1869-1870), he was subsequently a pioneer businessman of Portage la Prairie, Prince Albert, and Kelowna, and an official of the Dominion immigration service. His literary works included Dreamland and other Poems, Tecumseh, and Through

the Mackenzie Basin. He died at Victoria, B.C." (Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada)

each passenger, no distribution was made on the "Elizabeth and Sarah". Forty-two persons dies during the voyage to Quebec, which lasted for eight weeks.

This was only the beginning, for by the end of May, 40 ships were waiting in line at Grosse Ile, where over 1000 cases of fever already were held in sheds, tents and laid in rows in the small church. By July more than 2,500 sick persons were on Grosse Ile.

In spite of valiant efforts, it was of course, impossible for Dr. Douglas and his helpers to cope with such a crises, and several of the doctors sickened of the fever and died. The Clergy and residents of Quebec City also did what they could to care for the sick and improve conditions and many children orphaned by the death of their parents were adopted by kind-hearted citizens.

As the summer of 1847 passes, the number of patients in the hospital at Grosse Ile began to decrease and on October 30, Grosse Ile was closed, the shipping season having ended. This did not mean, however, that the crises had been controlled or that the suffering had ended: thousands of the immigrants, some apparently "healthy" and others who could not be cared for at Grosse Ile, had of necessity been transferred meanwhile by ship to Montreal, where they became scattered throughout the city or packed into sheds at Point St. Charles, close to the end of the Victoria Bridge, then beginning construction. This simply meant that the epidemic had been transferred to Montreal and most of the thousands who eventually died there were buried near the entrance to the Bridge, where there is now a large stone bearing this inscription: - "To preserve from desecration the remains of 6,000 immigrants who died from ship fever A.D. 1847-48 this stone is erected by the workmen of Messrs Peto, Brassey and Betts employed on the construction of the Victoria Bridge A.D. 1859."



#### THE STORY OF GROSSE ILE -by Fenton Crosman

The migration of thousands of Irish immigrants to North America during the 1840s is a long and tragic story. Fleeing from injustice, starvation and disease, many failed to survive the voyage on crowded, inadequate ships or the hardships following arrival at ports in either the United States or Canada.

Although the cost of fares was minimal and many passages were paid by landlords, the conditions on board small and ill-equipped ships were deplorable. One example was the barque "Elizabeth and Sarah", of 330 tons burthen which arrived at Quebec in September 1846, carrying 276 passengers crowded into 32 berths.

No sanitary conveniences of any kind were provided, the ship ought to have carried over 12,000 gallons of water but had only 8,700 gallons in leaky casks and although the Passenger Act of 1842 required 7 lbs. of provisions weekly for

A situation of this kind began to cause much anxiety on the part of Canadian officials and citizens, who were aware of the disease known as "fever" or typhus then developing in Ireland and on board the ships, and so in anticipation of an increasing migration in the spring of 1847 efforts were made to prepare for their reception.

Regulations then existing at Quebec required that all passenger ships arriving in the St. Lawrence should stop for medical examination at Grosse Ile, a small island in the River east of Quebec City, where a quarantine station had been established in 1832. Early in 1847, Dr. Douglas the medical officer in charge of the quarantine station, requisitioned £3,000 for extension of the facilities at the station, but was granted only £300, together with a small steamer and the use of a sailing vessel, both for use in transfer to and from Quebec City. Fears of a catastrophe, however were justified, for on May 17, the first vessel, the "Syria" arrived with 241 passengers, including 84 cases of fever and nine persons having died during the voyage.

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On Grosse Ile itself are found at least two monuments, one erected by Dr. Douglas and eighteen medical assistants who were on duty during the epidemic of 1847. On the first side of this monument the inscription runs: - "In this secluded spot lie the mortal remains of 5,294 persons, who flying from pestilence and famine in Ireland in the year 1847, found in America but a grave."

A second side bears the names of Dr. Benson of Dublin and of three other doctors who died while attending the sick; while a third side bears the names of two doctors who died on Grosse Ile during the cholera epidemic of 1832-34.

