



2012 Annual General Meeting

of

The Canadian Immigration Historical Society
La société historique de l'immigration canadienne

Thursday 11 October 2012
6:00PM

St. Anthony Soccer Club, 523 St. Anthony Street, Ottawa.
St Anthony St. runs west off Preston Street just north of the 417
overpass.
Free parking. Wheelchair access.

The Club provides an excellent Italian buffet for \$25.00
Cash bar

Carleton University and CIHS Announce Uganda Asian 40th Anniversary Archive Project

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the arrival in Canada of 6,000 Ugandan Asians expelled by Ugandan dictator Idi Amin between August and November 1972, one of the most remarkable refugee movements in Canadian history.

To mark this anniversary, Carleton University, the Canadian Immigration Historical Society and a group of interested Canadians are archiving documents that reflect this historic movement. The archive will bring together a singular collection of documents concerning these refugees' movement to and arrival in Canada. The collection consists of:

- "Seven Crested Cranes" by Roger St. Vincent, leader of the Canadian immigration team in Uganda, provides a day-by-day account of the selection, processing and transportation of 6,000 people to Canada.
- The Paul Hempel Collection – five volumes containing hundreds of Canadian, British and American newspaper clippings on the events in Uganda and the Canadian response from August to December 1972
- The Wayne Bennett Collection – three volumes containing hundreds of clippings from Ugandan newspapers from 1970 to 1972

- The Canadian and UK government decisions documented in Cabinet records and several hundred additional media reports (English and French), photos and related documents collected by University of Ottawa graduate students Thida Souksahn, Lauren Pierce and Andréanne Bourque over the past year.



Wayne Bennet

These papers represent a unique record of the refugees' story that will be of wide interest. Most importantly, the conservation of these documents will preserve the collective memory of this historically significant immigrant community and a critical juncture in its history. Once processed, the collection will be available online to scholars and

the interested public.

The documents were handed over to Patti Harper, Head, Carleton's Archives and Research Collections in an informal ceremony and lunch on 20 June 2012 attended by Carleton Head Librarian Margaret Haines, Roger Saint-Vincent,

(OIC Kampala operation) Ginette Leroux, and Jolène Beaupré (members of the Kampala team), Salim Fakirani, Department of Justice, Lauren Peirce, University of Ottawa, Professor Blair Rutherford, Director of the Institute of African Studies, Carleton University, Wayne Bennett



Blair Rutherford, Patti Harper, Ginette Leroux, Jolène Beaupré Roger Saint-Vincent

formerly of CUSO Uganda, Susanne Klausen, Department of History, Jennifer Wolters, Senior Development Officer and Raph Girard and Mike Molloy of CIHS.

Following the event at Carleton, CIHS life member Roger Saint-Vincent was invited to tour the striking Ismaili Imamate Building where he was hosted by Khalil Sharif, Head of the Agha Khan Foundation.

Charlene Elgee retires from CIC

CIC's last Librarian, Charlene Elgee, retired from the Public Service on August 9, 2012. With her decision, CIHS loses a valuable contact and collaborator in recounting the history of Canada's immigration and refugee policies and programs. Charlene's retirement coincides with the regrettable closures and service reductions in federal libraries generally and at CIC's specifically.

Charlene's education included an MA degree in Library Sciences from the University of Western Ontario. She entered government service with the Secretary of State, worked at Central Mortgage and Housing Canada and Public Safety. She became CIC's Librarian in 2001. Charlene took time during these years to raise, with her husband Don, their four daughters and work on a range of community voluntary activities.



As the CIC Librarian, Charlene saw to the integration of the cataloguing system with that of the Foreign Affairs Library. This gave public servants and the general public more access to the CIC holdings that grew, at their height, to 35,000 titles. These holdings include an important collection of immigration legislation complemented by documents providing background on the decisions leading to the legislation, and old immigration manuals. This material will continue to be, with some constraints, accessible to CIC employees - and those members of the public who know of the collection, as CIC holdings will no longer be searchable through public data bases.

During her tenure, Charlene was active on the Canadian Federal Libraries Strategic Network and was recognized by her peers for her work in launching and solidifying this Network. Latterly, she has also worked with CIHS to gather display material from the Library that has complemented our presentations to CIC staff during the 2011 and 2012 Public Service Weeks, and to help CIHS obtain space in the CIC NHQ Lobby to display material about the Society.

