

racial or religious differences. And I have this tribute to pay to my friends from Quebec: That they are broad in their ideas. I think probably they take less account of what religion a man has, or what race he comes from than do those of the tenets under which I was taught. I believe the French Canadians have a broad patriotic nationalism, that they take people as they are and accord to them the right of citizenship. But coming from the old colonist days, we apparently have an obsolete section that is bobbing up to teach the same carping sentiment that was taught in those days. We are told that this is a new party; we are told that it is a nationalist party. Well, when the time of this House is taken up with discussing whether a certain minister shall have the portfolio of Marine and Fisheries because he is French—

Mr. BOURASSA. The hon. gentleman is putting words into my mouth that I never uttered.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Order.

Mr. BOURASSA. I rise to a point of order. I stated that the minister in charge of that department should be one who was cognizant of the important duties of the department, and whether he be English, Scotch or French had nothing to do with it.

Mr. FIELDING. The duties of the Marine Department extend from ocean to ocean.

Mr. WILBERT McINTYRE. I say that when the time of this House is taken up with discussion as to whether the departments of government have their proper quota of deputy ministers who speak French, when the time of the House is taken up with discussing what kind of language shall be printed on a postage stamp; I say that when we have men of that class here, when we have men who will raise a question as to whether at the simultaneous moment one page of the French statutes shall be printed with a page of the English statutes; when we have men in this House who would devote the time of parliament to that sort of thing, I say they need a proper national sentiment just as much as any Doukhobor or Galician.

Hon. RODOLPHE LEMIEUX (Postmaster General). I rise, not to discuss the issue between the member for Montmagny and the Department of the Interior, but, to give a few facts and figures concerning the tide of French emigration to Canada, which after all is the principal feature of the motion before us. Let me say, that I dissent from the views expressed by my hon. friend from Labelle (Mr. Bourassa) as to the immigration policy of the Department of the Interior. I do not think that when thousands and thousands are leaving the shores of Europe every year, that we in Canada can, or should prevent a portion of these immi-

grants coming to our country, so long as we have salutary and stringent laws to protect our own people. Let me quote from a book written by Mr. Whelpley, an authority on immigration, who says :

Like a mighty stream, it finds its source in a hundred rivulets. The huts of the mountains and the hovels of the plains are the springs which feed; the fecundity of the races of the old world, the inexhaustible source. It is a march the like of which the world has never seen, and the moving columns are animated by but one idea—that of escaping from evils which have made existence intolerable, and of reaching the free air of countries where conditions are better shaped to the welfare of the masses of the people.

I say that no human law can prevent the thousands of Hungarians, of Germans, of Danes, of Norwegians, of Russians, of Poles, from leaving their own country and coming to the western world to breathe the free air of America. The very word 'America' is alluring to the people of Europe, for they know that in America they will find justice and liberty. I appeal to the liberalism of my hon. friend from Labelle (Mr. Bourassa) and I ask him, if he would prevent the Pole, or the German, or the Dane, or even the Russian, who, living under harsh conditions in his own country to seek the free air of America; will he prevent this foreigner who after all, is a unit in the brotherhood of man, from seeking a home among his brothers. If we have stringent and good laws, to prevent undesirable emigrants coming to our shores, will my hon. friend exclude these downtrodden people, who, after a few years in this country, contribute to its progress and prosperity and become law-abiding citizens? As a Canadian and as a Liberal, I say that Canada should open her doors to all desirable emigrants, and I trust that our country may be known, as Great Britain is known, to be the land of the free, and the happy home of refugees from oppression. According to Mr. Whelpley :

Last year the immigrants from Austro-Hungary started on their journey westward to escape burdens both economic and political; last year 230,000 Italians, 200,000 Austro-Hungarians and 136,000 Russians successfully passed the immigration barriers of a single country, the United States.

Now, if so many thousands of these Europeans found their way westward to the United States where they have the most stringent laws to prevent undesirable immigration, will my hon. friend (Mr. Bourassa) say that we, in Canada should close our doors to these people who come to us. We have a vast country awaiting development, and I as a Canadian, proud of my country, anxious that it should share in the universal prosperity, am ready to open the doors to desirable immigrants. I claim that the immigration