

I find these figures. In the state of Massachusetts the Canadian-born population between 1880 and 1890 rose from 119,302 to 207,601, or an increase of 88,299; from 1890 to 1900, it rose from 207,601 to 293,169, an increase of 85,568. But, according to the records of the Massachusetts state census, during the period from 1890 to 1895, the number of Canadians in the state of Massachusetts increased from 207,601 to 251,346, an increase of 43,745. From 1895 to 1900, the Canadians in the state of Massachusetts increased from 251,346 to 293,169. In other words, the Canadian-born population in the state of Massachusetts increased, in the first five years of the last decade, 43,745, and in the last five years 41,823, or just about 2,000 more of an increase in the first five years when hon. gentlemen opposite were in office, than in the last five years when we were in power.

I venture to make this correction, because I am sure the hon. gentleman does not wish to mislead the committee by making a statement that is incorrect. He stated that the statement of the hon. member for Pictou had not been refuted or denied, and I wish to correct him and let him know that it was refuted and denied.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). The hon. Minister of Agriculture (Hon. Mr. Fisher) has entirely missed the point of my remarks and he absolutely corroborates the point I was making. I remarked as a mere incident—it did not touch upon what I was dealing with—that it had been said by the hon. member for Pictou that more people went into the State of Massachusetts from Canada in the first five years of the decennial period than during the last five years, and I stated that it was in the vicinity of 50,000 people. My hon. friend has given the exact figures and he has shown, that, while there was something over 43,000 people during the first five years, during the second five years, since this government has been in power and during the time when they were saying that emigration had absolutely ceased—

An hon. MEMBER. No.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). That statement has been repeated over and over in this House within my hearing—during the second five years, according to the census returns there went to the single state of Massachusetts 41,823 Canadians, and yet my hon. friend thinks he has made a point in bringing that to the attention of the committee. Well, he has made a point, but it is not the point that he thought he was making. I would bring to the attention of the hon. Minister of the Interior the warning and the caution that his hon. colleague has just given him. His colleague has brought to his attention the fact that to the single state of Massachusetts in five years nearly 42,000 Canadians have gone.

The MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR. We have brought 41,000 Americans into the North-west in one year.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). I understand that, but we are dealing with a single state.

Hon. Mr. FISHER.

We are at a very different period of our development from that of the United States.

Mr. DAVIS. They may have gone from some other state into Massachusetts.

Mr. BORDEN (Halifax). That is quite possible. The observation of the hon. member for Saskatchewan (Mr. Davis) is quite true. Some of these may possibly have gone from some other state instead of from Canada, but in any case we would expect to be able to turn to the records of some other state and the hon. Minister of Agriculture with his usual industry would no doubt have brought that to the attention of the committee, but as he did not do so, I think we may rest satisfied that such cannot be shown to be the case. But, it only emphasizes what I was bringing to the attention of the hon. Minister of the Interior in the sincere hope that he might see whether or not something could be done by his department to direct the continued flow of immigration from the maritime provinces towards our own North-west instead of to the United States.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. I do not think it is necessary for the hon. Minister of the Interior to do anything to turn people away from the maritime provinces. I can assure my hon. friend the leader of the opposition that the class of young men who go away from the maritime provinces are young people who know all about the North-west and they do not need any coaxing to go there. I am quite satisfied that we do not need to start any immigration agencies down there to turn people to the North-west or anywhere else. My hon. friend bases a part of his statement upon the assumption, because it is merely an assumption, that somebody had said that emigration from Canada has absolutely ceased. I venture to say that nobody ever said that.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Yes.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. Well if anybody ever made such a statement, it was a foolish statement. I believe we will never reach the point when there will not be some movement of population from the maritime provinces. The people of the maritime provinces are a very enterprising, progressive, energetic people, they are an adventurous people, and they will try to see the world. It has been so in the past, and it will be so in the future. I do not expect the time will ever come when there will not be a considerable exodus from the maritime provinces. But when my hon. friend says, I have no doubt in good faith, that he is satisfied that the exodus from the maritime provinces is as great as it ever was, all I can say to my hon. friend is that I entirely dissent from him and I believe his statement will be dissented from by anybody who understands the condition of affairs in Nova Scotia. There are some things in which