

nine months overseas. He has been mentioned in dispatches and was awarded the M.B.E. He toured Europe extensively. He served in the Intelligence Branch. I am sure that Flight-Lieutenant Panchuk will give us some information which will be valuable to the Committee.

Hon. Mr. ROEBUCK: Mr. Hlynka has overlooked the most important member of the delegation. He is too modest. I wish to introduce Mrs. Hlynka, the wife of the member.

Mr. A. HLYNKA, M.P.: That just shows how good it is to have friends in the Committee. I must thank Mr. Roebuck for introducing Mrs. Hlynka. I believe Mr. Solomon will be the first to speak, and he will introduce the subject and also deal with the brief of which copies have been distributed to the honourable members of the Committee. I am not sure just how the proceedings will get on, but we hope to be able to call also Flight-Lieutenant Panchuk to speak after Mr. Solomon has talked to you, and your questions are asked.

Mr. J. R. SOLOMON, M.L.A. (Manitoba): Mr. Chairman and honourable members of this Committee. When I came here first of all I was going to approach the Committee with a considerable amount of diffidence, but when I saw the honourable senators from Manitoba, namely Mr. Crerar and Mr. Haig, I began to feel a little more at home. When Mr. Hlynka introduced me I noticed that one of the honourable members mentioned the only thing against me was that I happened to be a lawyer by profession. Now, I am satisfied that is not representative of the opinion of the senators, because we have a very capable senator from Manitoba, Mr. Haig, who happens to be in the same profession.

We want to thank the Chairman and the members of this Committee for giving us an opportunity to present our views on such an important subject matter as immigration. The time was rather short, and consequently detailed data could not be gathered. We have tried to give this Committee as clear a picture as we could, in the written brief before you. I will limit myself to making a few observations relative to the same. The question of immigration has always been a matter of great importance to a young and expanding country like Canada, but never has it loomed so large as at the present time. The experiences of the last war have demonstrated to the thinly populated countries how hard it is to defend huge territories with limited man power. Countries like our fellow-member of the Commonwealth Australia, which is living in the midst of restless masses of potential aggressors, realized the principle very quickly, and immediately after the cessation of hostilities announced her immigration policy and set up a commission to solicit immigration from Europe.

The same principles which underlie Australian policy apply even more strongly to the Dominion of Canada. We are richer in actual and potential resources and occupy a position in world trade out of all proportion to our population. And as possessors of the world's chief uranium fields we are bound to be coveted more and more by future aggressors. For us therefore there can be little security or prosperity without a very substantial increase in population.

Canada as yet has not announced her policy on immigration. Before the war our policy was limited to few refugees and relatives of the Canadian citizens. Changing circumstances arising out of this war make immigration to this country essential and necessary. The discovery of the atomic bomb has not only brought about changes in the fortunes of war, but it is bound to cause a revolution in the industrial fields as well. A great and wealthy country like Canada cannot escape its destiny as a leading trading and commercial nation, nor can it control that destiny successfully with insufficient number. Canada needs more population but she cannot obtain it by natural growth alone without resort to immigration.

In Canada it is not a question of finding room for the new settler, as we are one of the few countries still remaining capable of absorbing more people.