

moval of the greater part of that three millions of Galicians to this country. Let the position be not misunderstood. Many of our friends on the other side of the House have attacked the government because of the supposed expenditure of money in inducing this Galician immigration. There is no money necessary to induce Galician immigration. It is the pressure behind the Galicians at home which induces emigration from their country. There is a population of three millions to draw from, and the pressure behind that three millions is directed towards sending the greater part of them to this country. That is the position of affairs, and it is well this House should understand it and recognize it, so as to decide whether or not this parliament is favourable to having our North-west settled by that class of people. That is the question at issue.

In regard to the Doukhobors, the position is very different. They are a religious sect belonging also to the Slavic race.

Mr. McCREARY. Slavic?

Mr. OLIVER. Certainly they are Russians and Slavs, as the Ruthenians are. The Doukhobors are Russians belonging to a certain religious sect dissenting from the Established Church of Russia. There is only a limited number of that sect, and I am given to understand that the whole of that sect is now removed to Canada. Therefore, we have all there are of them, and we do stand in danger of an overflow of that class of people. I am not in a position to speak of the Doukhobors from an intimate personal knowledge, as none of them are resident in the constituency I represent, but on the Galician question I claim to be an authority, because I believe that fully half of the whole Galician population of Manitoba and the North-west is located in the district I represent. I understand that there are some 12,000 or 14,000 in one colony. Already one local electoral district is in all probability in the hands of the Galician vote, if those people were qualified to vote. In regard to the Doukhobors, I wish to say, speaking of course without having such an intimate knowledge of them, but speaking on the general principle, that any people who are too good to conform to the laws of this country are too good to live in this country, and we do not want them at any price. I want to say for the Galicians that whatever they may be or may not be, they are at any rate anxious to become citizens, and are willing to conform to the laws and customs of the country; whereas I am given to understand that the Doukhobors resent the suggestion of becoming citizens, and are not willing to conform to the laws and customs of the country. I certainly object to any such class of immigration, and the only redeeming feature of it is that there is not very much of it. But the Galicians are practically unlimited in number.

The great settlement of the North-west has taken place by reason of the overflow of people from these eastern provinces. The idea prevails in these provinces that if our people go to the North-west the eastern provinces thereby suffer; and on that point I wish to say a word. There is room in these eastern provinces for more people than live here now; but there is not room for more people under the conditions which now prevail in these provinces. The people of the eastern provinces desire only to have favourable conditions of existence, and for that reason they move out to other fields rather than submit to the conditions which would necessarily follow a further congestion of population. As a matter of fact, the people of eastern Canada have been moving out during the last thirty or forty years, and have been moving in a large degree to the United States. The last census of the United States shows that fully 1,000,000 native-born Canadians were in the United States at that time. This is a fact to which the people of eastern Canada seem to shut their eyes. If that million of Canadians were settled in the North-west, we would have three or four times the population we have there now, and four or five times the development, and we would not need to rely on any foreign people for the settlement of that country; and what would be the result in the eastern provinces? What do your factories depend on for their further increase, and your factory hands for employment? An increase of markets; and where is your increase of markets to come from? Certainly, from the settlement of the western prairies. It is in order to get a market for the products of your factories and for your wholesale houses that you want the North-west settled with anybody or anything, so you say. But I tell you that if you want such a market, you must settle the North-west with a people who will be in sympathy with you, and upon whose industry, integrity and loyalty you can rely. It is better for you and better for us that the people leaving the eastern provinces should go to the North-west rather than to the United States. What has been done cannot be helped; but this is still a young and a growing country; population is still increasing in these eastern provinces; young men and old men are still looking for new fields. Then, instead of attempting to people the North-west with Slavs, with people from eastern Europe who are certainly not recognized by the rest of Europe as being equal with them—people under whose nationality and government there has never been reached that degree of liberty, civilization, progress or prosperity which we expect to attain—instead of looking to these people for the settlement of the North-west, let us look to our own people and to kindred people upon whose industry and loyalty we can depend. That is the immi-