

gration policy which will appeal to the people of Canada from one end to the other.

Let me say one word to the government, and it will be a word of advice. I speak here to-night on behalf of the most populous constituency in the west; and I have reason to believe that I speak the sentiments of the majority of the people between Lake Superior and the Rocky Mountains on this immigration question. There is no question that the people of the west feel more strongly on than this immigration question, and there is nothing that they more earnestly resent than the idea of settling up the country with people who will be a drag on our civilization and progress. We did not go out to that country simply to produce wheat. We went to build up a nation, a civilization, a social system that we could enjoy, be proud of, and transmit to our children; and we resent the idea of having the millstone of this Slav population hung around our necks in our efforts to build up, beautify and improve that country, and so improve the whole of Canada. I say it is an unpopular policy in western Canada to encourage this Slav immigration. That may be a low ground on which to put the question; but it is a business ground, and business is business. It may be a low ground, and yet it is a high ground; because who are to be the judges as to what is best for the interests of the North-west except the people who have built it so far, and upon whom must rest the chief burden of building it up to the height of prosperity to which we all expect it to attain.

Mr. D. C. FRASER (Guysborough). Mr. Speaker, I deem this question of sufficient importance to justify an eastern man in saying something upon it. I will not presume to express my opinion so emphatically upon the general conditions of upbuilding a country as the last speaker has done. Of course, he knows more about it than I—much more. I have been in that country, and my cursory observations may not have enabled me to understand the question generally, but when we consider that less than one acre in every hundred in the Territories is at present occupied and cultivated, I submit that a few Galicians, not amounting to 20,000, cannot surely have any very injurious effect on its development. It may be all very well for the hon. member for Alberta to dilate on the great advantage of bringing out to this country people who enjoy bright tinted social positions, and who will be able to hold their own with him in all that makes up the amenities and graces of society. But for my part, I respectfully submit that the tiller of the soil, the man who produces wheat, is not a bad citizen. He may not have the social distinction of the hon. member for Alberta. He may not rise to the high plane of aesthetic cultivation to which hon. gentlemen opposite have risen, but I submit that this country de-

pends on the development of its soil, and that the man who produces wheat is as good a citizen as the best gentleman in the land. I would be glad if we had sufficient population in eastern Canada to fill that western country, and in default of that, I would like very well to bring into it a large number of Englishmen who are willing to work—not the gentlemen who come out to buy a large area of land and who fritter away their time with a lot of dogs and that sort of thing, but will not cultivate the soil. I would be also much pleased to see a number of Irishmen brought into that country—one of the best products of the old land, as they make one of the best product of this new land. But above all, I would like to see God's own elect, the Scotch, brought in there. And failing these, I want to see good honest people settle in that country who will till the soil and produce wealth. We have to admit that we cannot supply that vast country with people from eastern Canada. I do not want a man to leave the older provinces unless compelled to. That is like swapping jack-knives from one pocket to another. I want every man in Nova Scotia to stay in that province if he can find there remunerative employment, and I want to see the same thing in the other provinces, but if there is any young man in the eastern provinces who thinks he cannot make his mark and succeed in life at home, in the name of Heaven let him go to Manitoba or the North-west in preference to the United States. But if we cannot get people from the older provinces into the Territories, what are we to do? I submit that the great requisite to the development of this country is good citizens. The hon. gentleman will not speak of the Doukhobors. I may be wrong, but the general opinion in Manitoba and the North-west, when I was there, on one or two occasions, among opponents of the government, was, that the Galicians are fairly decent citizens, but the Doukhobors should never have been let into the country at all. Well, let me tell you one peculiar characteristic of the Galicians, and it is this. It cost less to bring out the Galician, than the Doukhobors, and it did not cost very much to bring either out, but the Galician, when he came out, had not very much coin in his pocket, and he asked the government, as he had the right to, for a small advance. The advance was given, and what was the result? Out of the very first money he earned, he paid the government back the money he had borrowed, and I wish that Canadians, from one end of the country to the other, would pay their debts with equal regularity. I submit that a man who does that in a new country, and who does not try to live on the government, is not a bad citizen.

Do hon. gentlemen appreciate the extent of that western country? I do not want any one to go in there who will not make

Mr. OLIVER.