



CIHS Launches New Web Site

The Society's Executive is delighted to announce that on June 12th we launched the Canadian Immigration Historical Society's new website - www.cihs-shic.ca. We invite you to visit the site and bookmark it for repeat visits.

This site will help the Society achieve its goals of promoting interest in Canada's immigration and refugee history, and in the role we and many other colleagues have played in these nation-building programs. At a time when there is increased concern over the preservation of Canada's history, our new site will play its role in preserving that history.

We fully expect the site to evolve beyond its present state. That evolution will, in large part, depend on the work of Society volunteers in both managing the site and populating it with information. If you can participate in any of these ways, please let us know - volunteers are always welcome!

We wish to highlight the role that CIHS members Brian Davis, Ian Thomson and Gerry Maffre played in getting this site up and running, and to thank them for the long hours of exacting work they carried out in getting us to this point!

As well, Daniel Godin - an Infrastructure

Canada employee who most generously volunteered his time and website expertise to our cause - was a key player in helping the Society design and launch the new site. CIHS president, Mike Molloy, and the CIHS web site team attended Infrastructure Canada's Public Service Week ceremony on June 2012 and presented Dan with a certificate of appreciation and a copy of Valerie Knowles' *Strangers at our Gates*.



Daniel Godin receiving his certificate

We will be alerting many other key audiences and institutions about the launch of this site. We encourage you to share this news with people in your circles and so increase the numbers of people using and contributing to an informative and reliable website on Canada's immigration and refugee history.

CIHS Activities – by Mike Molloy

The Gunn Prize

The 2011/12 academic year Gunn Prize Contest closed on 30 April. A jury consisting of CIHS members Gerry Van Kessel, Kurt Jensen and Rob Vineberg, along with Dr. Jonathan Crush CIGI Chair in

Migration and Development Balsillie School of International Affairs, reviewed submissions and determined that no submission met the criteria of the award.

Indochinese Refugee Book Project

The Indochinese Refugee crisis, which began with the fall of Saigon in April, 1975, resulted in Canada's largest resettlement operation. Books and studies on this event focus on the experiences of the refugees or on the groups that sponsored them; but the herculean task of selecting the refugees in camps from Macau and Hong Kong to the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore, ensuring they met health and security requirements, transporting them to Canada, matching has been largely ignored by scholars.

To mark the 40th anniversary of the fall of Saigon in 2015, the Canadian Immigration Historical Society plans to tell the story from the point of view of the men and women who worked directly with the refugees and the sponsoring groups whether in Canada or in the refugee camps in South East Asia. While the refugee movement continued into the early 1990s, we plan to focus primarily on the five-year period from the fall of Saigon in 1975, to the end of Canada's 1979-1980 commitment to resettle 60,000 refugees.

The project will collect memoirs, documents and artefacts that pertain to the experiences of our colleagues regarding:

- The fall of Saigon; the Promise of Visa Letters and expedited family reunification; the baby airlift; the initial resettlement from camps in Thailand, Hong Kong, Guam, Wake Island, Camp Pendleton, Fort Chaffee, Indian Town Gap; and the General Quang controversy.
- The Boat People; the increasing Canadian involvement in Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines etc. in 1975-78, including the "Hai Hong"; how the refugee measures in the 1976 Immigration Act were deployed to meet the growing challenge.
- The 1979-80 commitment to accept 50,000, then 60,000, refugees; operations in SE Asia, the selection and processing systems; sponsorships; matching and destining; the Reception Centres;

supporting sponsors and resettling Government sponsored refugees; strengthening the resettlement system; the Refugee Liaison Officers; and the Family Reunification Program.

To date, the project team has been in touch with 70 potential writers and we are looking for more. If you were involved in the resettlement of Indochinese refugees at a post abroad, at the Greisbach or Longue Pointe Reception Centres, at the national or regional matching centres, or in any capacity at National Headquarters, a Regional Office or especially at a CEC or CIC, we are interested in hearing from you. Please contact Mike Molloy at joandmikeca@yahoo.com or c/o the Canadian Immigration Historical Society, CPO Box 9502, Station T, Ottawa, ON, K1G 3V2.

Uganda Refugee Movement 40th Anniversary

Forty years ago this August, the Ugandan dictator Idi Amin announced the expulsion of most of Uganda's Asian population. Canada responded by sending a team to Kampala under the leadership of Roger St. Vincent and setting up a special reception facility at Canadian Forces Longue Pointe. Between 6 September and 6 November 1972, the Kampala team selected and transported over 6000 people to Canada.

The fall *Bulletin* will include an account of the Uganda operation. In the meantime, CIHS is involved with Carleton University in a project to preserve and make available to the public an important collection of historical materials on this refugee movement. Included in this collection are Roger St. Vincent's account of the Uganda Operation "Seven Crested Cranes," a unique collection of Ugandan press clippings covering 1970-72, and a comprehensive collection of Canadian, British and U.S. press clippings covering the events in Uganda and their repercussions in Canada. These will be supplemented by electronic collections of

Canadian and UK official documents and media coverage, including the Quebec media, all compiled by three University of Ottawa graduate students. Patti Harper of Carleton University's Archives and Research Collections will oversee the conservation of the original materials and the creation of an internet accessible electronic archive. A number of related activities to mark the 40th anniversary are being planned, including talks on this historic movement at various locations across the country.

CIHS- WCI Video Project

A decade ago, CIHS produced six videotaped interviews with a selection of experienced immigration officials. The project was largely forgotten until CIC Librarian Charlene Elgee brought it to our attention. Inspired by the initial project, we have now formed a partnership with the Welcoming Communities Initiative (based at the University of Western Ontario) to continue the video project with the idea of using the past to shed light on perennial immigration challenges. A small steering committee representing CIHS and WCI met in Ottawa on 5 April 2012 to plan the first filming session. It will involve five or six interviews which will take place this fall. We have agreed to initially explore issues relating to refugees, and the challenge of managing immigration to meet Canada's labour market needs. Wherever appropriate, we plan to look at the challenges through the eyes of both policy and field-level officers. More on this later

Republishing of CIHS articles

CIHS has concluded agreements with Citizenship and Immigration Canada's *Insider* newsletter and the Professional Association of Foreign Service Officers' award-winning magazine *Bout de Papier*, to re-publish selected articles from our *Bulletin*. So far the *Insider* has reprinted Jim Humphries' series on the creation of CAIPS (*Bulletins* 59, 60 and 61). *Bout* has carried an article on the Czech refugee movement by Gerry Maffre based on *Bulletin* 46 (Czech mates edition) and is planning a series of features on the immigration program based on our members' articles.

CIHS Visit to Halifax and Pier 21

For some time we have been planning a visit to Pier 21, Canada's National Immigration Museum and it finally took place on Tuesday May 29, 2012. We met initially with Carrie-Anne Smith, Chief,

Audience Engagement, our long-time contact at Pier 21. Under the new organization she is in charge of exhibitions, and gave us a tour of the impressive facility and exhibits. The museum will be expanding into a second building across the lane that was once the railway track and which served as the departure point for the immigrants. We also met with Cassidy Bankson, Oral Historian, and Tania Bouchard, Chief Curator in charge of document collections, archiving etc. It was gratifying to learn that materials CIHS sent to Pier 21 a decade ago are an important element of their collection. We had a preliminary discussion about whether Pier 21 might be the logical repository for documents and artifacts CIHS collects over time. As the Museum is still developing its document and artifact collection policies, we came to no firm decision.

