

That is the answer which was made by the railways of Canada. I confess that I cannot see the difference between the removal of individuals and families from one province to another and the removal of individuals and families from one part of the British Empire to another; if it is bad in one case it is just as bad in the other. Of course, I am speaking from the Canadian point of view. If the Department of Immigration and Colonization expected any other answer than the one I have just read from the railways, when they put it up to them, they were very candid and naive indeed. The railways will not do willingly anything which will cost them money or which will not bring them immediate returns. That is why they refuse to install safety devices at railway level crossings in order to protect the public, and why they refuse to dispense with the services of negroes on the trains and to replace them by native Canadians. Such an attitude might be understood on the part of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, which is an international business organization although Canadian in appearance. Their only concern is to make money for their international shareholders and bondholders. Patriotism, advancement of the country, improvement of the lot of the Canadian people, conservation of our population are all matters which do not enter into their calculations. As an illustration, I might mention the fact that no effort has ever been made by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company to develop the mining and colonization areas in the province of Quebec and to connect the city of Montreal with the Abitibi region and the transcontinental railway.

We may be sure that the Canadian Pacific Railway will not reduce its rates for the purpose of aiding the settling of the 35,000,000 acres of good vacant land within fifteen miles of the railway, of which Mr. Beatty spoke, unless it is forced to do so by parliament or the railway commission. But such an attitude is not so easily understandable on the part of the Canadian National Railways, which is the people's system and which is supposed to be operated in the interests of the nation. I submit that the conservation of our population is a matter of great national importance and is one which should engage the attention of the directors of our national railways.

It has been said that a citizen is worth \$3,000 to Canada, and at this rate we are losing about \$20,000,000 a year by emigration. Of course everyone admits that emigration is not as considerable as it was a few years ago, and that many of our citizens who left us

are coming back. But nevertheless, too many farmers and sons of farmers are still leaving the land every year for the manufacturing cities of the United States. From my own county hundreds of such young men go every year. There is no place for them where they were born, and the cost of going to the 35,000,000 acres of good vacant land within fifteen miles of the railways is prohibitive. Emigration will continue and Mr. Beatty's 35,000,000 acres of good land will remain vacant as long as the best settlers in the world, the young Canadian farmers, are discriminated against in the matter of transportation rates. Our young farmers who cannot find land in their environment will emigrate as long as it costs less to go to Fall River, Manchester, Nashua, Biddeford and other American factory towns than to the Canadian vacant lands. These lands will not be properly settled as long as we give to settlers untrained and unaccustomed to our climate and to our conditions an undue preference over the native-born settlers. Very often the settlers whom we import at great cost do not stay. Our conditions are too different from those of their country of origin; we have no employment insurance, no sickness insurance, no maternity allowance, et cetera; life is very lonely in the settlement districts, and the settlers' cottages are not equipped with modern conveniences. Then our European settlers find out that it takes more than a few months' training to make a successful farmer. It is no wonder that they get discouraged and either go back home, flock to the cities or cross the border, and all the money we have spent to bring them here and to establish them has been spent in vain.

If we had spent one quarter of the money we have spent in the last ten years in the importation of European so-called settlers, to encourage settlement by our people, we would have stopped the emigration of thousands of young farmers and there would not be so much good land vacant in the vicinity of railways, because Canadians love the land and they have demonstrated that they can stay on it. If we continue our present policy there will soon be as many Canadians outside Canada as there are inside, and in spite of the expenditure of millions our rural population will remain stationary if it does not decrease.

In my humble opinion there is no advantage in paying people to come to Canada. Our country should be good enough and attractive enough to induce outsiders to make at least the effort of coming here on their own, as it offers to them all the desired