The second monument at Grosse Ile, a Celtic cross of granite stands on the summit of telegraph Hill, 120 feet above the St. Lawrence. It bears three inscriptions, in French, English and Irish. The first reads: - "Sacred to the memory of thousands of Irish immigrants who to reserve the faith suffered hunger and exile in 1847-48 and stricken with fever ended here their sorrowful pilgrimage." The second: - "Thousands of the children of the Gael were lost on this island while fleeing from foreign tyrannical laws and an artificial famine in the years 1847-48. God bless them God save Ireland!" The third inscription states that the monument was erected by the Ancient Order of the Hibernians of America and was unveiled on the Feast of the Assumption, 1909.

Because of limited space, one cannot summarize here the tragic story of these unfortunate people. However, several books on Grosse Ile are now available: "Grosse Ile 1832-1937", a small book by Marianna O'Gallagher, which vividly tells the story of her ancestors' arrival in Canada; "The Great Migration", by Edwin C. Guillet, describes the Atlantic crossing by sailing ships since 1770 and makes many references to travel and reception conditions on the St. Lawrence and at Grosse Ile; "The Great Hunger"- Ireland 1845-49 by Cecil Woodham-

Smith, a comprehensive history of the Irish famine and subsequent migration and; more recently "Flight from Famine" by Donald MacKay, which describes conditions in Ireland which caused the great migration of the Irish to Canada.

In the hope of making the tragedy of Grosse Ile better known to Canadians, the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada is now in the process of renovating the old hospital and converting the island in an historic site and park which would be accessible to the public. Assurance has been given, however, that there will be no desecration of this treasured memorial to those thousands of unsung heroes.

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**"FROM MY BOOKSHELF"**  
-by George Bonavia

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Reprinted with permission from George Bonavia. George distributes a monthly newsletter to ethnic media, libraries and organizations interested in ethnocultural affairs.

**THE BLACK CANADIANS: Their History and Contributions** by Velma Carter and Levero (Lee) Carter - Reidmore Books, Edmonton, Alberta. 1989, 82 pages, Hardcover.

Here is a well-organized textbook on the Black Canadians covering black immigration to Canada, from Africa to Eastern and Central Canada, the Prairies, British Columbia; and including involvement of Black Canadians in world history.

In this textbook we read about blacks who came to Canada from a number of countries, particularly from the USA or the Caribbean. The 1986 census lists a total of 174,965 blacks in Canada, most of whom live in Ontario and Quebec.

This book is one of a series of books belonging to Reidmore's Multicultural Canada Series. For information about the series contact: Reidmore Books Inc., 1200 Energy Square, 10109 - 106 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 3L7.

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**Federal-Provincial Relations in Canadian Immigration -by R.A. Vineberg**

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**PART 2**

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(Ed. Note: This is part two of a three-part article. At the time this article was written, Robert Vineberg was Director, Regional Policy and Program Relations, Immigration Canada (1982-1985). He is currently Director, Case Analysis and Coordination, Immigration, NHQ. We are grateful to the Institute of Public Administration of Canada for granting us permission to reprint Mr. Vineberg's article originally published by them in July 1987 in their journal, Canadian Public Administration (Volume 30, No. 2, pp 299 - 317). We will present the final instalment of Mr. Vineberg's original article, in the next issue of the Bulletin.)

**POSTWAR**

The relative unimportance of the immigration program in the prewar and war years was epitomized by its place as small branch of the Department of Mines and Resources. With the end of the Second World War change was inevitable. The Canadian government had to deal with the resumption of normal immigration as well as a flood of refugees and displaced persons and the Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources was inadequate to meet the demand. Accordingly the government decided to create a new Department of Citizenship and Immigration gave it a mandate to expand the immigration service to meet the demand. The new department came into being on 19 January 1950. While that year immigration actually fell to 73,912 from 95, 217 the previous year, the new invigorated immigration service quickly increased immigration almost threefold to 194,391 in 1951. A return to high levels of immigration resulted in a certain revival of provincial interest in immigration. Several of the provinces reopened European offices and all devoted attention to the settlement and adaptation of immigrants. All that is, except Quebec. The Duplessis government was not only isolationist but xenophobic; it had not interest in receiving immigrants, let alone in

promoting immigration and services for immigrants.