At noon, Mike Molloy gave a presentation on the 1972 Uganda movement to an audience of 35 people. Included in the audience were three members of the Popat family who were on one of the last charters out of Uganda, and who have some remarkable photos taken in the airport at Kampala and at the reception Centre at Longue Pointe Quebec. In addition, Mario de Mello, also from Uganda and a successful Halifax businessman, attended the talk. Two former immigration employees who played key roles in the 1979-80 Indochinese Refugee movement, Cheryl Munroe, formerly the Refugee Liaison Officer, Prince Edward Island, and Iris Peebles, Nova Scotia Region's refugee coordinator were also there. There is clearly an appetite for future presentations on immigration and refugee operations, from both overseas and domestic perspectives.

There was a brief meeting with Pier 21's newly-appointed CEO, Marie Chapman. She is a dynamic leader and it was easy to see why the staff was pleased when she was appointed. Under her leadership, the museum board and staff are still working

through the implications of becoming the national immigration museum. Their challenges are to make the museum relevant across Canada and to immigrants who have arrived since Pier 21 ceased to be a port of entry. Big challenges, but they are up to them. We are hoping CIHS' board can meet with Ms. Chapman in Ottawa this fall.

Contact with Members and Colleagues

What a wonderful conversation I had with Stan Noble about his career in the Navy and about the department. I'm hoping someday he will give us an article about his encounter with the Hungarian security service in the bad old communist days. I promised Stan I would visit HMC Sackville, Canada's last corvette, while in Halifax and take a picture of the antiaircraft gun he was able to get the Irish government to donate to this important naval monument. Unfortunately, the Sackville was at its winter berth at the time and not accessible. Next time for sure.

The Halifax visit provided an opportunity to have breakfast with Ernest Allen who is living near Halifax and has not aged a day. He and I last

crossed paths in Nairobi in 1989. I also had an all-too-short visit with Bill Sinclair and John Corning. They live in the same project and it was gratifying to see old colleagues who are looking out for each other.

The reunion of the FS class of 72 brought Margaret Tebbutt to Ottawa and we met at Chez Lucien for a delightful lunch. After a post-immigration career in Washington DC and in Vancouver, Margaret is keeping very busy working with an advocacy group. She is one of the growing group writing for our Indochinese Refugee Book project. In that regard I'm delighted to welcome Don Cameron to the CIHS. Both Don and Margaret were involved in the Indochinese movement at several different points in their careers.

And speaking of welcomes, the society is honoured to now include David Benning, Henry Goslett and Wayne McMichael among its members thanks to the Kitchener Kid, Doug Dunnington.

In Memoriam

Roy McGrath

McGRATH, Roydon Joseph [WWII](#) Veteran Cameron Highlanders (Major) Peacefully on August 24th, 2011 age 89. Beloved husband of Margaret Gray McGrath. Loving father of Robert (Donna) and Kimberley Lacelle. Cherished grandfather of Brandon Emery. Dear brother of Gerald and Marjorie MacDonald. Predeceased by brothers Earl, Wesley and Andrew, sisters Ada O'Connell, Kathleen McGrath, Rita Benoit, Gladys Latreille and Mildred James. A heartfelt thanks to the compassionate and dedicated staff of St. Elizabeth Health Care, Personal Support Workers, University of Ottawa Heart Institute and the Ottawa General Hospital (4th & 5th floor staff). He will always be remembered as a highly intelligent, charming, witty man with a deep sense of social justice and integrity as evidenced by his successful career with the Department of Immigration and External Affairs. Mostly he will be remembered as a loving devoted husband, father and grandfather. We were blessed to have him in our lives. Published in the *Ottawa Citizen* from August 27 to August 30, 2011

John Zawisza

It says something about the man that we received more messages on John Zawisza's passing than about any other in recent memory. My own recollection is of arriving as a very green trainee in Vienna days just after the Russians invaded Czechoslovakia and the kindness he and Bea showed me, the rusty antique revolver he was patiently restoring, his advice about what to eat and drink at Grinzig and, above all, his calm and determination in the face of the enormous challenge of dealing with the Czechs but also with the often-conflicting advice of the many strong-minded people sent to Vienna to help out. Readers will recall the remarkable account that he produced - from memory - of the Czech operation for *Bulletin 46*, our ground-breaking Czech mates issue.

On behalf of the Canadian Immigration Historical Society we send condolences to Bea and the family.
from Mike Molloy

Un homme fascinant à découvrir et à estimer.

Je ne connaissais John que superficiellement comme ancien collègue rencontré à deux ou trois reprises durant notre carrière dans le service d'immigration. Une amie commune m'ayant incité à le découvrir, j'ai pris l'habitude à mon retour au Canada en 2006 de lui téléphoner à tous les mois pour prendre de ses nouvelles car il souffrait de diabète et sa santé dégénérait graduellement (jusqu'à ce qu'il devienne aveugle dans les derniers mois de sa vie).

Ces téléphones de sympathie sont rapidement devenus des téléphones d'amitié. J'ai découvert un homme très intelligent ,cultivé, s'intéressant aux développements politiques/économiques du monde, doué d'humour ,compatissant ,ne parlant de son état de santé que pour constater sa dégénérescence croissante mais jamais pour se plaindre et bénissant le dévouement de son épouse Birgit avec laquelle il partageait sa vie depuis plus de 60 ans .Un Homme dont son fils et sa fille et ses deux petits-enfants peuvent être fiers. **de Gilles Durocher**

When I was in Singapore (1973-75), John Z came through on a visit. He had lost a lot of weight and sent me a telex in advance asking if I could recommend a good tailor. When he arrived, he was carrying a number of his old suits that he wanted altered. I told him that in the Far East, it was probably cheaper and far better just to buy new ones. I seem to remember that he followed my advice, although he may have altered his favourite old one or two. Whenever I later ran into him, he always thanked me. **from John Baker**

My memories of John include a lovely dinner at his flat on the Rue de Rivoli in Paris when I was on the Royal Commission. His wife was very gracious and he made a very thoughtful and worthwhile submission. **from Barbara Stewart**

I was posted to Port of Spain just shortly after John arrived there as Program Manager. My flight arrived at 3:00 AM, and who was there to meet me but John. On the drive into the city, and despite the hour, he pulled over at a scenic lookout so I could have that as my first look at POS. I asked him about office hours and he informed me that the office opened at 7:00 AM but, as it was late, it was fine if I didn't come in until 8:00!

I got to know John and Bea well while they were there and spent many pleasant hours in their home, not to mention their swimming pool. When the first state of emergency was declared, John took immediate steps to look after the immigration staff, something not done by the other sections of the Mission. I lived on the very outskirts of a new development and as it was well-known that some of the rebels were hiding in the surrounding jungle, John and Bea insisted that I come and stay with them at least on weekends when my housekeeper was not there.

This is not to say John and I did not on occasion lock horns but were always able to come to an amicable outcome.