CIHS wishes Charlene our very best in her retirement while regretting the loss of her expertise and support and the resources that the CIC Library represented to those of us who want to tell the immigration and refugee historical story.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

from Dr. Laura Madokoro For the past five years, I have been hard at work on my doctoral thesis “Unwanted Refugees: Chinese Migration and the Making of a Global Humanitarian Agenda, 1949-1989”. I successfully defended a couple of weeks ago and looking back, I can honestly say that it was one of the most difficult things I have ever done. Researching and writing a thesis means subjecting oneself to various trials and tribulations, all in the belief that there is an important story to be communicated. For me, that narrative involved the history of refugees leaving Asia during the Cold War. I was determined to find out how countries that were historically closed to Chinese migrants (Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa) negotiated calls to assist refugees from the People’s Republic of China, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. My project was ambitious and it would have been absolutely impossible without the help of members of the Canadian Immigration Historical Society. This brief summary is my way of saying thank you and acknowledging publicly how invaluable the interviews, oral histories and numerous e-mail exchanges I conducted with CIHS members were for advancing knowledge about Canada’s immigration history.

To tell the story of how refugee policy developed in four different countries over four decades, I relied heavily on archival materials located in state repositories. Only in Canada was I able to benefit from personal interviews. This meant that the Canadian thread of my project was much

richer. Indeed, it was one of the points that my examining committee remarked on in particular. They observed how helpful it was to have insights from people who worked in the field and at headquarters. The interviews gave substance to concepts that are generally taken for granted. For example, *how do you* select a refugee from a camp? *How do you* interview people? *How do you* develop a policy to deal with refugees who don’t meet the 1951 Convention definition? For those of you with years of experience, the answers to these questions might appear obvious and mundane. Yet for me, a self-declared novice, the interviews were extremely helpful for thinking through the gulfs between what a policy is intended to do and how it is actually implemented in practice. Being able to understand the nuts and bolts of how a program is delivered, the pressures on program officers and the range of options considered transformed my understanding about the philosophies and pressures that underpinned Canadian immigration policies from the 1960s to the 1990s. To Gordon Barnett, Joe Bissett, Ron Button, Gerry Campbell, Lloyd Champoux, Raph Girard, Terry Sheehan and Mike Molloy, thank you. Canada’s immigration history is richer for your willingness to share your knowledge and experience with those of us who can only imagine what it is like to hold the pen on major immigration reforms or make life-altering decisions about an individual’s application to move to Canada. I hope that CIHS members will be able to assist other scholars in the future.

from John Samuel I visited the website. Looks pretty good. Along with a friend, I maintain a website and publish a weekly on the Internet, <http://southasiamail.com/>.

from Tove Bording In reference to the Danish article, Mr. de la Cour was still there as the CN rep when I was stationed in Copenhagen 1966-69. FYI, I was born and grew up in the Danish settlement of Standard, Alberta. However, it was first settled by first generation Americans of Danish origin from Elkhorn, Iowa who came for the cheap land that they purchased from the CPR. They brought with them cattle and

machinery so this was not a homestead settlement and was possibly a generation ahead of the surrounding communities. Last year, the Nazareth Lutheran Church in Standard celebrated the 100th anniversary of the founding of the congregation. When I was a child, church and Sunday school was in Danish and it wasn't until 1949 that these services were all in English.

from Brian Le Conte I noted ...mention of Marg Tebbutt as part of the '72 group.

In addition to lunch Chez Lucien, Marg also attended the interdepartmental dinner organized in cooperation with our Foreign Affairs and ITC colleagues at La Grange on Saturday, June 2, some of the old "Social Affairs" group gathered close to the guest speaker, the Rt. Hon Joe Clark for the official photo.

On Sunday, 16 of us gathered for a more casual lunch at the Mekong in Chinatown.



Don Gerlitz, Joan Busche, Ann Goo, Joan Spunt, Lynda Joyce, Neil Busche



Jean Cogné, Lynda Joyce, Howard Spunt, Joan Spunt, Neil Busche, Brian Le Conte, Pierre Brisson, Joan Busche

You see a number of familiar faces. We had a good time and agreed to do it again sometime soon.

Historical Document: Ethical Dilemma

From time to time in the past we have included in the Bulletin documents that we considered to be of historical significance.

Going through the papers left to the Society by one of our members we came across a remarkable memo written in 1950 by an officer based in Europe with the Canadian Government Immigration Team. At the time in question the Soviets were pushing hard to have all Soviet Citizens who had ended up in Western Europe at the end of World War Two repatriated in accordance with an agreement that had been made at the Yalta Conference. By 1950 it was clear that people sent back to the USSR were executed or sent to the Gulag. Faced with this possibility many of the Soviet citizens in the Displaced Persons camps acquired false identities. The names of those referred to in this document have been altered

3rd January 1950

OFFICER-in-Charge, Karlsruhe

With reference to our conversation of the 24th ultimo and with particular reference to the case of KB (nee D), and children J and N, Master List WD 50/XXXX-X, Ottawa File 0-XXXXX, I have the following report to make as requested.

