

and physically perfectly fit and of good character and willing to work hard until this country has a population of, say fifteen or twenty millions, and then apply the quota system. I was led to that conclusion by this way of reasoning: that every person who comes into this country has to be fed, clothed and housed. He is a consumer, and he is also more or less a producer. If the doors were thrown open and these people, mentally and physically fit and willing to work, came in, you would start the wheels of industry going. Economics is a funny thing. It does not take much to start it going the right way, and it does not take much to start it going the wrong way. I am, however, a believer first and foremost in the predominance of the British race in this country as against people from continental Europe or elsewhere, and that the great preponderance of immigrants into Canada should be of the British race. But there is that question, and perhaps the bold and startling scheme advanced by the hon. member for North Vancouver (Mr. McRae) will solve this question. It was very startling to me and highly interesting, but in a matter of such importance, such magnitude, as immigration, we have reached the point where we realize that population is what this country must have and that we must do something bold and startling. I for one as an ordinary citizen of Canada would cheerfully, on behalf of myself and my family, contribute to the consequent increase in taxation for the carrying out of that splendid scheme, as I consider it to be. We should all so far as possible sink our party differences in endeavouring to arrive at a solution of this immigration question. If the scheme of the hon. member for North Vancouver could be adopted and a commission or board appointed such as the one that manages the Canadian National Railways, with that hon. member at its head having the ability and capacity for organization and administration that he has, and the scheme were administered by that board free from politics, I think it would work out splendidly, and very quickly this country would get the immigration it desires and go ahead by leaps and bounds. As a result of the carrying out of a proper immigration policy we would have a fair-sized population in a short number of years. With this increased population, with a more largely industrialized west and a fuller development of the mineral wealth of northern Ontario, this country would go forward very rapidly and a large number of our problems and difficulties would be solved and overcome.

Of course, to my mind, in addition to all that we require, for the more rapid progress

[Mr. Pettit.]

of Canada, to have stability of tariff, a well-settled fiscal policy, so that there may be a certainty of things, and people, especially in industrial lines, can govern themselves accordingly. With an adequate protective policy and an increased population, this Canada with our united efforts will move forward to the great destiny that certainly lies ahead of it, the destiny of being a very important, if not the most important part of the British Empire and an influential nation in world affairs. Already we have a seat in the League of Nations and that is the thin edge of the wedge of Canada's influence in world affairs. I can easily visualize in the future years Canada being, as I said, not only the most important part of the British Empire but one of the great nations of the world and of large influence in world affairs in promoting and bringing about peace and the advancement of civilization generally. The vastness of our country, the large population that will in time dwell here, its great resources and the character of the people in the nature of things ensure that.

Mr. T. E. KAISER (Ontario): Mr. Speaker, I can assure you and this house that I have no particularly set speech to deliver on this occasion. I know that the house and the whole of Canada are at this moment waiting to hear the deliverance of that distinguished statesman who is now recognized as leader of the Conservative party (Mr. Bennett), in the Dominion of Canada. Undoubtedly an equal number of Canadians are waiting to hear the reply by the distinguished gentleman who for the present occupies the position of Prime Minister (Mr. Mackenzie King), of this great Dominion. For that reason I assume that not very many are interested in what I may have to say. I have, however, been pressed to take part in this debate, and in order to get back at those who induced me to speak I am going to say something.

First I should like to say a word in reply to the sympathetic remarks of my hon. friend from St. Ann (Mr. Guerin) in regard to the McConachie case. I have been taught, and I learned to be governed by that teaching, not to attempt to diagnose a case at too great a distance, and I was rather surprised that my good friend from St. Ann was able to diagnose this case right across the Atlantic. I prefer for the moment to accept the findings of the medical men who actually examined this particular child.

Having sat in this house for two or three years, I have heard hon. members speak of about 240 constituencies as being the biggest or greatest in Canada, and I am therefore