

# **MCC Auswanderungslisten nach 1945:**

## **The Mennonite Central Committee Post-World War II Refugee List, 1945-1952**

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This is a transcription of 480 pages from a Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) physical folder called "Auswanderung nach 1945." The list was made by MCC after World War II and was recorded originally on index cards – one for each family unit. This information was later transferred to 480 A4 (letter) size pages. During the process typographical errors were introduced, which are reproduced in this transcription.

The first list includes 13,948 individuals, mostly Mennonites. Most of the people came from Russia and Prussia after the war and were registered in Europe (Denmark, Austria, Germany, and The Netherlands).

[www.mennonitegenealogy.com/int/MCC Mennoniten Ausgewandert Nach 1945.xlsx](http://www.mennonitegenealogy.com/int/MCC_Mennoniten_Ausgewandert_Nach_1945.xlsx)

The information that was gathered for each individual includes the surname, maiden name of female head of household, given name, date of birth, place of birth, the last address in Europe, the name of the ship they took to travel to North or South America, the departure date of the ship, and sometimes additional notes. Sometimes the cards included family members born in their new place of settlement. That means that the index cards were edited and updated for some time after their arrival in North or South America. U.S.A. and Canadian settlers usually provided a destination address, a family member, or a friend. Many of the refugees who went originally to South America immigrated shortly after to Canada.

The transcription is in the original order, which was roughly alphabetical. Some family members might have their own entry as they spent time in a different refugee camp, got married, used a different ship / airplane, or could not get to Canada. There are a few individuals who show up twice. Some individuals are listed, but they died or are missing. The birthplace might not always be their birthplace, but their place of origin. The numbers in brackets on their last location represent the postal code from Germany. See here:

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postleitzahl\\_\(Deutschland\)#/media/Datei:PLZ\\_46.png](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postleitzahl_(Deutschland)#/media/Datei:PLZ_46.png)

The second list includes 1,391 refugees who did not emigrate from Germany but chose instead for whatever reason to remain in the country.

[www.mennonitegenealogy.com/int/MCC\\_Mennoniten\\_Nicht\\_Ausgewandert\\_Liste.xlsx](http://www.mennonitegenealogy.com/int/MCC_Mennoniten_Nicht_Ausgewandert_Liste.xlsx)

A good number of the refugees appear in the GRANDMA Database <https://www.grandmaonline.org>; many are not or are incomplete. I have added some of the numbers.

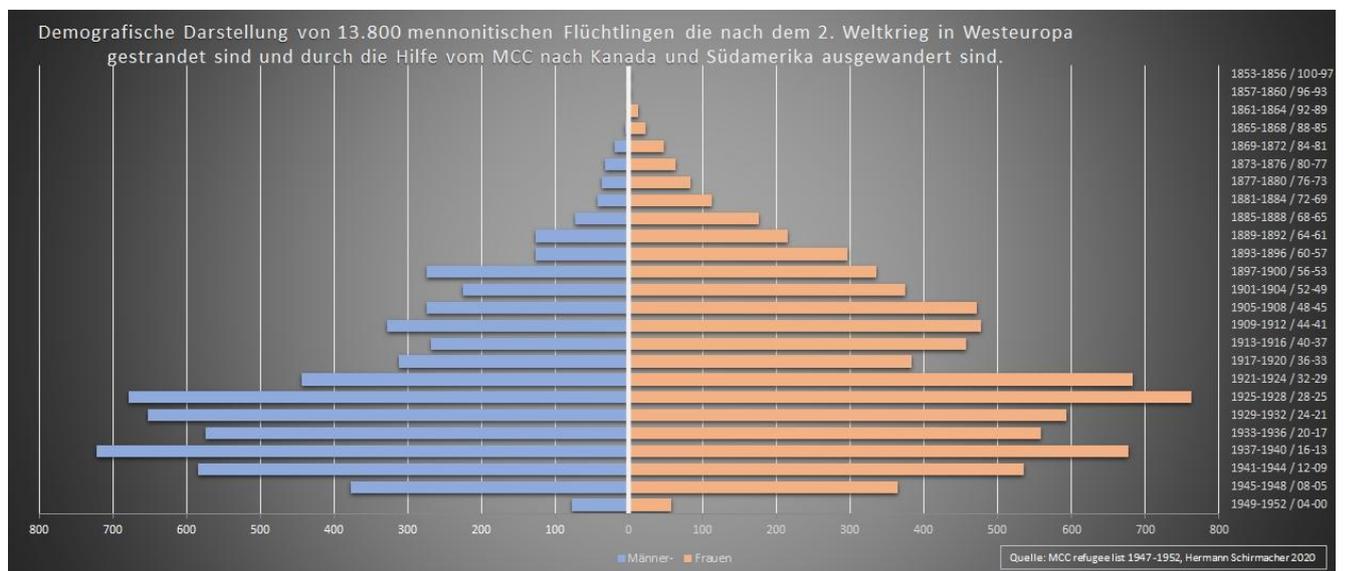
I purchased this folder as a part of the “Hermann Thiessen Burgdorf” collection in 1999 in Germany and scanned the pages at color 24 bits 300 dpi resolution and finally together with the help of Hans Peter Wiebe and Thomas Schirmacher we were able to complete the transcription in 2020.