Despite the reawakening of interest in immigration, the federal government created the new Department of Citizenship and Immigration and established its mandate without any obvious regard for the legitimate constitutional interests of the provinces in immigration. The postwar federal government was one that was used to acting as it saw fit in the national interest. It perceived immigration as a national program and, therefore assumed full responsibility for recruitment, selection and admission of immigrants. Cabinet did, however, direct the new department to develop consultative arrangements with the provinces and with national organizations.<sup>1</sup> The Department of Citizenship and Immigration chose to interpret the cabinet direction as applying solely to the field of settlement in which provincial cooperation was essential. A Settlement Service had been established by the Department of Mines and Resources in 1948 and dealt extensively with provincial authorities. A language training agreement was signed by all provinces but Quebec in 1953.

The second important aspect of settlement was that of welfare assistance and hospitalization. In the era before universal health insurance, this was a major concern for immigrants and the Immigration Branch set out to come to joint-sharing arrangements with the provinces. Ontario, receiving the largest share of immigrants, was the first target, and in 1952 that province and the federal government agreed to "an equal sharing, by the federal and provincial government of welfare assistance and hospitalization, for immigrants who, through accident or illness, became

indigent during the twelve months immediately following their arrival in Canada."<sup>2</sup> Negotiations followed with other provinces, and by 1954 similar agreements were concluded with British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.<sup>3</sup> These agreements remained in effect into the mid-sixties but with the advent of the Canada Assistance Plan and federal-provincial hospitalization agreements, they became, for the most part inoperative.

The mandate of the new department included a review of the Immigration Act, part of which dated from 1910. The Immigration Branch, together with the Department of Justice, prepared the new legislation, apparently without any serious consultation with the provinces. once the new act and regulations came into effect on 1 June, 1953, the Immigration Branch did arrange a series of meetings with provincial governments during that month (Quebec and British Columbia did not attend). The 1952/54 Annual Report of the Department states that "the exchange of views on the immigration policy and program proved useful to both federal and provincial representatives...the meetings resulted in the development of close liaison in all matters respecting immigration." These words, however, did not change the reality that immigration in the 1950s was a federal program in which the federal government orchestrated provincial involvement only as necessary.

Only Ontario seemed to have taken a real interest in immigration in the fifties. Certainly numbers had something to do with this. Between 1946 and 1971 Ontario received 53 per cent of the over three and a half million immigrants to Canada. In 1951 the province established an Industrial placement Plan and began to recruit skilled immigrants in the United Kingdom and in Europe

for Ontario's expanding industries from its office in London. Ontario marketed immigration widely and attracted increasingly large proportions of immigrants destined to Canada. Alberta and British Columbia also began to promote immigration through their offices in London.

The Hungarian uprising in 1956 created one of those situations in which the help of the provinces was needed. The large influx of Hungarian refugees which followed the Soviet invasion required the federal government to solicit the cooperation of the provinces, and in order to encourage them to take large numbers, the federal government concluded special agreements with Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia under which, "The federal government assumed full responsibility for the maintenance and care of Hungarian refugees during their first year in Canada regardless of their status in this country. After that period, the provincial authorities.... accept responsibility for all welfare and hospitalization expenses...."<sup>4</sup>

In 1957, due to the Hungarian uprising and the exodus from Britain following the Suez crises, a total of 282,000 immigrants chose Canada, the highest number since 1913. However, a year later the figure was more than halved as the economy was gripped by recession and, as unemployment climbed, immigration dropped to a postwar low of barely 71,000 in 1961. Once again, what provincial interest there was in immigration seemed to decline with the declining numbers.