Over the years I spent more than one Christmas with the Zawiszas, celebrating in a mix of Danish and Polish tradition. **from Tove Bording**

John Zawisza counted himself lucky to be assigned to a one-man post in Vienna, a city renowned for all kinds of cultural attractions. The rhythm of the office was tuned to about 40 visas a year which was not

very taxing and the cases were interesting. One snag, though: it was 1968 and Alexander Dubček was in power in Czechoslovakia next door. His policies succeeded in disturbing the USSR to the point that the Warsaw Pact sent in the tanks giving rise to a wave of refugees not seen since Hungary ten years earlier.

Immigration regional HQ in Geneva reacted quickly and one of the early decisions was to send me to Vienna where my longer experience as visa officer might be helpful. From the moment of my arrival, I occupied a second chair in John's office and the two of us worked together to reorganize the office routine to take advantage of the temporarily assigned officers arriving daily. The apparent chaos never caused him to lose his cool -- at least not outside his office. He responded to my imaginative proposals for office procedures with sympathy and understanding for the refugee applicants. The month I spent with him passed by with lightning speed -- a stimulating and memorable experience, due in no small measure to John's maturity and sense of purpose in meeting unprecedented circumstances such as setting up our own special airline or dealing with a serious security breach.

I agree that he was larger than life, never to be forgotten. **from David Bullock**

Lorsque je me suis joint à ce qui était alors Main d'Œuvre et Immigration en 1973, John était Directeur du Personnel et comme tel il avait la réputation, non méritée devais-je découvrir plus tard, d'être un dur. Lorsqu'au printemps 1974 les affectations des nouveaux agents de mon groupe, au delà de trente, furent annoncées, j'obtins Lisbonne ce qui rendit la plupart de mes collègues verts de jalousie. Une semaine plus tard, on annonçait que John y serait le nouveau chef de programme. Ces mêmes collègues me firent alors le commentaire suivant: "tu peux avoir Lisbonne, on n'en veut plus maintenant". La suite prouva qu'ils connaissaient mal John.

J'ai travaillé avec John de 1974 à 1977 et ce furent sans doute des années parmi les plus intéressantes de ma carrière à CIC. Tant à cause des circonstances particulières de cette affectation que de la présence de John et de sa forte personnalité. Son arrivée à Lisbonne, quelques jours après moi, fut caractéristique de son dynamisme et de son énergie. À l'époque les agents d'immigration devaient trouver eux-mêmes leur maison ou leur appartement, ce qui prenait souvent un certain temps et était encore moins facile dans la situation qui prévalait alors dans un Portugal en pleine révolution. Pas pour John. Arrivé du Canada sur un vol de nuit vers 8 heures le matin, il se rendit à l'hôtel déposer ses bagages, fit une brève apparition au bureau pour donner quelques directives à sa secrétaire, repartit à la recherche d'un appartement, revint au bureau en après-midi l'appartement déjà trouvé et convoqua une première réunion de ses agents.

Tous les deux arrivés au Portugal au lendemain de la Révolution des Œillets qui mettait fin à 36 ans de dictature salazariste, l'atmosphère était fébrile, souvent très tendue avec beaucoup de bouleversements politiques. John y vit une excellente opportunité de faire du reportage sur ce qui se passait tant au pays comme tel que dans les colonies d'Angola et du Mozambique. Il encouragea ses agents à s'y mettre en les guidant et en les formant au besoin dans cet aspect de leur travail. Sans pour autant négliger l'exécution d'un programme d'immigration à très fort volume à l'époque. Ce fut une excellente école dont j'ai tiré profit tout au long de mes années à CIC.

Sans s'immiscer dans la vie personnelle de ses agents, John s'assurait qu'ils soient traités de façon équitable par l'administration de l'ambassade et se préoccupait de leur sécurité et de leur bien-être. Lors d'une première mission de plusieurs semaines aux Açores où j'avais laissé à Lisbonne mon épouse et deux enfants en bas âge, dont un bébé de quelques mois, à une époque où les communications entre les Açores et le continent étaient très difficiles, très souvent inexistantes, John téléphonait régulièrement à mon épouse pour s'assurer que tout allait bien et qu'elle n'avait besoin de rien.

Bourreau de travail, cultivé, polyglotte, un grand bonhomme avec qui j'ai eu beaucoup de plaisir à travailler tant lors de cette première affectation que des années plus tard à l'Administration Centrale. Sous son air parfois bourru et intimidant se cachait un être humain sensible et chaleureux. J'en garde le meilleur souvenir. **de Éloi Arsenault**

I worked with John in Paris in the late '70s and remember his kindnesses and respect - especially in one instance where he had to tell me a transfer from Paris to Bordeaux was being delayed and this as I did my rounds of adieu the last afternoon in the office on Rue Ventadour. **from Gerry Maffre**

Jean, as he was known in Paris, would arrive at the office at 8:30 AM on the dot. Barely awake, he would march through his domain into his office which would be his inner sanctum for the next 30 minutes. His secretary Marie-Claire would have his steaming cup of coffee with the Zawisza family crest waiting on his desk; he closed the door behind himself and mercy to the poor mortal who would dare disturb him. At 9:00 AM sharp the door would open and the boss, once again his energetic, efficient, capable self, would be ready for another long working day. **from Peter Duschinsky**

There will be a memorial service for John at 11am on Wednesday, September 12 at St James Major Church, 14608 Country Road 38, in Sharbot Lake, Ontario. Bea, Krzysztof and Sacha, will host a buffet lunch afterward at Bea and John's home at 1301B Guigue Road.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP by e-mail to Claude Milette at de6559clau@hotmail.com by August 20, 2012. Claude can then provide a map to the Church and the Zawisza home.

Sharbot Lake is west of Ottawa via Highway 7 through Carleton Place and Perth. In Sharbot Lake, watch for the Petro-Canada General Store and turn right onto Country Road 38. Watch for St James Major Church on the left hand side. This journey can take up to two hours depending on traffic.

Ernst Mazar de la Garde and Immigration to Canada from Denmark in the 1920s and 30s by Roy Christensen

Introduction:

This is the first of a three-part series by long-time CIHS member Roy Christensen concerning immigration from Denmark to Canada in the period between the first and second world wars. Originally a single article, Roy's piece has been divided into three segments. This first examines immigration from Denmark to Canada during two turbulent decades. The second places the immigration of Danes in a Canadian context and examines patterns of settlement and the role of the Canadian railways, among other fascinating issues. The final segment will examine the life of Ernst Mazar de la Garde, a sometime vagabond and world traveller who devoted much of his life to promoting the movement of his countrymen to Canada. The three segments will eventually be reunited in our new website.

Denmark

After the First World War, Denmark had to deal with a serious economic downturn, a constitutional crisis – between the King and the Prime Minister, the crash of Landmandsbanken (at the time the biggest bank in Scandinavia), and unemployment, which at one point reached 20%. Moreover, Danish exports to Great Britain and Germany, primarily agricultural products, faltered badly, the German market having nearly collapsed. It was therefore difficult to earn

foreign currency to pay for imports. At the same time, radical new political ideas, critical of liberalism and democracy, were in the air with the new Soviet Russia extolling Communism and Italy's Il Duce expounding Fascism.

