

arriving from the British Isles. Still, about 60 per cent of the Polish people in Europe are rural folk—not very different from the rural folk in Canada.

Agriculture was one of the main fields of the pre-war production in Poland. Besides grain, there were a number of specialized crops. From those the most important were sugar-beets, hops, and flax. The Polish farmer, although living and working mostly on a very small area, has had in general a great adaptability to different methods of production. A good example can be found here in Canada, where a large part of the tobacco production in the Delhi region is in the hands of Polish-born farmers, although the production of tobacco in Poland was very little known. One can, however, expect that most of the agricultural workers from Poland will be familiar with the cultivation of sugar-beets and flax.

A large part of Poland's rural population was employed in forestry. The nature of the forests in Poland was much the same type as encountered in Canada, though much more attention was given to reforestation. In the western part of Poland, almost all forests were artificially planted and scientifically managed. One can expect that, besides rugged lumberjacks, there will be also quite a supply of people skilled in the more specialized business of reforestation.

In mining, Poland was Great Britain's keenest competitor. In good years, Polish coal industry was producing up to 30 million tons of coal, with an average output per worker of 1.8 tons per shift as compared with Britain's 1.2 and Germany's 1.5. This was the highest per capita output in the Eastern hemisphere. For underground workers, the comparison was still more favourable, reaching in Upper Silesia 2.7 tons per underground worker per eight hours, as compared with 2.5 tons in Holland and 1.9 in Germany. It is needless to say that these figures show not only the high level of mechanization in the mines, but also the extraordinary ruggedness of the miners. Besides coal, the greatest treasure of the country, there was quite a substantial production of zinc and lead, potassium and rock salt. In Poland, mining was always considered a vocation, and the Polish miners migrated in thousands to the coalfields of Belgium and France and other countries including Canada. Some 160 thousand of them were working in the Western European collieries.

It would perhaps be of interest to mention the fact that the great textile industry in Poland employed before the war some 160 thousand weavers. The clothing industry employed over 20 thousand garment workers.

In other fields of industry, such as glass, ceramics, metal trades, etc., quite a substantial number of people were employed.

Many of these men and women are now in the great pools of unused labour reserves found in the D.P. camps, the Polish army camps in Great Britain, and among the mass of refugees in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and even in India. Some of them would be very useful to industries in Canada.

Poland did not only bring forth farmers and skilled labourers; with excellent schools and universities, the arts and sciences have been practised with great enthusiasm and much success. The United States have already availed themselves of a good number of Polish scientists, artists and scholars who now devote all their talents to their country of adoption, contributing much to its cultural life. Even among the Polish veterans admitted to Canada as farm labourers in the last year, there were found a very scholarly Ph.D. from Poznan University, a chemist who for years was a very active agriculturist, and a young and enterprising aircraft engineer. In the files of the Canadian Polish Congress we have enquiries from at least 30 eminent physicists, chemists and industrial engineers who desire to take employment in Canada. These then are the type of people for whose admission to the Dominion the Congress wishes to plead.