#### REAWAKENING

The link to the labour market was not surprising; when the Canadian economy began to recover, immigration figures jumped once again so that by 1966 almost two hundred thousand



immigrants arrived. Acknowledging the link between economic needs and immigration, the government merged the National Employment Service with the Immigration Branch and reconstituted them as the Department of Manpower and Immigration in 1966. The Immigration White Paper of that year explicitly acknowledged the link between the labour market and immigration as well. The provinces were also awakening to the relationship between immigration and their economies. The three prairie provinces established small immigration bureaux, as did Quebec. Thus, including Ontario, five provincial governments had distinct units dealing with immigration by 1966.

It would be in Quebec, however, that a full blossoming of these several immigration bureaux would occur. The political, economic, social and intellectual ferment in Quebec in the early sixties, "la révolution tranquille," transformed the society. The government of Jean Lesage realized that skilled immigrants could contribute to the development of the provincial economy and that it might be easier to integrate non-North American migrants into the francophone majority. In 1965 a Quebec Immigration Service was established within the provincial Ministry of Cultural Affairs.<sup>5</sup> It is significant that the Immigration Service in Quebec was first attached to the Ministry of Cultural Affairs since Quebec's preoccupation with immigration had traditionally been cultural. In the past immigration had been perceived as a cultural invasion, destroying the linguistic balance of the province. From 1965, however, increasingly immigration came to be perceived as a tool to strengthen the francophone nature of Quebec society.

The small Quebec Immigration Service grew quickly and, by 1967, was planning its transformation into a full-fledged department of government. Legislation was introduced in the winter of 1968 and became law in November 1968. This took place with the cooperation of

the federal government, which agreed in principle to allow the Quebec Immigration department to place agents abroad to counsel prospective immigrants. In some ways, the Quebec model was that of the Ontario Selective Placement service, but in time its scope would grow beyond that of Ontario's operation. The Quebec Immigration Department operated on two fronts. The first was by placing agents in Canadian embassies in Rome, Athens and Beirut and at the Délégation générale du Québec in Paris. The second was to establish a facility to offer language training and adaptation services to immigrants. As first steps towards this second goal, Quebec acceded to the federal-provincial language training agreement in 1969, sixteen years after all other provinces had agreed to it. The following year the Centres d'Orientation et de Formation des immigrants (COFI), established by the Quebec Department of Education, were taken over by the Quebec Immigration Department. The COFI offered language training and an optional orientation program to the Quebec and Canadian way of life.

The Department of Manpower and Immigration, within its own organization, encouraged federal-provincial dialogue. Due to its vast size on the Manpower side, it was organized into five regions (Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, Prairies and British Columbia) and this regional structure was also adopted by the Canadian Immigration Division, as the Immigration Branch was now known. A decade later, the regional structure would be revised and expanded to ten regions paralleling each province. As a result, senior-level federal immigration officials were located in each province. The proximity of the federal officials facilitated operational consultation and cooperation and provided the federal government with a network for the exchange of information and policy input from the provinces.

On 17 September 1972 Robert Andras, then Minister of manpower and

immigration, announced a full-scale review of Canadian immigration policy. A small task force was established within the department to carry out the review and was charged with preparing a Green Paper to be known as the Canadian Immigration and Population Study (CIPS). The CIPS was the first stage of a process which would culminate with the proclamation of a new Immigration Act almost five years later. Times had changed in the 1970s and the government was determined to consult widely in developing the Green Paper and to encourage the provinces to participate in the process. In the preface to the Green Paper, the government noted that: "Because the provinces share a constitutional responsibility with the federal Government in the immigration field, they were notified of the review, and their views were requested. Over the course of the past year contacts between the two levels of government have been developed, and information exchanged, as work on the review progressed."<sup>6</sup>

The authors of the study expressed the usual caveat that a "Green Paper neither makes recommendations nor announces courses of action the Government believes should be pursued." Nevertheless, it was clear from the language used in the subsequent discussion on federal-provincial relations that the federal government had already decided to involve the provinces to a greater degree than ever before since Confederation: "Clearly there is no constitutional bar to more active and widened collaboration between the central government and the provinces, the purpose being to make immigration policy more sensitive to the latter's requirements. As already noted, numerous fields of provincial responsibility are immediately and directly affected by immigration decisions, and by the measure of success the individual immigrant enjoys on settling in Canada... The selection of those immigrants who respond most effectively to the genuine requirements of the Canadian economy depends heavily on detailed and continuously