Although shown on the Form 55 as born in M, Poland, close interrogation brought forth the information that Mrs. B was born in Kiev, USSR and is a Soviet citizen. Her husband, FB (the applicant in Canada) although also indicated as born in Poland, is also a citizen of the Soviet Union by birth. When requested to produce her marriage certificate, Mrs. B wrote to her husband in Canada and was furnished with the attached affidavit which, in the light of the above, is a complete falsehood. It is for this reason that this particular case was chosen for discussion as a false affidavit casts a more serious light upon misrepresentation of this nature.

As you are aware, for more than a year I have been engaged in a serious study of the Russian language and now consider myself competent to carry out a complete interview in that language. For the past several months I have been averaging fifteen hours of study every week, and as my proficiency in this language grows, I am becoming increasingly aware of many unexplainable discrepancies between claimed citizenship and the language and accent of candidates for visa.

Although it has been most difficult for reasons which will be explained later, I may say that since my arrival in Fallingbommel in October at least twenty cases of misrepresentation of citizenship have been brought to my attention. In every case, it was a question of a Soviet citizen representing himself as a citizen of Poland.

For purposes of clarity, I should explain that, after the German invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941, many persons of Russia and so-called Ukrainian ethnic origin came to the West either as forced labourers, willing volunteers (wishing to escape from the Communist "people's democracy") or both, as in the majority of cases. When the German Army entered certain Ukrainian cities such as Kharkov and Kiev, they were actually welcomed by the population, with some reservations, as heroes and liberators. This is particularly true of the older Russian of pre-Bolshevist times whose memory extends back beyond the era of Soviet schooling and who often remembers the Imperial Tsarist regime with some nostalgia coupled with the realization that those days were actually not quite as bad as the Soviets would have them believe at the present time. Although never at any time overfond (sic) of Germany, as it has been a Ukrainian dream for generations to have their own independence (realized for only a few days under Marshal PETLURA in 1918) they felt that any possibility of the overthrow of Russian (i.e., Russia proper, Leningrad-Moscow-Kurek area) domination was worthy of their support. Thus, as a consequence, was formed the Ukrainian S.S. Division of the Wehrmacht and the present-day Ukrainian Underground Army which is even now operating with considerable success in large-scale guerrilla warfare in the Soviet Union; a unit which in many quarters is believed to be, after Yugoslavia, the "white hope" of Eastern Europe; in any case, a most potent factor to be reckoned with in case of war with a certain power.

As the recent War drew to a close in 1945, it was seen by these persons then in Germany that it would be a great mistake to be found with any papers which would indicate that they are actually Soviet citizens, as the only two alternatives would be slow death in Siberia or a quick drop suspended from a hempen rope. When the U.N.R.R.A Organization was set up, therefore, the first D.P.s of Soviet origin registered themselves as Polish citizens of Ukrainian race, stating that they had no papers. There are none of them even today who can produce pre-1945 documents indicating Polish origin – only "sworn statements", baptismal certificates, etc., which by experience we have learned not to accept without corroborating evidence. I may state that the actual number of Soviet citizens registered by the IRO and masquerading as citizens of Poland could be estimated as from forty to sixty per cent of all so-called "Polish Ukrainians". In one particular Camp near Hannover, I am confidentially and reliably informed that the figure could be more accurately quoted as eighty per cent.

It will be seen, therefore, that thousands of Soviet citizens have entered Canada as Polish citizens rendering our statistics most unreliable. The same situation prevails today, as for every person

that I can possibly induce to admit the truth there are perhaps one or two that I cannot. The reason for this is that in 1945 and 1946 and even as late, in some zones, as September 1947, any person registered as born in Russia was forcibly repatriated forthwith and willy-nilly to the Soviet Union, there to meet a most uncertain fate. The people are, therefore, so terribly frightened of this possibility that I have often actually had to give them my word of honour that their possibilities of emigration to Canada would not be prejudiced by such disclosure in order to obtain same. I was then faced with an ethical problem. Knowing that a person was born in the Soviet Union, he is presented to me with all documents, now rendered false and including his Certificate of Identity in lieu of Passport upon which to affix a visa, indicating place of birth in some city in Poland. In the past, believing at first that these were isolated cases, and often my own personal honour being at stake, I have granted visa, when otherwise admissible, altering the Form 55 or Application for Visa accordingly, and usually making some comment under the visa to the effect that the person to whom said the visa had been issued was born, say, in Leningrad, USSR, and is a citizen of the Soviet Union. We are then faced with the fact that we have a passport, giving false information, more or less corrected by a Visa Officer, who has no authority to so endorse it. The problem reached such proportions after I developed a certain questioning technique in such cases, that for the last full working week I have averaged at least one case per day.

