

in Canadian life. "Remember," said Mr. Kipling, "that every immigrant who comes to Canada brings with him the thousand years behind him. Breed and social history will tell on his citizenship in this country. I would rather have a poor looking house of good stock than a good looking house of poor stock. Pick your immigrants and remember British history and British traditions."

The Hindoo, Mr. Kipling thinks, will not come to Canada in large numbers. The climate is too severe for him. As for the Japanese, our distinguished visitor entertains the significant view that it is impossible to expect that labor conditions can create a vacuum that will not be filled up by immigrants.

On the whole, one must concur in Mr. Kipling's views on immigration. He is perhaps not as solicitous as Canadians for the maintenance of our standards and ideals; and his reasons for urging haste in the work of filling up our country are not as strong as they might be. With the Hague Peace Conference in session and the age of alliances at hand, the suggestion that a hungry prowling people may snatch us up can scarcely be regarded as serious.

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The press of Canada constitutes a feature of national life that we should not be slow to praise. As yet our country is not the home of many important magazines. We have nothing that can rank with the London *Spectator* or the London *Times* and probably nothing of the excellence and influence of the best monthlies of United States. In regard to newspapers, too, in number and size we may fall behind our neighbors to the south. But in the matter of integrity and high influence on all aspects of life we may boast of a press equal in merit to that of any country.

The functions of the press have been so fully discussed of late that they are now pretty generally understood. It is recognized that the journalist should aim to instruct his constituency, to disseminate information regarding events and movements in his own and other countries, to lead certain movements of reform and mould public opinion on matters affecting the welfare of the people. These functions the dailies and weeklies of Canada appear to be discharging faithfully and well. Occasionally we hear it said that certain papers are in the control of corporations, speaking not their own opinions and neglecting the interests of their constituency. More frequently it is charged against certain members of the press that they are bound rigidly to party interests, afraid to express an independent opinion on matters of public concern. There is another class of journals said to give undue importance to sensational stories of murders and similar atrocities, thus creating depraved tastes in the people who read them. These, moreover, are the criticisms levelled at the press of United States. And undoubtedly they apply rather to that country than to our own. In the United States it cannot be denied that there are scores of journals whose influence is pernicious and degrading. There is the Hearst group with their unsavory reports of things about which no respectable person should show concern, their flaring type, their sensationalism, their careless accusations against public men, their reckless advocacy of class-measures and their ludi-