Some of these world events had a direct impact on Denmark. Landmandsbanken crashed because of losses resulting from large loans to Imperial Russia. Moreover, the people of Denmark were shocked when Czar Nicholas II

and his wife and children were murdered by the Reds, as the revolutionaries were called. The Czar's mother, Czarina Maria Feodorovna, and the Czar's sister, Grand Duchess Olga, escaped to Denmark.

Czarina Maria Feodorovna had been, before her marriage, Princess Dagmar, daughter of Danish King Christian IX. Other Russian émigrés in Copenhagen included Russian Jews, impoverished capitalists, officers who had fought against the Reds and Russian privates who had been POWs in Germany.

The entrenched economic recession with widespread unemployment led many people to emigrate, primarily to the United States and Canada. In the case of Canada there were no restrictions or quotas for Danes.

In 1921 the United States government passed the Emergency Quota Act, which for the first time established national immigration quotas. The quotas were based on the number of foreign-born residents of each nationality who were living in the United States as of the 1910 census. The Act was later replaced by the Johnson-Reed Immigration Act of 1924, with the reference year being moved back to 1890.ⁱ This U.S. Act diverted European immigrants to Canada, and it also had the effect of keeping more of the immigrants to Canada in the Dominion, instead of the newcomers using Canada as a stepping stone to the United States. The Dominion government and the Canadian railways welcomed this turn of events.

At the time, most of the Danish immigrants were farmers, either bachelors or married men who would send for their families later. They came from nearly every part of Denmark.

Judy Armstrong of New Denmark, New Brunswick, tells the story of Mr. and Mrs. Jens Peter Jensen, who lived on the large historic Gisselfeld Estate on the island of Zealand, halfway between Haslev and Næstved. Jens Peter Jensen worked on the Estate. Of his eight children, six immigrated to Canada in the 1920s.ⁱⁱ

There were also cases of city folk coming to Canada, which didn't always work out. One example is Robert Hauge, who was a typesetter from Copenhagen. He was sent to Canada by the CPR and had been promised he would work on a farm. In March, 1926, he sailed from Denmark to England and then from Liverpool to Saint John, from where he took the train to Winnipeg. The CPR office in Winnipeg found a job for him on a farm near Waskada, close to the US border, where he did work for a while. For the next three years, however, he travelled thousands of kilometres around Canada, working at various jobs. He did see the Pacific Ocean before returning to Denmark in 1929. As he told the author, he was tired of travelling and of continually looking for work. Yet, the story does have a happy ending, as twenty years later he returned to Canada, eventually settling in Vancouver. And he never regretted it!ⁱⁱⁱ

In the 1920s the Danish government encouraged emigration, since it was generally believed at the time that Denmark was overpopulated. In 1921, within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Danish government established *Oplysningsbureauet for Erhvervene* (The Information Bureau for the Trades). Among many other things it provided information about conditions in foreign countries of special interest to Danish emigrants.^{iv}

Office in Copenhagen and Delegation to Canada

In January, 1923, the Dominion government asked the Danish government if it would be allowed to open a "Canadian Government Immigration Office" in Denmark.^v Permission was granted and in August, 1923, the Canadian government was about to open an office headed by a Trade Commissioner, who would also be responsible for immigration. The Trade Commissioner was to be Mr J. F. Hansen, who before the First World War had been an immigration agent and head of the London office of the Union Trust Company of Canada as well as its real estate arm, the Canadian Land and Development Company. Union Trust was a private Canadian company which had bought 76,765 acres of land in Manitoba and Saskatchewan from the CPR.^{vi} In 1908, J. F.

Hansen wrote the book *Den Danske Landmand i Kanada* [The Danish Farmer in Canada], published by the Union Trust Company.

In the end, however, the Dominion Government did not open an office in Copenhagen^{vii}, because it deemed that there was no real need for a Canadian immigration office in Denmark. First of all, unlike East Europeans, Danes did not need a permit with an immigration officer's stamp in their passport to immigrate to Canada. Secondly, the Canadian government was already represented in Denmark by the CPR, which looked after publicity, transportation and settlement through the railway's Department of Colonization and Development.

Earlier, there had been a Canadian office in Denmark headed by Carl Krag, a Dane who had farmed in the Moose Jaw area of Saskatchewan. The office was opened in late 1913, but had closed by January, 1915, because of the war.

In August, 1923, in order to examine the conditions for Danish immigrants in Canada, the Danish government sent to Canada a delegation consisting of Hans Marius Gormsen and Christian Reventlow. The two had been suggested by the Danish Ministry of Agriculture, but in fact they were invited to Canada by the Dominion government and the CPR, which together arranged and paid for the trip.

As emigrants heading for Canada were primarily farmers, the delegation's task was to seek information about the opportunities for Danes in the agricultural sector, as well as in related fields. In addition, the Delegation's focus was to examine the opportunities for work for agricultural workers during the winter.

Norway and Sweden received similar invitations, and while Denmark accepted theirs, Norway and Sweden declined. This probably explains why Denmark did not send a delegation of civil servants, which would have given the delegation official status.

Hans Marius Gormsen had a master's degree in agricultural science. Christian Reventlow, who

wrote the delegation's final report, had been a journalist and managing editor of a couple of regional newspapers, and was a member of parliament from 1906 to 1910. He was elected as an independent, but later joined the Liberals, because of that party's defence policy. During the First World War, when Denmark was neutral, Reventlow was pro-German. However, public opinion was pro-British and as early as 1914 he was forced to resign his position as managing editor of the regional conservative newspaper *Lolland-Falsters Stiftstidende*.

Reventlow was chosen to be part of the delegation to Canada because he was a critical investigative reporter and a good writer. It probably also helped that Reventlow supported Niels Neergaard's Liberal government. Moreover, he could counterbalance Gormsen who was favourably disposed towards the CPR and emigration.

On their trip to Canada they were accompanied by Mr. Mark B. Sorensen, the CPR immigration agent in Copenhagen. Unfortunately, Reventlow did not get along with Gormsen and he also quarrelled with Sorensen. In short, Reventlow found Sorensen too enthusiastic about the CPR and emigration. Reventlow also thought it was wrong to have a railway company, and not a government, conducting immigration policy - and in the process making money. Moreover, Reventlow wanted to meet agricultural labourers as well as immigrants who were unemployed. Only reluctantly did he visit well-to-do farmers in Canada. Finally, in Alida, Saskatchewan, where there was a Danish settlement, Sorensen left the Delegation, as his continued presence would have been counterproductive. In total the delegation was away from Denmark for three months.

In Ottawa, Reventlow met James A. Robb, Minister of Immigration and Colonization. Unfortunately, a week after their meeting the Minister told the press that immigration was necessary as a means of lowering the wage level in Canada. In Saskatchewan Reventlow interviewed Premier Charlie Dunning. Later in Edmonton Reventlow met the Alberta Dairy

Commissioner, Christian Peter Marker, another Dane.

Canada as an Immigrant Country

The report written by Reventlow titled *Canada as an Immigrant Country* was published in the January, 1924, issue of the Foreign Ministry's journal^{viii}, and received wide media coverage.

The delegation had travelled right across Canada and interviewed over one hundred people, including politicians, government officials, immigration agents, farmers and community leaders. The delegation remarked that the Dominion government conducted a very active immigration policy.