This matter has been taken up with relatively junior IRO officers who have assured me that these people, if referred, will remain eligible. They would have to be rescreened, however, which would be a matter of about a month. Should this not be done, the nominal rolls which are sent to Herford for Security screening will remain inaccurate and may just possibly, although quite improbably, result in a Security reject being cleared on the basis of information contained therein. In connection with these points, I might take two further observations:

a) IRO Eligibility Officers, usually quite incompetent, have, in some cases, actually advised these people to register as Polish citizens for their own protection, as, should a Soviet Mission arrive unexpectedly, they need only point to their records and declare that they have no Russians registered. Being conversant with the facts I may say that I applaud this action.

b) I have every reason to most completely and earnestly believe that these people in no way represent any risk to Security. On the other hand, it is my firm conviction that, of all D.P.s these are the truest refugees from political oppression, with the possible exception of certain Balts. This belief has been confirmed by various Security Officers attached to this Mission and you may wish to confirm same with [the] Chief Security Officer who, I am reasonably certain, will agree with me.

The possibility, of course, must be considered that should these persons be induced to re-apply for IRO Eligibility under their correct (sic) national status, the whole matter would be "brought out into the open, so to speak, with possible unpleasant consequences in United Nations meetings, which our Russian brethren somehow always manage to make sufficiently difficult as it is, with the further unpleasant likelihood that the Officer-in-Charge and various Officers of this Mission will be moved a few notches higher, were that possible, on the Soviet Lookout Notices than we are at present. I have personally no desire to be Number One on the Soviet Hit Parade.

It is my considered opinion that we might do just as well to continue "looking the other way" in cases of this nature, in view of the fact that for all official (i.e. IRO) purposes these people are citizens of Poland. Nevertheless it must be admitted that we are faced with the quaint dilemma of doing something completely unethical professionally with, of course, the best possible intentions. It is most embarrassing to have to point out that I and my fellow Officers have in the past been so completely deceived by so many people and it is only by the merest chance, the fact of my personal interest in languages and history, that this matter has even been officially brought to light at all, although to my own personal knowledge various

Visa Officers have detected isolated instances of this misrepresentation working from a different standpoint of questioning.

With reference to the case of Mrs. B, I am quite prepared to believe that she is the wife of the applicant in Canada and I am also quite prepared to grant visa in this instance. The question is, however, what should I be authorized to accept, knowing that she is a citizen of the Soviet Union?

With regard to the false affidavit, I can only say that I do not personally regard it as a very serious matter. These people have so trained themselves to respond to questions regarding their citizenship in the manner described above that it has almost developed into a conditioned reflex. They always bear in mind that should "Iwan" invade Germany tomorrow they must be able to convince him with records extending back nearly five years that they are not Soviet citizens. One can hardly condemn them for fearing to change their story at this late date, as a lie, to be successful, must be sustained almost to perpetuity and actually believed by the liar himself.

May I kindly be advised of the views of the Department in the above regard? Form 55 in the case of Mrs. B and children is being retained on file pending advice from the Department.

(Signed) Visa Officer
Fallingbostel.

MENTIONED ELSEWHERE

from What's Happening - NHQ: A collection of articles and information from the Canadian Immigration Historical Society (CIHS) is currently on display in the JETS lobby display cases (glass wall cases adjacent to the sitting area). The contents will be changed every so often so be sure to check back for new information.

The CIHS, who always welcomes new members, has also recently launched a new [website](#) that

promotes and helps to preserve Canada's immigration and refugee history. We invite you to visit the site to learn about the Society.

from ipolitics.ca CIHS member, author and historian, Valerie Knowles, had her article on federal library closures published at ipolitics.ca - a non-partisan site dedicated to Canadian public affairs. Read Valerie's article at <http://www.ipolitics.ca/2012/08/10/val-knowles-closing-doors-on-canadas-history/>.

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

Introduction:

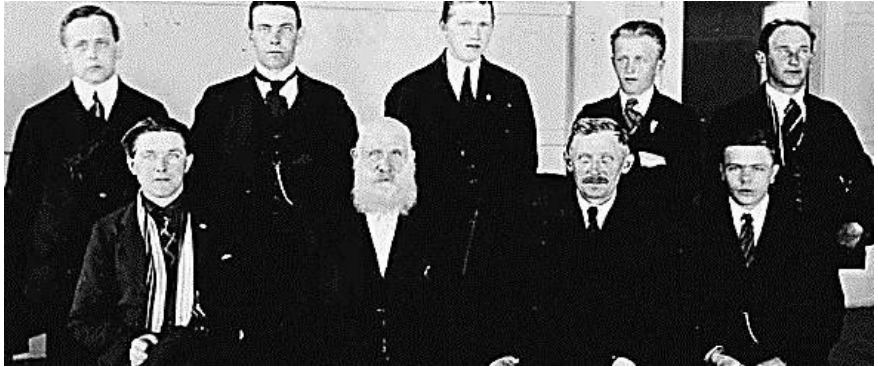
This is the second installment of a three-part series concerning immigration from Denmark to Canada in the period between the first and second world wars. Originally a single article, it has been divided into three segments. The first examined immigration from Denmark to Canada during two turbulent decades. This second installment 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 traveler 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.