updated information about the state of job markets in all parts of the country... Another field where the Federal Government is now endeavouring to work in closer co-operation with the provinces relates to the provision of those services that immigrants may require to help them solve problems they encounter in adjusting to life in Canada... Immigration policy development must take place within a framework that embraces longer term demographic, economic, cultural and social objectives. It follows that the value of regular exchanges between Ottawa and provincial governments is not limited simply to matters that immediately concern effective program management. In the future, national policy formation could be enriched through consultation between the two levels of government which approaches immigration in the wider context of all those Canadian goals to which immigration's contribution is relevant.<sup>7</sup>

Following the tabling of the Green Paper, a special joint committee of the Senate and House of Commons was created. It spent four months in the spring of 1975 holding hearings across Canada to gauge the public's response to the Green Paper. The committee reported to Parliament in November 1975 and, apart from its general recommendations which included a recommendation that the minister of immigration announce annual immigration targets after consultation with the provinces, it made several specific observations with respect to federal-provincial cooperation: "Vigorous efforts are needed to involve the provinces more closely in order to ensure that immigration policy reflects varied regional requirements. The Committee is aware that the federal government would welcome...collaboration...along the following lines: - a permanent joint

federal-provincial committee to coordinate the development and implementation of immigration policy...; - a provincial presence in immigration selection; this could involve sending officers abroad for counselling and promotional duties...; - collaboration on scrutinizing teaching institutions receiving foreign students and on fixing the numbers of foreign students accepted by each institution; - cooperation on immigrant services beginning with a joint evaluation of needs..."

The committee also noted Quebec's special interest in immigration from a cultural viewpoint and made the following recommendation: "The French fact is an essential element in the political and cultural life of Canada. Therefore, the Committee agrees that to the economic, social and other considerations which normally enter into the formulation and application of immigration policy must be added a concern for the maintenance of the French-Canadian presence in a healthy and thriving condition. The Committee realizes that this goal cannot be achieved primarily through immigration policy. But it considers that the Government of Canada should not refrain from any reasonable effort within the limits of its jurisdiction which could contribute to the realization of this objective."<sup>8</sup>

A year later, on 24 November 1976, the government tabled its new Immigration Bill (C-24), incorporating most of the committee's recommendations. The Bill received second reading in March 1977 and the Standing Committee on Labour, Manpower and Immigration spent over seventy hours on clause-by-clause study. The bill was passed by the House on 25 July 1977 and it received royal assent on 5 August 1977. Due to the need to prepare new immigration regulations

and entirely revise instructions to immigration officers, the Immigration Act, 1976 was not proclaimed until 10 April 1978.<sup>9</sup> On this date, a new era in federal-provincial relations in immigration began.

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### FINANCIAL RESTRICTIONS? GENTS YOU DON'T KNOW THE HALF OF IT...

-by Al Troy

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In the present atmosphere of budget cutbacks and attempts at economy in government spending, those of us still employed and those of us recently retired think we are hard done by in this era of \$2000 to \$3000 desks and \$500 to \$1000 swivel armchairs, desk-top computers, etc. We complain like mad when we have to forego some of our expensive toys at the behest of our political masters occasionally.

Copies of some old correspondence sent to us by a colleague from Edmonton reveal we don't know what penny pinching is. When Bill Clark was cleaning out his desk on retirement day, he put the contents in a box and sent them to us for ultimate inclusion in our archives....

We begin with a letter dated August 11, 1917 from the Superintendent of Immigration with the Dept. of Interior in Ottawa to the Commissioner of Immigration in Winnipeg as follows; "Sir, I beg to inform you that for some time past it has been apparent to the Dept. that our Inspector Wm. Creery should be stationed at Coutts rather than Lethbridge but the great difficulty has been the lack of suitable accommodation. It has now been decided to erect a suitable cottage at an expenditure not exceeding \$2000. I wish you to communicate with Insp. Creery and find out what sort of cottage had

best be erected and get tenders. It is distinctly understood that the maximum expenditure is \$2000. Your obedient servant, W. D. Scott."