According to the delegation, the Danish community in Canada consisted of about 22,000 Danes in 1923, spread across the country. In 1922, about 400 Danes had immigrated to Canada. The CPR and the CNR immigration agents found work for them on the Canadian Prairies. It was easy for the immigrants to find work on farms. The delegation noted that the working day on a farm was long and that generally the food was good and healthy. But the accommodation for the labourers was inadequate, often in crowded shacks or mobile cabooses. During the harvest it was possible for a farm worker to save about \$100. However, after the harvest it was nearly impossible to find work and the \$100 would be spent on food and lodging during the winter, when many of the agricultural workers were unemployed. There was no unemployment insurance for farm labourers and no labour unions for agricultural workers.

Regarding the 160 acre homesteads, the delegation found that those still available were located on poor land or were placed far away from transportation networks. The delegation recommended that Danish immigrants stay away from the remaining homesteads, counselling instead that Danish farmers look at opportunities in the Maritimes, Southern Ontario and the B.C. Lower Mainland, where the farmers concentrated on mixed farming – much as in Denmark. Danish farmers should stay away from the Prairies where the work was seasonal.

The delegation recommended that all potential immigrants to Canada should have some knowledge of English and of the geography of Canada and that they should bring some money. Moreover, they should wait at least one year after arriving before investing in a farm or other project, so they had some Canadian experience and knowledge of the country. Above all, the report pointed out, potential immigrants to Canada should be aware of immigration agents who painted a very rosy picture of opportunities in Canada.

The conditions and service on board the CPR steamships between Liverpool and Quebec were satisfactory, according to the delegation. At the same time, accommodation for migrants in London, Liverpool and Quebec was less than satisfactory.

The delegation also noted that the sale of alcoholic beverages was prohibited in most of Canada. This had led to much smuggling, bootlegging and the establishment of homebrew operations.

Lastly, the Delegation reminded potential immigrants to Canada that immigration had nothing to do with philanthropy or idealism. It was a business, and it had to do with obtaining cheap labour, as well as settling and selling land.

Publicizing and Promoting Emigration

With the introduction of immigration quotas in the United States, there was a shift from the U.S. to Canada as the land of the future for people who wanted to emigrate. This was reflected in the daily press and in books.

In order to help Danes who considered emigrating, several books dealing with immigration to Canada were published in the 1920s. In 1922, Anders Vester published his 106-page book *Blandt Danskere paa Kanadas Prærie* [Among Danes on Canada's Prairie]. In the book he describes his nine year stay in Canada and the United States.

The Danish journalist and prolific author Olaf Linck wrote *Kanada det store Fremtidsland*

[Canada the Great Land of the Future] in 1926. The book dealt with future prospects for Canada and related how Danish immigrants had fared in Canada.

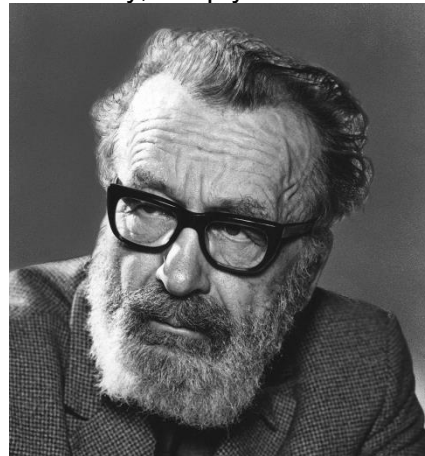
Mr P. Poulsen spent six months travelling across Canada, where he had been sent by the KFUM (the YMCA). On his return to Denmark, he published the 141-page book titled *Canada som det møder Emigraten* [Canada as it meets the Emigrant]. The book describes the various provinces and informs the reader about the average yields for various crops in those provinces. There were also tables of when to sow and when to harvest - and what date the frost had set in during the past several years. In the foreword, he writes that the purpose of his book is to extend a hand to potential immigrants to Canada to secure the right attitude towards their new country.

Newspaper editor Christian Mikkelsen published his 130-page book *Canada som Fremtidsland* [Canada as land of the future] in 1927. Accompanied by the CPR's Mark B. Sorensen, Mikkelsen traveled across Canada in 1926 and wrote several magazine articles about his travels. The book is an expanded version of his magazine articles, written with potential immigrants in mind. In Redvers, Saskatchewan, near Alida, Mikkelsen met the farmer Simon Hjortness, who was called King of the Danes, as he had helped many settle in the area.

Dansk Bosættelse i Canada [Danish settlements in Canada] is a small, 48-page book, written in 1927 by Pastor H.O. Frimodt Møller, who lived in Canada for a while. The book is based on a lecture entitled "Emigrating to Canada" which he gave on Danish Radio, the public broadcaster. The book is factual and gives an excellent and succinct overview of the various Danish settlements. Møller did not exactly encourage immigration to Canada, but with over 100,000 Danes unemployed in the winter of 1926-27, many did so anyway.

In the 1920s and 30s the Danish-Norwegian author Aksel Sandemose wrote three novels, *Ross Dane*, *A Sailor Goes Ashore* and *September*, all set in Alberta. Aksel Sandemose

visited Canada in 1927-28, on a trip partly financed by the CPR. At the same time, he was accredited by the Copenhagen-based newspaper *Berlingske Tidende* and wrote articles for it. He admired rural Canadians for their rugged individualism and Canada for its laissez-faire capitalism. In his most famous book, *A Fugitive Crosses His Tracks*, Sandemose develops the concept of the Jante Law, in which he describes the spiteful suppression of the individual's aspirations and personal development by the collective. In 1928 in an article in the Danish newspaper *Sorø Amtstidende* he wrote, "For the person who travels to Canada, where the largest flow of emigrants now heads, it cannot be said loudly enough and clearly enough, that you should not go there with your head full of romantic ideas. Canada is the land of hard work, and if you don't want to work, you won't eat. There is nothing nobler than work. It is written with fire above this enormous country, 'Help yourself or die'." ix



Danish Norwegian author Aksel Sandemose

In 1930 and 31, Pastor Elias Favrholt, minister at the Danish Lutheran Church in Vancouver, published the books *Emigraten* and *Emigraten. Anden Bog* [The Emigrant. Second Book] about people he had met – and not just Danish immigrants, but native people, Chinese and Jewish immigrants as well as labourers, trappers and prisoners. The books were published in Denmark and mainly read by people there.

Concerning Danish fiction, the author Morten Korch was in 1927 chosen the most popular novelist in Denmark. Morten Korch wrote 120

books and nineteen of his novels were later made into movies, setting attendance records that still stand. All his books have one thing in common; every one of them is about farm life, most often about losing the family farm, a dispute between heirs to a farm or an estate, or some mystery which has to be solved. The books are about the land, hard work, honesty, honour, a healthy life, love, family, and not least about a vanishing way of life. In several books an uncle or nephew comes home from America to take over the farm or save the situation. Canada and Australia also figure in his novels. When Danish immigrants took books with them to Canada, there was often a novel by Morten Korch among them. Most immigrants would readily identify with the situations and values presented in Morten Korch's popular novels.