Author Roy Christensen worked in Ottawa for the Delegation of the European Union to Canada for nearly 35 years, the last 20 as the Press Officer. At present he sits on the board of directors of a number of associations. As well he devotes much time to research and writing.

Attracting farmers to Canada

In the early 1920s Canada needed immigrants as more people left Canada for the United States than arrived in Canada as immigrants. In the ten year period 1915 to 1925, Canada saw a net negative migration of 413,145 persons.ⁱ

Farmers in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were abandoning their farms and looking for greener pastures on the Canadian Prairies or in the United States. Co-op Atlantic, a co-op founded in 1927, has documented that between 1911 and 1921 over 6,570 farms in Nova Scotia were abandoned, taking 791,215 acres out of production.ⁱⁱ



Library and Archives Canada C036144

Two districts in Nova Scotia to which Danes were particularly attracted – or guided – were the Walton District in Hants County, served by the CPR, and the Wallace District in Cumberland County, served by the CNR. The Land Settlement Departments of these two railways cooperated closely with the Land Settlement Branch of the Nova Scotia government to attract settlers.

Both the CPR and the CNR maintained departments for promoting immigration and settlement. The CPR can trace its Immigration and Colonization Department back to the 1890s, while the Department of Colonization and Development of the CNR was created in 1919. The aims of both were to influence “the immigration from Europe to the largest number of people of productive capacity that the country could possibly absorb”.ⁱⁱⁱ The Departments accomplished this aim by working closely with ethnic organizations in Canada.

In June 1919 Canada amended its Immigration Act in order to protect itself against subversive activities.^{iv} The Red Scare had reached Canada. The new legislation was adopted during the Winnipeg General Strike, the largest general strike in Canadian history, in which European workers and activists figured prominently. Whereas before the Great War economic considerations had been paramount, now the principal criteria in selecting immigrants became political and cultural acceptability. Restrictions were placed on recent enemy nationals, revolutionaries and certain religious groups, such as the Doukhobors, in addition to the usual restrictions on criminals and the mentally defective. Over the next several years some of the national restrictions were gradually lifted and by 1926 Canada basically had a four-tiered immigration system for British, American and European immigrants. The four groups and the conditions under which they were admitted to Canada were outlined in the 1929 Annual Report of the Department of Immigration and Colonization.

The first group consisted of British and American citizens who could freely immigrate to Canada in the 1920s. British citizens were even given a special rate on the steamships. The second group consisted of citizens from the countries of North Western Europe (Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Switzerland, Holland, Belgium and France) who were called “preferred nationalities”. The third group lumped together citizens from Eastern and Central Europe who were referred to as “non-preferred nationalities”. No special rate or assistance of any kind was given by the Canadian government to citizens of Continental European countries. Only farmers, farm labourers, domestics and sponsored family members could be admitted from “non-preferred” countries, and in addition to a valid passport they had to

obtain a permit. As is well known, all other nationalities were more or less barred entry to Canada in the 1920s and 30s. The countries of Southern Europe were not mentioned or specified in the Annual Report.

Annual Reports from the 1920s clearly reveal how Canada tried to entice British immigrants and continually thought up new programs to attract immigrants from the British Isles. The Annual Reports were written in English only. No special consideration was given to the citizens of France. Meanwhile, citizens of the United States were indeed given special consideration, but only if they were of European origin.

Viggo Pedersen, who spent six years in Canada in the 1930s, writes in his book *Nybygger i Canada* [Pioneer in Canada], published in Denmark in 1945, that when the CPR immigrant ship *S/S Montcalm* landed in Saint John, British subjects disembarked first, and only then the rest of the passengers. After having gone through Canadian customs, the newcomers would board the immigrant train. There were separate rail cars for each nationality. The rail cars at the front of the train were considered the most exposed and dangerous in case of an accident. According to Viggo Pedersen, Southern Europeans were seated at the front of the train, followed by the Germans and then Scandinavians. The back of the train was reserved for British immigrants, who were thus accorded the safest railway cars.

Aksel Sandemose touches on this pecking order in his novel *Ross Dane*. While the setting of the novel is in a Danish colony in Alberta, the fictional community also consists of Englishmen, Galicians (as he calls the Ukrainians), Métis as well as a Chinese storeowner.

The Railway Agreement

In September 1925 the CPR, the CNR and the Canadian government entered into an immigration agreement. The 1925 Railway Agreement encouraged immigration of the “non-preferred nationalities” of Eastern and Central Europe.^v The Agreement permitted the railway companies to select, transport and issue entry permits to as many settlers as could be integrated into the agricultural sector.

