

The Best Immigration Plan

When the question of immigration to Canada comes to people's minds, they are apt to forget that Canada has just completed a most successful immigration plan. It is the transporting to this country of the wives and children of Canadian servicemen from overseas. Here are immigrants of the best sort, from all parts of Europe, but mostly from the British Isles.

When the Aquitania docked recently at Halifax, seven wives of Canadian servicemen and their five children brought to an end what has been called "Operation War Brides." Young Canadians in the army, navy, and air force, while on duty overseas, met girls, married them and now have brought them to their homes here. In all 64,451 dependents of servicemen have come, including 43,454 wives and 20,997 children. By far the majority have been well established in this country, happily bringing up their families and becoming part of the pattern of Canadian life. There have been a few, it is true, who have not found things to their liking in this country, but they are the rare exceptions.

It is a matter for satisfaction that so many have completely identified themselves with Canadian life. Most of those who protested about Canadians picking their wives from abroad have forgotten their grievance. The nation as a whole has benefited greatly from the new stream of immigrants.

Apart from the families of those who brought the war brides to Canada, many individuals and groups have worked to make them feel at home. The Canadian Red Cross, which met all ships and tried to look after the first needs of the newcomers, and other organizations have added to the speed of adjustment. But it is the nation as a whole which has made them most welcome. The war brides are a valued addition to our national community.