Despite the publicity, in fact and fiction, a much larger number of Danish farmers could have come to Canada in the 1920s, if it hadn't been for the land reforms in Denmark, based on the legislation adopted by the Danish Parliament in 1919. In the 1920s the large estates were divided or reduced to create thousands of farms for smallholders. Many Danish farmers were therefore able to acquire their own farm without leaving the country. But not all would be able to, as in Denmark only the oldest son could inherit the family farm – and not enough new farms were created. Most of the Danish immigrants to Canada were indeed smallholders, agricultural workers or younger sons who could not inherit the family farm. Owners of estates, who overwhelmingly belonged to the aristocracy, naturally opposed giving up about one-third of their land to smallholders; but they still had little reason to emigrate.

The CPR and the CNR

In the 1920s both the CPR and the CNR had offices in Copenhagen. The CNR had an office at Bredgade 2, just around the corner from Nyhavn and the harbour, where many of the shipping companies were located, including their sales offices. The CNR office was headed by Mr P.E. de la Cour, a Danish engineer.



Mark B. Sorensen

At the same time, the office of the Canadian Pacific Railway was located at Vesterbrogade 5, on a wide boulevard just around the corner from the Central Railway Station. Head of the CPR office in Copenhagen was Mark B. Sorensen, a trained cheese-maker who immigrated to Canada in 1911. After some menial jobs in Ontario he became a dairy inspector in Lloydminster, Saskatchewan. In the First World War he volunteered with the Royal Canadian Regiment and served in Europe. After the war he tried to establish a creamery in Red Deer. Then in 1920 he was hired by the CPR and sent to Denmark to head up the office in Copenhagen. Before long, he was also responsible for the CPR offices in Norway, Sweden and Finland. In the late 1930s, Mark B. Sorensen started disagreeing with Canadian immigration policy, but he was kept on in Copenhagen until just before the Nazi Occupation of Denmark in April, 1940. During this period, in Copenhagen and around the Baltic, Sorensen interviewed thousands of potential immigrants, refugees from Central and Eastern Europe, who he thought would make excellent settlers. However, they were all refused entry to Canada as they were Jews^x.

Scandinavian America Line

The CPR and the CNR were not the only companies offering transportation across the Atlantic. From 1928, the Danish shipping company Scandinavian America Line offered departures directly from Copenhagen to Halifax, stopping at Oslo on the westbound trip and at New York on the eastbound voyage. This option was easier for Danish immigrants than having to sail to Harwich or London and then taking the

train to Liverpool, from where the CPR immigrant ships went to Quebec City and Montreal in the summer and to Saint John in the winter. Another advantage for Danish immigrants, and particularly for many of the farm workers, was that the crew on the Scandinavian America Line spoke Danish.

The Scandinavian America Line, operated by the United Steamship Company of Copenhagen (DFDS), had been founded in 1898, when DFDS acquired the venerable old Thingvalla Line. The Scandinavian America Line, despite fierce competition from German and British shipping companies, was profitable until the early 1930s, with immigrants as passengers from not only Scandinavia, but also the Baltic and Eastern Europe. The Scandinavian America Line operated four modern immigrant ships: *S/S Frederik VIII*, *S/S Hellig Olav*, *S/S Oscar II* and the *S/S United States*. Information about these four ships, including passenger lists, can now be found at the immigrant museum at Pier 21 in Halifax.



Drawing of the SS Frederik VIII

On one ship alone, the *S/S Frederik VIII*, over half a million immigrants sailed across the Atlantic, between 1914 and 1935. Until 1924, the *S/S Frederik VIII* sailed only to New York but from 1924 to 1928, Halifax was occasionally added to the run. With the increase in immigration to Canada and the completion of Pier 21, Halifax was made a regular port of call in 1928.

The *S/S Frederik VIII* was built by Vulcan in Stettin, Germany, in 1913. At delivery she was the largest Scandinavian ship. Her gross tonnage was 11,850. She had two decks and an awning deck, two funnels, two masts, twin screws and a speed of 17 knots. There was accommodation for 1,261 passengers, 121 in first class, 259 in second class and 881 in third class. The passengers were served by a crew of 245.

The *S/S Frederik VIII* was the ship which carried Danish immigrants back to the homeland for Christmas. The arrival of the "Christmas Ship" was a major event in Copenhagen every December, thousands of people turning up at the pier to greet the emigrants coming home for the holidays. The event was carried live on radio – the latest technological wonder. The broadcast was also recorded, and a gramophone record of the broadcast, released by His Master's Voice, was a bestseller on three occasions. One year the Copenhagen porcelain company B&G produced a blue and white glazed Christmas plate showing the docking in Copenhagen of the Christmas Ship.

ⁱ <http://immigration-online.org/173-johnson-reed-act-united-states-1924.html>

ⁱⁱ In conversation with Judy Armstrong, January 2, 2012. Jens Peter Jensen was her grandfather.

ⁱⁱⁱ Robert Hauge was interviewed by the author in Burnaby, B.C., in the Spring of 1987.

^{iv} <http://runeberg.org/salmonsens/2/18/0563.html>

^v "Opening an office at Copenhagen, Denmark, with J.F. Hansen as agent 1923-1924" LAC, RG76-I-A.1 (Reel C-10649)

^{vi} *A History of Migration from Germany to Canada 1850-1939*, p. 137

^{vii} *Emigration from Denmark to Canada in the 1920s in Danish Emigration to Canada*, p. 130

^{viii} <http://www.tidsskrift.dk/visning.jsp?markup=&print=no&id=68832>

^{ix} "Til den, der rejser til Canada, hvortil nu den største strøm af emigranter går, kan det ikke siges højt og tydeligt nok, at han ikke skal rejse derover med hovedet fuldt af romantiske griller. Canada er det strenge arbejdes land, og den, der ikke vil arbejde, får heller ikke føden. Der er ingen anden adel end arbejdets, og der står med ildskrift over det vældige land: 'Hjælp dig selv eller dø.'" *Sorø Amtstidende*, 1928, cited in *Aksel Sandemoses Canadarejser* by Bent Dupont, 1997/99. Translated by the author.

^x *None is too many. Canada and the Jews of Europe 1933-1948*, pages 72-76

Firefighting in Santiago de Chile (*Or: Other Duties as Required - Re-Defined - Stephan Hesse*)

When I got to Santiago, Chile in the early 90s, there had already been a long-standing tradition in the immigration section of the Canadian Embassy of joining one of the voluntary fire brigades in town. Both Don McGillivray and Brian O'Connor had joined the English voluntary fire brigade before me and, to bring a bit of variety into this routine, I joined the German fire brigade. Of course, this joining had no official sanction by the Department of External Affairs, and in retrospect I wonder what would have happened if one had come to grief fighting fires in one of the far corners of the globe.

Incredible as it may seem, Santiago de Chile, with over 4 million inhabitants in those days had no full-time professional corps of firefighters. It has a unique tradition of voluntary firefighting brigades, established along ethnic group lines. Thus, one had the choice of joining the British, French, German, Italian, Palestinian, or any other voluntary group among those established throughout the city. As two of my predecessors had joined the British outfit I went around to the German brigade to see whether they were in need of another able body to combat fires and other emergencies.