In the 1920s there were few political accords which caused more controversy in Canada than the 1925 Railway Agreement. The Agreement dramatically altered Canada’s immigration policy as it delegated the federal government’s responsibility for immigration to the two railways.

Churches, trade unions, farm organizations and racists (and not just the Ku Klux Klan of Kanada) opposed the Railway Agreement. There was also evidence that the railways violated the Agreement by not adhering to it in detail. In Parliament, Conservative Leader R.B. Bennett accused Liberal Prime Minister Mackenzie King of conducting an immigration policy which was far too lax. Upholding the Agreement eventually contributed to the Liberal government’s defeat in the 1930 election.

On the other hand the Railway Agreement was a success in that it brought in more immigrants. But this was also the problem. It brought in more immigrants from the non-preferred countries than from the preferred countries. The Railways therefore knew they had to launch a campaign to win over the hearts and minds of Canadians. The driving force behind this major late-1926 publicity campaign was Charles W. Peterson, editor of the *Farm and Ranch Review* of Calgary. The campaign was paid for by the two railway companies and the Canadian Bankers Association.^{vi}

Charles W. Peterson was born in Denmark and had immigrated to Canada in 1887. He later became deputy commissioner of agriculture for the North-West Territories, where he drafted the agricultural legislation inherited from Alberta and Saskatchewan.^{vii} Before the Great War he had been general manager of the CPR Irrigation and Colonization Company.^{viii}

At the beginning of February 1928, a delegation made up of representatives of Canadian farm organizations and the CNR visited Denmark. The delegation met with Danish Prime Minister Thomas

Madsen-Mygdal and Foreign Minister Laust Moltesen. They discussed agriculture and immigration. Madsen-Mygdal was not only Prime Minister, but also Minister of Agriculture. As well, the Prime Minister had been one of the founders and the first president of *Landbrugsraadet* (The Agricultural Council), the umbrella organization of Danish farmers.^{ix}

Danish Immigration Aid Society

Potential settlers from Denmark could receive help from The Danish Immigration Aid Society, 765 Main Street, Winnipeg, which helped Danish farmers find work, and which would place Danish immigrants on farms on the Prairies. This service was free. As well, the Society could provide loans to Danish farmers in Canada in order to help them bring their family to Canada. The loan had to be paid back within two years. President of the Danish Immigration Aid Society was Mr. Anthon M. Rasmussen, a real estate agent and lumber dealer as well as land agent for the CPR in the Danish settlement of Standard, Alberta.^x



1920s: Danish Lutheran Church and manse in Standard AB

National Archives 3969-26

The Danish Immigration Aid Society was incorporated federally. Its application for letters patent had been submitted in December 1927 and was approved in 1928. The Society had a board of directors made up of several prominent Danish Canadian businessmen, professionals and clergy, who in some way were all associated with the CPR. Throughout its existence Anthon M. Rasmussen was president, and Charles W. Petersen of the *Farm and Ranch Review* in Calgary was vice-president – until his death in 1944. Serving as Secretary-Treasurer were S.P. Damskov, O. H. Antoft and after 1933 S.H. Murphy, all three of Winnipeg. The Society's representative in Denmark was Mr. Mark B. Sorensen.

According to the bylaws, the purpose of the Society was: "To assist the settlement of lands in Canada and to aid Danish people in Europe to come to Canada as settlers and to establish them on farms in Canada; and to maintain and assist such settlers as may be deemed proper by the corporation to carry out this purpose." The Society was active from 1928 to 1931 – and then more or less dormant, until it was dissolved sixteen years later.^{xi}

In October 1941 the Assistant Under Secretary of State wrote to Murphy, the Society's Secretary-Treasurer, "I observe according to item (d) [of the annual report of the Society] that the last annual meeting of the members was held on November 14, 1931. In this connection, I wish to point out that Section 97 of the Companies Act requires that 'an annual meeting of the shareholders of the company shall be held at some date not later than eighteen months after the incorporation of the company, and subsequently once at least every calendar year'."

In 1943 Murphy replied, "Please note that there has not been a meeting since 1931 and in explanation can only say that as our Society have (sic) no funds to assume the expenses involved in calling a meeting, it was deemed advisable to wait until such time as immigration opened up on a large scale. In the meantime it was left to me to file the usual returns so that the Society would be kept alive."

