



Newcomers to Canada

An Address Before the "Conference Committee of 100" of the
Toronto Board of Trade

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THE question upon which I have been asked to speak to you to-day is, "What is the best way to make the Newcomers to Canada good Canadians?" It is the highest compliment to our country that this question can be truthfully answered in one sentence, viz.: Give them full and true information respecting Canada.

It is difficult for me to conceive how average men or women who adopt Canada as their home, earn their living here, and become qualified to vote and take part in her affairs, can fail to become good Canadians and proud of their country when they have been properly informed about her constitution, her romantic history in the past, her present position as owner of the northern half of this continent, with its unlimited natural resources and possibilities, and her future as the nation within the great British Empire destined to take the leading part.

Special Advantages of Life in Canada

We have great natural resources in our lands, forests, seas, lakes and rivers. Including our great Northwest, Canada is destined to become one of the greatest agricultural countries in the world, producing the finest quality of grain and other agricultural products in increasing quantities for indefinite years. British Columbia is a marvel of richness only awaiting development. We are but on the threshold of the development of the richness and resources of Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Provinces. Our climate, taken as a whole, is healthy and enjoyable. Our people are sober, industrious, intelligent and law abiding. Our laws, speaking generally, are good, and are administered by courts against whose integrity and uprightness no suspicion has been breathed. Our press can be as free and independent as it likes, without fear of restraint except by public opinion and the law of libel. We have freedom of speech and of religious thoughts and opinions, and in their expression. Our country can produce everything necessary to healthful and comfortable living, and any sober and industrious man who desires to make Canada his home can earn a good living here. We have practically no pauper class of the kind known in the old world, and what distress there is from want of the necessities of