Belonging to such a group was indeed an honour, and while many applied, few were chosen. The selection criteria were straight forward: one had to be young, healthy, morally upright and willing to serve at any time of day or night; in short, whenever called. Some allowance was made for those who held a full-time day job, which was of some importance to me, since I was not the immigration program manager, and hence could not leave at will. I do not quite know under what criteria I qualified since at that time I was no longer a spring chicken, with most of my co-firefighters about half of my age. In any case, I got taken on and commenced my training after office hours and on weekends.

The first problem the fire brigade encountered was fitting me with proper protective gear. While it was not too difficult to supply boots which fit, the 15th Voluntary Fire Fighting Brigade (La Alemana) had considerable difficulty in locating a protective, fire-proof leather jacket to suit my frame. The one the fire brigade selected for me enclosed me like a very tightly fitting brassiere with long sleeves, not an ideal arrangement when training for emergencies in 30+ degrees Celsius. This outfit was complemented by a helmet with a leather flap at the back to prevent injuries, and cascades of water from running down inside my protective gear. Thus outfitted, the voluntary fire brigade gathered on weekends in the fire hall to receive final instructions before moving out into a less populated part of town to commence the training exercises.

Chilean society is much more hierarchical than what we are used to in Canada. This kind of thinking naturally prevails in the fire hall as well. Prior to any drills, the assembled brigade had to line up in proper order, according to height. As the majority of Chilean men are somewhat shorter, I invariably ended up at the head of the line-up. But in this position one carried authority and had command functions which I did not master immediately, as a result of my initial Spanish-language deficiency. So it happened on more than one occasion that when the command came to turn left, I somehow ended up turning in the opposite direction, much to the consternation of the fire captain - and to the amusement of the volunteers who kept wondering how someone in the diplomatic service, of all places, could not understand the differences between left & right, especially during the Pinochet era.

My initial inability to sort out directions and commands was surmounted by putting someone else up front, even if he was much shorter, but at least he knew what to do. Thus arranged we moved out with our equipment - fire trucks, ladders, hoses, compressors, generators, power sheering equipment and all, to commence our weekly training sessions.

Let me tell you that even on a not-so-hot Sunday morning in Santiago, running with water hoses, ladders and connecting valves is nothing to be trifled with. And once the water hoses are under pressure, you had better hang on tightly to the nozzle, for if you fail to do so the whole arrangement is knocked out of your hands, flies about uncontrollably, sprays the other volunteers, curious onlookers, and the presiding fire captain in charge who will not be amused. This hose-and-ladders routine was never my favourite activity, as it tended to show my age rather sooner than that of my co-volunteers of younger vintage.

The final training session took place in an office building right in downtown Santiago. As a concluding exercise, all volunteers had to jump with full protective gear from the upper deck of the parking garage into an inflated air pillow some 15 meters below. Not being a hero by nature, I let just about the whole brigade jump first but inevitably it was my turn to hurl myself into the void and, as I passed a few parking decks, mumbled: "So far, so good ...". I landed with such force on the air bag that I was catapulted upwards again, and then slid off the air bag altogether. Oh, I had done it, but what a fright as I was flying through the air, not gracefully like a sky diver, but rather like a lump of inanimate matter, in an ill-fitting protective leather jacket to boot.

With the training sessions behind us, I became a card-carrying member of the 15th Voluntary Fire Brigade of Santiago, waiting for my first emergency call. Somehow I suspect that the dispatcher took pity on me, for I was never called during night time (and during the day I was supposed to be on the job), even though there were plenty of fires, traffic accidents and other emergencies throughout the day and night. One night, however, they must have been short-handed and so, around 03:30 in the morning a call came through from the fire hall dispatcher. As the telephone in our bedroom is and was always on the side of the bed where my wife slept, she answered the call and informed the inquiring party that yes, I was at home but asleep, and hung up. No-one ever mentioned this episode in the fire hall but after that I was only notified when there were official occasions, parades, further training sessions, or a funeral for a fallen comrade. They must have decided that I should be deemed an Honourable Fireman only, with no actual duties that could threaten life and limb.

It is difficult to fathom now what made me join the Voluntary Fire Brigade of the German community in Santiago de Chile then, but I can assure you that it was not to jump, like an uncontrolled missile, from the upper deck of a downtown parking garage into an airbag far below. Of course it also begs the question whether the department had such or similar activities in mind when they added the inevitable addendum to every job description, indicating that the prospective employee was expected to perform: Other Duties as Required.

Letters to the Editor

Greetings everyone:

Both my husband and I enjoy reading the *Bulletin* cover to cover. We are not in Ottawa on visits often. We do, however, retain the hope of a future connection with the AGM on one of our visits. I continue to work on my web pages on Famous Canadian Women, which includes bios of many accomplished immigrant ladies... This past January I reached over 1500 mini bios on line <http://famouscanadainwomen.com>. Please say hello to folks who may remember this former librarian. I am in touch with Charlene Elgee, the current librarian who carries on good service to all at CIC. **from Dawn Munroe**

I want to congratulate Kurt Jensen for his excellent paper in *Bulletin 62*, titled *Stage B: Canadian Immigration Security Screening (1946-1952)*. I know that Kurt has been interested and involved in security screening for many years. I would like to supplement and occasionally disagree with Kurt based

on my experience from 1998 to 2005, as the Minister's representative at a number of pre-trial discoveries in the citizenship revocation process for alleged Nazi war criminals.

First, Kurt is absolutely correct that Cabinet, Ministers and senior officials often demonstrated discomfort with security screening and preferred to delegate by omission. In the early years, this left RCMP officers with their own initiatives and experiences to guide them.

After the war ended, there is clear evidence that the government and bureaucracy were aware of security issues related to immigration. As early as October 1945, Cabinet concluded that approximately 3500 refugees in Canada must be cleared by the RCMP before their landing. In February 1946, an Interdepartmental Committee on Immigration believed that collaborating with the enemy should be evidence of an unsatisfactory security background. Two months later, External Affairs felt it desirable to set up security screening abroad, and that alternatives included a role for the RCMP, and liaison with UK Passport Control and MI5. In May, 1946, the RCMP Assistant Commissioner advised the Assistant Under Secretary of State for External Affairs that there was "reason to believe several hundred thousand Nazi and Fascist collaborators in Europe... [were] anxious to go abroad," and that it was necessary to investigate applicants. The Director of Immigration presumed a need for a security clearance for each immigrant (except wives and minor children). Over the next three months, senior officials, and eventually Cabinet, grappled with amending the Act to exclude, inter alia, Nazis, Fascists, all the components of the SS and war criminals. Uncomfortable with such specificity (and perhaps afraid of omitting any undesirables), Cabinet decided such categories could be "dealt with by other means." By comparison, the U.S. did amend their legislation to exclude these categories.

The first postwar security screening program was conducted in Italy by two RCMP Staff Sergeants from late August, to late October, 1946, for 3,500 members of the Polish Corps, some of whom had joined late after service in German Forces or residence in occupied Europe. Team leader Kenneth Shakespeare reported that those who had joined the Wehrmacht before certain dates were presumed to have done so voluntarily and were refused. Even those attending school under occupation until their late teens, were considered tainted and rejected. Consequently, 176 (31% of the 573 total rejections) failed on security grounds. Interestingly, immigration officers were not part of the selection team. Only officers from the Department of Labour, doctors from Health & Welfare and RCMP officers participated.