When Murphy sent in the annual filing fee of one dollar in September 1944, along with the annual report, only two directors were listed, himself and the President, as vice-president Charles W. Petersen had passed away. In response to the annual report, the Assistant Under Secretary of State noted that there were only two directors and Section 84 of the Companies Act required that 'the affairs of the Society shall be managed by a board of not less than three directors'. To comply, the Society held an annual meeting

on November 22, 1944, where store owner Jens P. Madsen of Standard, Alberta, was appointed director. The Danish Immigration Aid Society existed in name for yet another couple of years. Then in a letter of March 4, 1947, Secretary-Treasurer Murphy advised the Assistant Under Secretary of State that the Society had been dissolved.

Danish farmers were still wanted in the 1930s

In October 1929 the Stock Market crashed. It changed everything and the world economy went into a tailspin. In 1930 the Railway Agreement was annulled and immigration into Canada ground to a halt as the government tightened entry requirements. With unemployment continuing to rise there was no need to supply the labour market with immigrants. Indeed the federal government took steps to deport immigrants from Canada when they became a public charge, which was defined as becoming dependent upon the government for the expenses of living. The Department of Citizenship and Immigration Canada reports that "between 1930 and 1935, an estimated 30,000 immigrants were summarily deported, largely for being a public charge".^{xii}

While Denmark belonged in the 'preferred nationalities' category, Canada was actually only interested in attracting Danish farmers and agricultural workers. This remained the case even in the depth of the Great Depression in the 1930s. This was because the Canadian government wanted land cultivated and settled. The fact that Canadian farmers were abandoning their farms - and the countryside becoming depopulated - was worrisome not only for the federal and the provincial governments, but for the Canadian electorate as well.

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia seek agricultural immigrants

In early 1931 the Superintendent of Immigration and Industry for the province of New Brunswick, James Alexander Murray, approached Wesley Ashton Gordon, Canada's Minister of Immigration and Colonization, requesting that one-hundred purely agricultural families from Scandinavia be allowed entry into Canada for settlement on farms in New Brunswick. Canadian Immigration Minister Gordon agreed to the proposal on the condition that each family bring a minimum of one-thousand dollars.

Upon learning of this agreement the Nova Scotia Minister of Agriculture wrote to Immigration Minister Gordon stating that Nova Scotia too needed additional land settlers and requested that 200 agricultural families from the British Isles, Scandinavia, Germany and the Netherlands, bringing a minimum of \$1,000, be allowed to settle on farms in Nova Scotia. This request by Nova Scotia was also granted. At the same time, the federal restriction on immigration remained in place for the other provinces.

New Brunswick Superintendent Murray also traveled to Montreal to meet with railway officials as he knew it was essential to get their help in securing agricultural immigrants, since the railways had the immigration agents, means of transportation and contacts. While in Montreal, Murray also met with *The Montreal Gazette*, which he told that the one hundred Scandinavian families would be in addition to the one-



From National Archives -3037-2-(1)

Peter Pallesen, born in Silkeborg, Denmark, owned Sky Hill Dairy in Calgary and acquired creameries in Camrose, Eckville and Olds. He was a founder of the Alberta Dairymen's Association serving as president in 1922 and 1923; Alberta representative on the National Dairy Council for several years; and a member of the Canadian Food Commission during the First World War. Pallesen was the first dairyman to manufacture and ship butter to the United Kingdom via the Panama Canal. He was an ardent supporter of the Calgary Exhibition, serving as a director. From 1918 to 1928 he was Danish Consul in Calgary.

hundred British families to be brought out in the spring of 1931 under the 5-year agreement between the Imperial, Federal and Provincial governments.

According to the 1931 Census there were 34,118 Danes in Canada, of which 11,403 lived in Alberta; 6,630 in Saskatchewan; 4,718 in Ontario; 3,945 in British Columbia; 3,235 in Manitoba; 1,740 in Quebec; 1,499 in New Brunswick and 771 in Nova Scotia.^{xiii} Only three Canadian cities were home to more than 1,000 Danes, Vancouver (1,314), Calgary and Winnipeg, in that order. In 1931, most of the Danes in Canada lived on farms or in rural areas. Yet, there were enough Danes in some cities to establish social clubs and congregations. In the 1920s Danish Lutheran congregations were or had been established in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver.^{xiv}

In the 1920s and 30s Danish immigrants to Canada could take over abandoned farms in the Maritimes and Alberta, clear forests in Ontario, or do a number of other things. For instance, many Danes came to Canada to work in dairies. In the 1930s over 200 Danish dairymen worked in Canadian dairies, many of them as managers.^{xv}

ⁱ *The CPR West*, p. 108

ⁱⁱ Co-Op Atlantic website: <http://www.coopatatlantic.ca/htm.aspx?id=170>

ⁱⁱⁱ *Canada's refugee policy*, p. 73

^{iv} Annual Report of the Department of Immigration and Colonization 1928-1929 p. 6 and *The Making of the Mosaic* pp. 183-189.

