

"Then we could point to the agricultural interest as most prosperous, with a satisfactory home market and satisfactory prices abroad. To-day they have a limited market with low prices, anything but satisfactory market abroad.

"Then everything appeared to be prosperous. To-day, although it looks gloomy, I think there is a silver lining to the cloud that we may yet see illuminating the whole of the Dominion and changing our present position to one of happiness and prosperity."

If that were true in 1879, how true is it now in the light of the experience of the last ten years. It possesses greater truthfulness and fairness to-day, when we have this picture: Now, depressed values; 1879, greater prosperity. Now, depressed agricultural condition; then, a satisfactory home market. His silver lining was the great National Policy which has absolutely failed to benefit the people. Our gold lining is brighter; it is that of broader trade relations with the greatest market in the world. Before long the Liberal party will change seats in this House with those who occupy the Treasury benches, because the people of the country are commencing to see the golden lining, and are stretching forth their hands to grasp it, and they will put into power the party which they know is capable of carrying out to full completion the arrangements which will place at our disposal larger and better markets, upon an equitable basis, with the great nation to the south of us. We were told the other night by the hon. member for Albert (Mr. Weldon) that although our people were removing from the country, it was on account of their nomadic tendencies. He says: They were born so; they were born in one part of the east and they were sure to wander westward. Do we not belong to the same class of people now that we belonged to ten years ago? If that argument is good now, it was equally good ten years ago, when Sir John Macdonald charged the exodus upon the shoulders of what he called the insane Government of my hon. friend from East York (Mr. Mackenzie). Now matters have changed around, and we are told by gentlemen upon the other side that the exodus is owing to our peculiar nature; we are told that it is the nature of the white people to go westward, and that they are now taking the advice of Horace Greeley when he said: "Young man, go west." It appears to me that a large portion of the people of Canada are taking that advice and going west. But the hon. member for Albert (Mr. Weldon) says, that although the people are moving westward, they have gone to Manitoba, to the Canadian North-West or to British Columbia. Is that the case? Do all our people go to the far West; do they take up their habitation in Manitoba, the North-West Territories and in British Columbia? Why, Sir, there are not over 200,000 in the whole of the North-West provinces, and for the last twenty-one years the efforts of the Government have been directed towards populating those territories, and they have spent over \$3,000,000 in bringing immigrants from the old country to Canada and the North-West. Where have those people gone?

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). They are like the blue bonnets—over the border.

Mr. MACDONALD (Huron). Sir, during the last few years the Government would insist that these people were all in the North-West Territories, but it was shown by the last census that no less than 123,000 people were lacking in the North-West Territories who were counted as being there

Mr. MACDONALD (Huron).

by the Government. Where have those people gone? We were told by W. C. B. Graham, immigration agent of the Government in Winnipeg, that no less than 10,000 of those, whom we put there at a great expenditure of money, had gone from British Columbia to the cities in the United States: to Seattle, San Francisco, Sacramento, Tacoma and other cities on the Pacific. The people have gone into the North-West, but they have gone again into the United States; because they find it a cheaper country to live in, and because those young men and young women who leave us find better prospects there for the future. Sir John Macdonald told us that the National Policy, or, as he called it, "a just and equitable adjustment of the tariff," would stop this movement. Has the exodus ceased since the National Policy came into force? I call upon any hon. gentleman in this House to say if it has ceased. It is no use giving us learned disquisitions upon political economy, but let hon. gentlemen opposite come down to solid facts in connection with our own country, and let them show us that the National Policy has been beneficial on the whole to the varied interests of the country. How many of our people left our country during the years of the Liberal Administration? The highest estimate given by the Conservatives of that day was 22,000 each year. No person was more sorry than I was to see our able-bodied men and women, the flower of our population, leaving us to find a home in a foreign land. But, Sir, since the time of the Liberal Administration there have been nearly four times 22,000 leaving this country every year and going to the United States. These figures may be denied, but it is the simplest thing in the world to make a calculation to show as nearly as possible the exact number of people who have left Canada for the United States since 1882. We know that in 1881, the year of the last official census, we had a population in Canada of 4,345,293. The natural increase in any country should be nearly two per cent. of births over deaths, but I only estimated one and a-half per cent., so as to be under rather than over the number, and one and a-half per cent. of natural increase would give us 651,784 persons of an increase since 1881. Now, by turning up the report of the Minister of Agriculture, I find that 917,977 immigrants came to Canada who stated their intention of remaining here. If we add these numbers together we should have a population of 5,913,054, but the estimated population to-day by the Government is 5,150,000. If you subtract 5,150,000 from the population which we should have of 5,913,054, we find that there are 763,054 of our population unaccounted for. Where are these people gone? They have left our country, they are not here, and, therefore, we have an exodus of 76,300 every year under the influence of the National Policy, whereas we had only an exodus of 22,000 under the policy of the Liberal Administration, led so ably and so honestly by the hon. member for East York (Mr. Mackenzie). Father Hamon lately placed a book on the French Canadians before the public, and in that book he states that not less than 400,000 French Canadians are in the Eastern States, and that there are no less than 200,000 in the Western States, making a total of 600,000 French Canadians who are now in the United States and who ought to be with us here. But, Sir, when you find that the corner-stones of our