

deportation as a method of escape from the inevitable consequences of our own want of vision and vigilance. It is doubtful if we have now, or ever have had, any adequate machinery for handling immigrants with sympathy and wisdom. Primarily, but perhaps not exclusively, we should endeavor to put people on the land, but the land should be chosen with knowledge and discrimination, the new settlers should have all necessary training and supervision during the first years of occupancy, and they should have all possible protection against mistakes in method and failure in results. For failure in selection of immigrants or in the system of settlement means impoverished colonies in the towns and cities, a lower average of citizenship, and an excess of incompetent and shiftless labor. Adequate supervision of immigration may be onerous and costly but there could be no sounder national investment than that which produces a happy and prosperous people. There is need for closer co-operation between the Federal Department of Immigration and the Provincial Governments to provide such accurate information regarding farms available for purchase in older Canada as is afforded regarding opportunities and conditions in the Prairie Provinces. For reasons which may not require defence the immigration policy of the Federal Government has been sectional. Henceforth it should be national. Unquestionably many British and American settlers could be placed on improved farms in Ontario and the Eastern Provinces under conditions and in surroundings which would ensure pleasant social relations and the certain prospect of a decent return upon their investment.

EAST AND WEST

We complain sometimes that the West does not understand older Canada, that our industries are

defamed, our capitalists suspected, and our political leaders distrusted. But have we any adequate conception of the optimism, the energy, the constructive quality and the patriotic spirit of the western people? Do we realize as we should that they are building a social and political structure on the prairies which will compare in virtue, in solidity and in finish, with the best achievements of the pioneers of these older Provinces? It may be that the West does not fully understand our temper or our outlook, but one is not more confident that we of the East are free from reproach or that we have made any great sacrifice of time or money or effort in order to interpret ourselves to the western people and demonstrate an interest and a patriotism which are not dulled with considerations of profit. Even many of the political leaders of the older Provinces are comparative strangers to the Prairie population, and except during a general election they seldom appear upon a western platform. It is good fortune for Canada, and I am sure I speak with no thought of any party interest or relation, that a representative of the West has become Prime Minister and the leader of a national party, and surely only national benefit would follow if political leaders of British Columbia and the Prairie Provinces could appear more often before Boards of Trade, and Canadian Clubs and industrial organizations in older Canada, and if through Grain Growers' conventions and other western organizations the industrial, financial and political leaders of the East could establish a more intimate relation with the virile forces in town and country which are moulding the temper and fashioning the institutions of the newer Provinces. If there are differences between East and West—and it is easy to exaggerate the gravity of such differences as prevail—they are chiefly the result of distance and want of intimacy and knowledge, for the East can give the