The next recorded happening is a letter dated July 10, 1918 from Coutts to the Commissioner of Immigration in Winnipeg as follows; "sir, With further reference to my telegram of the 9th re the damaged condition of the cottage by fire. I beg to state that the fire started in the building used for the school which was destroyed and spread to the next house which was also destroyed and then to the cottage which is in such a damaged condition it is impossible for me to live in it. Your obedient servant, (unsigned)."

Isn't this exciting? We now move to a letter from the Immigration Officer in Charge, W.B. Rose to the Commissioner of Immigration in Winnipeg dated November 4, 1921; "Sir, Would it be possible to secure authority to purchase about 2000 ft of lumber which would cost in the neighbourhood of \$70 to build a shed 10 X 16 in the yard in order that I may have a place to store wood, windows, etc. At present there is no place other than the bare yard. If the Department will grant me permission to purchase the lumber I will build it myself. I presume nothing has been done yet, in the way of having a lavatory installed. I built a temporary one, myself, which blows over every time we have a wind storm, which is often in this part of the country. There was no lavatory of any kind on the premises when I came here. Will you please give me authority to purchase a Sanitary Chemical Closet, at a cost of about \$12 which may be connected to the chimney flue, leading to the furnace. Your obedient servant, (unsigned copy), Imm. Inspector in Charge."

The reply to this touching and heart rending missive shot back with remarkable speed for a government bureaucrat from the Commissioner of Immigration to Mr. Rose at his bunker at Coutts, dated November 10, 1921 as

follows; "Sir, Referring to your letter of the 4th inst., I regret that I am unable to issue authority for the purchase of 2000 feet of lumber to build a shed in the yard of the official residence at Coutts. The cost of the building in Coutts so far has exceeded the original estimate that the Department has firmly declined to authorize any further expense in connection with the building. I am asking the Department to authorize the purchase of a Sanitary Chemical Closet at a cost of about \$12. Your obedient servant, Thomas Gelley, Commissioner."

So ends the written tale of our former colleague Mr. Rose. There is actually no confirmation as to whether or not he actually got his fondest dream - a chemical toilet. Who knows? Maybe his mortal remains are still rolling about the prairies through a high wind in his little home-made outhouse.

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#### UPDATE ON IMMIGRATION COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

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Our president, John Hunter advised last issue that he had written to Canada Post supporting the issuance of a stamp in 1994 to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Canadian Immigration Service. A reply was received from Louise Maffett, Corporate Manager, Stamps and Philately. In her reply, she explains... "suggestions for stamp subjects and designs are studied by the Stamp Advisory Committee, which is composed of a number of citizens with a knowledge of philately as well as expertise in a variety of disciplines. From the 200 to 300 suggestions reviewed each year, the Committee recommends some 15 topics for inclusion in an annual program. These topics are chosen so as to ensure a balanced program which will appeal to a wide range of Canadians." Ms. Maffett then goes on to tell us that our suggestion will be reviewed along with all the others, for possible inclusion in the 1994 stamp program, to be announced in the fall of 1993. As well, she also included a pamphlet titled

Corporate Policy on the Selection of Postage Stamp Subjects and Designs. In this pamphlet, it is specifically noted that Canada Post does not favour designs which commemorate an event on other than a twenty-fifth or a fiftieth anniversary, or a multiple of a fiftieth anniversary. Consequently, our chances of obtaining a stamp in celebration of Immigration's 125th Anniversary may be very slim.

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#### REPORT OF IMMIGRATION LANDMARKS COMMITTEE

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(presented to CIHS AGM, Sept. 26, 1992)

→Definition of an IMMIGRATION LANDMARK - A specific place in Canada where immigrants have either landed or have established a settlement in this country.

→Committee's duty is to locate, identify and study these landmarks, and keep appropriate records for further reference on the part of those who are interested in the history of Canada and who, we hope eventually may be writing a comprehensive history on immigration to Canada.

