

new settlers to a start will be barren of results so far as land settlement is concerned.

We find that the government, I presume under this plan which has already been put in operation, has made arrangements with the transportation companies to bring over continentals from Europe. The railways, as I understand it, are permitted to select and classify these immigrants, but what hope is there of any net results—and by net results I mean the keeping in Canada of these colonists after they arrive here—when no proper provision is made for their colonization as they arrive? The government have been trying for two years to secure settlers from the continent of Europe, and they have been setting as a qualification for these people to come to Canada merely the possession of \$500—in some cases less, I understand; and after two years they have secured less than one hundred families. Are we likely to secure more actual land settlers by turning over this privilege to the railway companies without making proper provision for colonization? This may be a very excellent plan for the railway and steamship companies, but what results can the country expect? These people who come here will either drift into the cities and take away jobs from Canadians, or they will move across the line to the United States, and there will not be any net results from this plan so far as I can see.

Now a word with regard to the proposed co-operation of the British and Canadian governments with the railway and steamship companies under what is known as the £3 plan, whereby the companies and the governments undertake to take care of the fare of the settlers provided they put up £3. These people are to come from British ports direct to Canadian ports. I notice that the minister (Mr. Stewart) was quoted in a western paper some time ago as stating that under this plan he hoped to bring in 200,000 farm workers to Canada. I do not know whether or not that is correct, but I saw that statement in the press. I am informed by people who have given thorough study to the situation that we can absorb in Canada only 25,000 to 30,000 actual farm workers, that is, men who would be given work the year round. What would become of the other 175,000? They would either drift into the cities in the winter and join the bread line, or move across to the United States to secure employment. So we cannot hope to secure very many settlers from that source unless the industrial stability of this country can be vastly improved over what we find it at the present time. What is the use of presenting to this House any such plan in the hope of bringing in 200,000

farm workers when there is no possible chance of our properly absorbing more than a small proportion of them after they get here? So boiled down these proposals amount to this: Under the plan of co-operation with the railways with regard to continentals, there is no chance of our getting any considerable number of these people actually to settle on the land after they get here, because no colonization provision has been made. Moreover, we can only safely bring in from 25,000 to 30,000 farm workers under the £3 plan.

There is one other proposal, known as the 3,000 family scheme, under which the British government offer to give something like £300 to each family that migrate to Canada provided the Canadian government puts up a similar amount either in cash or in kind. This is a suggestion that should be given every encouragement. But under this plan the families who come here are to be placed on reverted land, land that has been occupied under the Soldier Settlement Board and is now again available for settlement. None of these three plans involves the opening up of any great area of fresh land in this country. Considering all the proposals as I have presented them to you, and remembering that we received some 28,000 settlers on the land in some fifteen years of whom 14,000 were soldier land settlers, none of these three plans promises any improvement on the conditions I have outlined, and so the record of the government will not be improved by what is promised to us in the Speech from the Throne.

The government also refer in the Speech to welcoming desirable settlers and the repatriation of Canadians who have gone to other lands. We all agree that that is desirable. I am sure there is not a man in this House who would not heartily endorse any such plan, but let me point out to the government that while we might all desire to have them come back, no very great proportion of these people will return to Canada and we shall get no results unless some concrete action is taken, unless some inducement is offered to them to return.

I have some interesting figures to offer to the House with regard to the staying qualities of our settlers in the past. During the twenty-one years from 1900 to 1921, 77 per cent of the American-born left us and 23 per cent remained; 52 per cent of the foreigners left us and 48 per cent remained; of Britishers, 36 per cent left us and 64 per cent remained; indicating that the Britishers are the best stickers once they reach this country, and this is the class of people we should make every effort to secure.

I think I have made it clear that if we are to put into effect a national policy on immi-