Apart from the Polish Corps and small volumes processed through Paris and The Hague, immigration processing on the Continent did not begin until February 1947. The first "Instruction No. 1" to immigration officers of 29 March 1947, stated that "Persons who served the enemy in any capacity are not eligible for admission." It is also very important to remember that nationals of (former) enemy countries were still banned from admission as enemy aliens. Only in December, 1947, were citizens of Finland, Hungary, Romania and Italy no longer enemy aliens, and only in September, 1950, were citizens of Germany removed.

By 1947, the RCMP had Visa Control Officers (VCO) in London (three), Paris and The Hague. Two VCOs began processing Displaced Persons in Germany as of late February, 1947. In addition to checking through British Military intelligence and the Nazi Party records held by the U.S. in Berlin, they felt it necessary to interview all applicants. In a regular report in August, 1947, the VCOs reported 83 security rejections on such grounds as: "served with local forces," "voluntarily came to Germany," and "served the enemy."

By January, 1948, there were six roving teams in Germany and Austria, each team comprising a VCO, an Immigration Officer (IO) and a Medical Officer (MO); by August, these numbers had increased to 11 VCOs, 13 IOs and 10 MOs. When Rome opened for business in the spring of 1948, a VCO was assigned.

There has been much speculation concerning the qualifications of VCOs. Although I do not know specifics about most officers, I did discover that some had served in military intelligence during the war and one of the recruited Brits, Walter Bye, had both Scotland Yard and military intelligence experience and spoke German. Bye wrote several memos for the use of VOs and VCOs that display a detailed grasp of German recruitment in occupied countries. I also discovered an RCMP officer with a British surname (changed by an immigration officer on arrival in Canada) who spoke fluent Ukrainian (and other Slavic languages) who was sent to screen Ukrainians and Poles in the UK.

As in all refugee type programs, there was always great pressure to accelerate processing and to alter guidelines. In late 1947, a lengthy debate began between HQ and the field over the question of "service to the enemy under compulsion". Eventually by May, 1948, a date of December 1, 1943 became the guideline, with prior service resulting in a presumption of voluntary service unless there was documentary evidence of compulsion and later service resulting in an individual assessment. In 1951, Bye reported that only one applicant (in 3 ½ years) had ever satisfied him of his service under compulsion. After three months of correspondence between London, which supervised all VCOs in Europe, and RCMP HQ, the first comprehensive security rejection criteria, listing 9 categories emerged in November, 1948. Interestingly, in February, 1948, an MO in Hannover advised his regional HQ that MOs assisted VCOs by identifying applicants who bore the SS tattoo. By 1950, service with the enemy was relaxed so that those who served the German Armed Forces (except Waffen SS) or other enemy military services were no longer inadmissible unless they were on the lengthy UN list of war criminals.

In late 1951, a lengthy debate began over the inadmissibility of "collaborators," with the RCMP sticking to a hard line and other stakeholders seeking to admit "minor collaborators under coercion." Indeed, the debate continued throughout the 1950s. Another lengthy debate began in the mid-1950s over the inadmissibility of former Waffen-SS members. At that point, the RCMP refused all Waffen-SS if of Corporal rank or higher, and volunteers below that rank.

It is certainly true that VCOs (and IOs and MOs) worked under significant volume pressures and difficult working conditions, typical of refugee-like movements. It is also true they often worked with vague and ambiguous guidelines. They had limited sources, which were often of limited relevance to the applicants they were dealing with. All refugee movements pose problems of limited prior documentation and the post-WWII movements were no different. In such an environment, VCOs flew by the seat of their pants and performed as well as I have seen in other post-WWII refugee-like flows. **from John Baker**

Colleagues in Print

Roger White's first novel, *Tight Corner* (see review in *CIHS Bulletin* 62), was nominated for the Arthur Ellis Award for a first crime novel. This national award is named after Canada's last official hangman and is presented by the Canadian Crime Writers Association. In the end the prize went to another first-time crime writer but CIHS offers its congratulations to Roger for placing in the top five for this national prize. The novel is set in Ottawa and involves a murder connected to malfeasance in the immigration department. <http://www.bpsbooks.com/tight-corner-roger-white/>.

Rob Vineberg's book is: *Responding to Immigrants' Settlement Needs: The Canadian Experience*, Dordrecht: Springer Briefs in Population Studies, 2012. 105 pages, \$49.95. This book is the first comprehensive history of immigration settlement in Canada, from the tentative steps taken by the British North American colonies to assist often sick and destitute arriving immigrants, to today's multi-faceted settlement program. It also identifies lessons learned from the Canadian experience applicable to policy-

makers today. See: http://www.springer.com/social+sciences/population+studies/book/978-94-007-2687-1?cm_mmc=NBA- -Nov-11 EAST 9613323- -product- -978-94-007-2687-1

Rob also co-edited and wrote a couple of chapters of *Integration and Inclusion of Newcomers and Minorities Across Canada*, John Biles, Meyer Burstein, Jim Frideres, Erin Tolley, Robert Vineberg, eds., Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2011. 423 pages, \$85 hardcover, \$39.95 softcover. This book examines the activities of provincial and municipal governments, as well as a range of other important local societal players in immigration and integration. Case studies of each of the provinces, as well as the territories, are included, as are chapters on the history of federal-provincial cooperation in immigration and the development of provincial multiculturalism policies and programs. Vineberg's chapter on Federal-Provincial Relations is the only pure history in the book, but each provincial chapter has a little bit of history included. See: <http://mqup.mcgill.ca/book.php?bookid=2548>

<p>The Canadian Immigration Historical Society (www.CIHS-SHIC.ca) is a non-profit corporation registered as a charitable organization under the Income Tax Act.</p> <p>Goals: > to support, encourage and promote research into the history of Canadian immigration and to foster the collection and dissemination of that history; > to stimulate interest in and further the appreciation and understanding of the influence of immigration on Canada's development and position in the world.</p> <p>President - Michael J. Molloy Vice President - JB 'Joe' Bissett Treasurer - Raph Girard Secretary - Lorraine Lafalme Editor – Hector Cowan Board Members: Brian Davis, Peter Duschinsky, Kurt Jensen, Gerry Maffre, Ian Rankin, Ian Thomson, Erica Usher, Gerry Van Kessell and David Bullock (Emeritus)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Canadian Immigration Historical Society P.O. Box 9502, Station T, Ottawa, ON, K1G 3V2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Membership Registration / Renewal / Change of Address / Donation</p> <p>Annual \$25.00 [<input type="checkbox"/>] Life Member \$250.00 [<input type="checkbox"/>] Change of address [<input type="checkbox"/>] Donation [<input type="checkbox"/>]</p> <p>Mr. [<input type="checkbox"/>] Mrs. [<input type="checkbox"/>] Ms. [<input type="checkbox"/>]</p> <hr/> <p>Surname Given Name(s)</p> <hr/> <p>Street or Box Number Town Postal Code Prov</p> <p>Telephone: () - e-mail: @</p> <p>Receive Bulletin electronically? Yes [<input type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>]</p> <p>N.B. Annual membership is valid for a calendar year: 1 January to 31 December. Please make payment by cheque or money order payable to the CANADIAN IMMIGRATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY at the address shown above.</p>
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