^v <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/immigrants/021017-2450-e.html>

^{vi} *Dangerous Foreigners*, p. 106

^{vii} Charles W. Peterson in *The Canadian Encyclopedia*

<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/index.cfm?PgNm=TCE&Params=A1ARTA0006244>

^{viii} *Wake Up, Canada!* p. xii

^{ix} "Farmers meet Danish Premier" *The Morning Leader*, Regina, February 3, 1928, page 5

^x *From Danaview to Standard*, Standard Historical Book Society, Standard, Alberta, 1979, p. 97

^{xi} Library and Archives Canada "Danish Immigration Aid Society" 1927-1947; RG95-1 Vol. 1353

^{xii} Department of Citizenship and Immigration Canada website: <http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/resources/publications/legacy/chap-4b.asp>

^{xiii} http://www.statcan.gc.ca/access_acces/archive.action?l=eng&loc=A125_163-eng.csv

^{xiv} "The Establishment of Danish Lutheran Churches in Canada" by R.B. Christensen in *The Bridge*, Vol. 27, No. 1-2, pp. 126-165

^{xv} *Danske i Udlandet 1935*, p. 14

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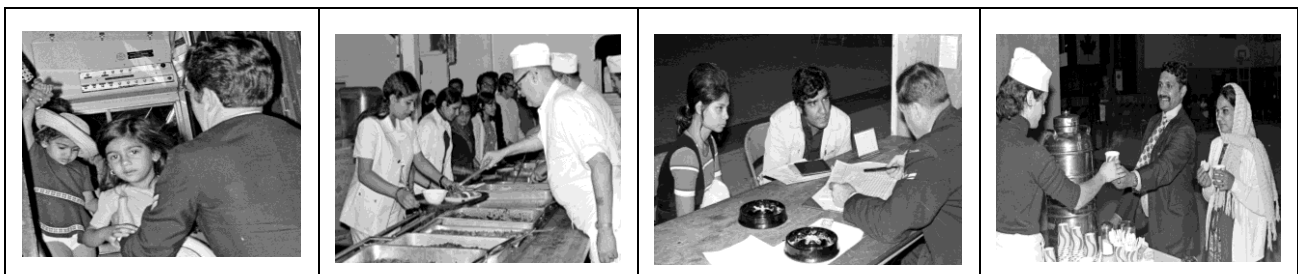
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The Gunn Prize

The jury members for this year's Gunn Award were Rob Vineberg, Kurt Jensen, Jonathan Crush (replacing Margaret Walton-Roberts whose student submitted a paper) and Gerry Van Kessel. Our decision is and was based on: relevance to immigration history, originality of theme and argument, understanding of subject and accuracy, value of contribution and research, quality of writing and overall impression. It was the considered and unanimous conclusion of the selection jury that the papers that were submitted this year did not meet these criteria and therefore no award was made. This was very disappointing. Beginning in September we will be developing a strategy to achieve a better result.

Public Service Week

The drama and human tragedies that marked the expulsion of Asians from Uganda in 1972 and the Canadian response provided by the small team of visa officers and Canada based support staff led by Roger St. Vincent who were dispatched to Kampala that year were brought vividly to life by Mike Molloy in a presentation to mark Public Service week at CIC on June 12. The more than sixty people who turned out for the event in the Guy Belisle Room were enthralled by the illustrations, photos and press articles that Mike used to bring to life the hardships the Canadian team faced as they organized in a hostile environment. With incredible determination they selected and documented 6000 refugees and arranged their onward movement to Canada in the short space of some eight weeks. The Departmental Library supplemented the presentation with posters, artifacts and photos from the period that gave a sense of the atmosphere in which the movement was organized and delivered. Mike's underlying message was that through inspired leadership, teamwork and an unflinching sense of the overall objective, the Canadian team reached out to the first non-European beneficiaries of Canada's postwar humanitarian immigration policy. He went on to describe how these same people have repaid Canada's generosity and compassion a thousand-fold - a contribution that has enriched Canada and will continue to enrich the country for years to come.



A sample of recently discovered photos at Library and Archives Canada of Ugandan Asians arriving at CFB Longue Pointe
 Numbers e011052356 e011052347 e011052345 e011052353

Ugandan Asian 40th Anniversary Speaking Tour

On the strength of the reaction at CIC to the Public Service Week presentation, Mike Molloy will be taking his Uganda Lecture on the road. Tentative Schedule: 15 October - University of Windsor; 17 October - Wilfrid Laurier University; 18 October - University of Western Ontario; 19 October - McMaster University; 22 October - Goan Community, Mississauga; 24 October York University. Arrangements with University of Toronto and Ryerson University are pending. For full details check our web site: cihs-shic.ca in early October.

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| <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 Kessel 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 Prov Postal Code</p> <p>Telephone: () - e-mail: @ 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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