→We have already reported on the old Immigration Building in Victoria, B.C., and are now preparing an essay on Immigration Landmarks still existing on Prince Edward Island. Soon research will begin on points of arrival or settlement of such important immigration movements as, for example, the United Empire Loyalists.

→Meanwhile there is already available much written history on one of the most significant immigration landmarks in Canada - Grosse Ile, in the St. Lawrence River, which is well known as the arrival and also sad to say, the burial place of thousands of immigrants, mainly from Ireland, who were victims of a cholera epidemic raging during the mid-nineteenth century. Grosse Ile already contains several monuments and plaques in memory of those who died



and of those brave and unselfish people who tried to help them.

Although long considered as sacred ground, the National Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada recently presented a plan to develop Grosse Ile, not only as a Historic Site, but also we understand, as a theme park and tourist attraction, with emphasis on its history as an important point of arrival for immigrants. Rightly fearing that the graves of their ancestors would be desecrated by thoughtless tourists, the Irish Organizations in Quebec and elsewhere have raised strong objections to the project, to the extent that the Sites and Monuments Board are reconsidering their plans and, we understand, will now welcome opinions from anyone interested. CIHS have now written the Board to the effect that, while we agree with their efforts to make Grosse Ile better known to the public, there ought to be more emphasis on the site as a sacred memorial rather than as a park and tourist attraction.

→Our most important Immigration Landmark, Pier 21 continues to be discussed. Pier 21 had been a point of arrival from 1928 until 1971. Since 1971 it has been under ownership and control of Halifax Port Corporation and has been partly used for storing freight and partly used for office space.

During recent years interested groups in Halifax have considered renovating the remaining space for Immigration and Cultural Museums, reception areas for tourists, etc. and are now coordinating their interests through a body known as the Pier 21 Society. They have promoted it as a National Historical Site, but the Sites and Monuments Board, although willing to establish a plaque on the property, will

not designate it as a historic site. To our knowledge a feasibility study has not yet been attempted due to lack of money.

Our CIHS representative recently reported that Pier 21 Society presented their plans to the Halifax Port Corporation and asked for the Corporation's policy and plans. The Corporation, although still in favour of the renovation of Pier 21, but firmly resolved to make it a paying proposition, told the Pier 21 Society that they may rent the remaining 37,000 sq. ft. at \$10/sq. ft. for a period of five years, under certain conditions which were not favourable to the Pier 21 Society.

(Landmarks Cttee - Bill Burton & Fenton Crosman)

**THIS CONCLUDES THE TWELFTH ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN. WE CONTINUE TO LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU WITH YOUR COMMENTS, CONTRIBUTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.**



1. Freda Hawkins, Canada and Immigration, Public Policy and Public Concern (Montreal and London, 1972), p. 177.
  2. Department of Citizenship and Immigration, Annual report 1951-52 (Ottawa, 1952) p. 21.
  3. Ibid., Annual report 1953-54 (Ottawa, 1959), p. 26. (The Nova Scotia agreement excluded welfare which was considered the exclusive responsibility of the province.)
  4. Ibid., Annual Report 1958-59 (Ottawa, 1959), p. 27.
  5. Ministère de l'Immigration, Rapport Annuel 1980-81 (Québec, 1981), p.90.
  6. Department of Manpower and Immigration, Immigration Policy Perspectives. Volume 1 of the Report of the Canadian Immigration and Population Study, (Ottawa, 1974), p. ix.
  7. Ibid., pp. 57,58.
  8. Special Joint Cttee of the Senate and the House of Commons on Immigration Policy, Report to Parliament (Ottawa, 1975), pp.18,62-63.
  9. RSC1976-77 c. 52: "An Act Respecting Immigration to Canada."
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**PLEASE SEND THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHEQUE TO "CANADIAN IMMIGRATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY" TO:**

**The Treasurer  
The Canadian Immigration Historical Society  
P.O. Box 9502, Station T  
Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3V2**

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*The Society has been issued letters patent under the Canada Corporations Act, and is qualified as a registered charity under the Income Tax Act. When items in the C.I.H.S. BULLETIN S.H.I.C. are attributed by name or initials, the views expressed are those of the authors.*

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