Please cite individuals according to this format:

Schirmacher, Hermann, Wiebe, Hans Peter, and Schirmacher, Thomas. “MCC Auswanderungslisten nach 1945.” *Mennonite Genealogical Resources* (9 September 2020), [www.mennonitegenealogy.com/int/MCC\\_Mennoniten\\_Auswanderung\\_Nach\\_1945.pdf](http://www.mennonitegenealogy.com/int/MCC_Mennoniten_Auswanderung_Nach_1945.pdf). cite: **page #** and individual number: **lfd #**

## Statistical Data

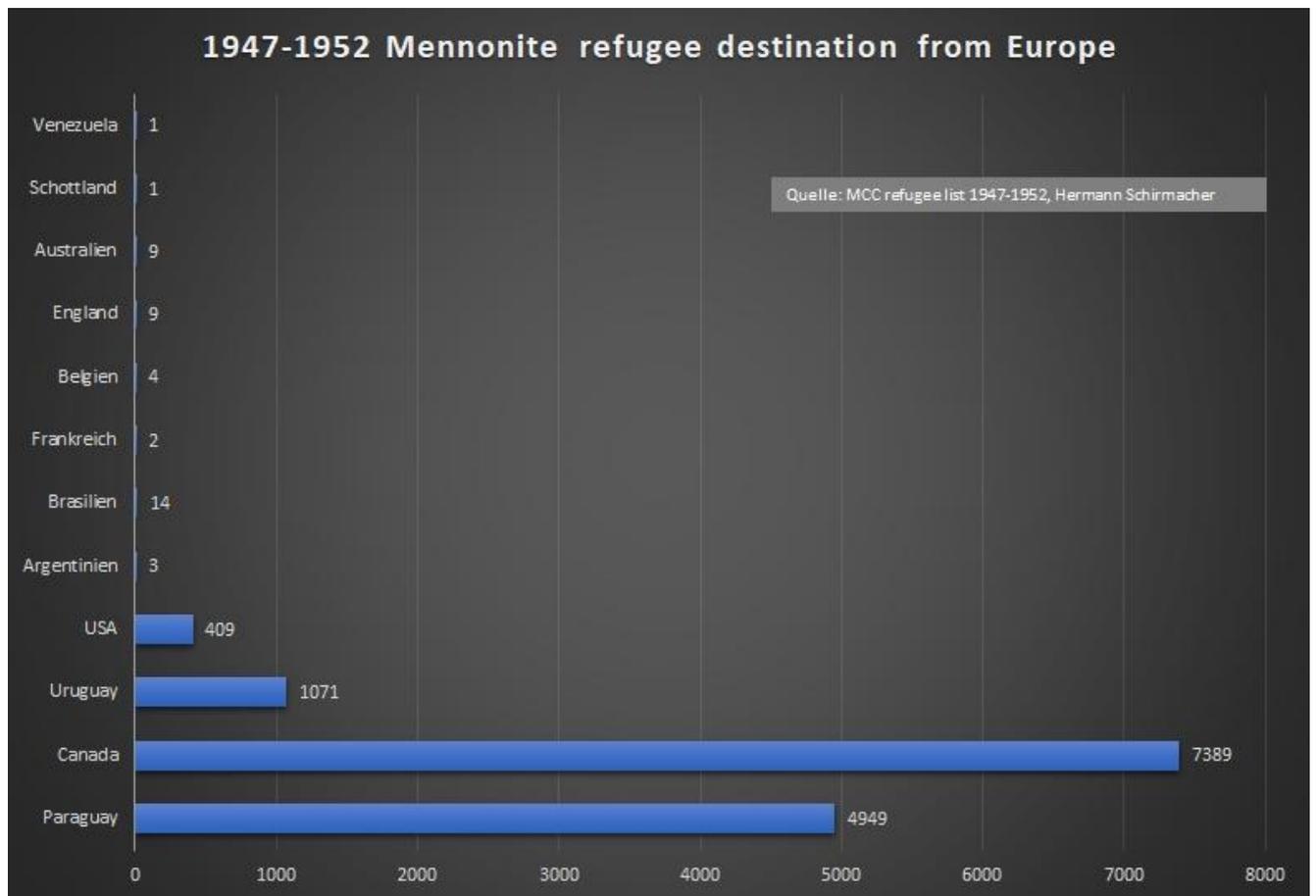
The oldest people on the list among the 13,948 are two women born in 1856. The demographic pyramid tells a story of suffering and death during several years that reduced the male population: 56% are female and 44% are male.



This data looks backwards from the period of 1947 to 1952 during their registration in refugee camps.

Additional resources to understand the background is found in a book called *Up From The Rubble* written by Peter Dyck. There are a few short videos on Youtube from him, telling the story of MCC and how they helped to move the refugees from

Europe to their new settlement areas in the Americas. Of the 35,000 Mennonite refugees, the majority was sent back to Russia.



This is the original destination indicated for 13,948 refugees. Some do not have a destination defined and it does not show the ones who stayed in Germany. They are on a different list. Preliminary information tells me that more than 1000 stayed in Germany.

Canada	7389
Paraguay	4949
Uruguay	1071
USA	409
Brasil	14
England	9
Australia	9
Belgium	4
Argentina	3
France	2
Scotland	1
Venezuela	1

Hermann Schirmacher  
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