

Hon. Mr. ASELTINE: What languages do they speak? Are they conversant with English? Do they speak Russian or German?

The CHAIRMAN: A surprising number of them have a knowledge of English, have they not, Senator Crerar?

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I believe they have. I believe there was an Estonian language.

Hon. Mr. EULER: Take for instance, the name "Weiler", which we have here: that is distinctly German.

Hon. Mr. ASELTINE: I do not think there is an Estonian language. The people speak either Russian or German.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: Estonians, probably, if you go back far enough, are of German origin.

Hon. Mr. ASELTINE: What language do these people at Kitchener speak?

Hon. Mr. EULER: I don't know. I have not spoken to them myself. I think most of them will be able to speak English, because you will find that most educated Europeans do.

Hon. Mr. ASELTINE: Have they long unpronounceable names?

Hon. Mr. EULER: I can't tell you much about that.

Hon. Mr. ASELTINE: I think you should investigate these people for us.

Hon. Mr. EULER: I think I will do that when I go home at the week end.

The CHAIRMAN: I have two beautiful girls who are to exhibit their costumes tomorrow at my house. You might come and look at them. One is a perfect beauty.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Is she an Estonian?

The CHAIRMAN: I think she is a Latvian; and there is a charming one who comes to see me almost every Tuesday. I can send her up to see you!

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: I think it will be found that a substantial number of these people speak English. It is in my memory that in one of these Baltic countries English was taught in the schools.

Hon. Mr. EULER: English is pretty generally spoken all over Europe.

The CHAIRMAN: Europeans are obliged to speak it, because the English people refuse to learn anything else.

Hon. Mr. CRERAR: These people are natural linguists, and they pick up English pretty well.

The CHAIRMAN: I should like to present this memorandum and to ask the Acting Minister, Mr. MacKinnon, to give it consideration and if he thinks it advisable to discuss the question with the Cabinet on deputy level.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Before you do that, I think Senator Aseltine has made a very good suggestion to Senator Euler. I do not always agree with Senator Euler's ideas, as you know.

Hon. Mr. EULER: Nearly always.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: But when he is right he is very right. I think he ought, as a member of this committee, to get all the information he can about the Kitchener immigration. I think it would be intensely interesting, and I am persuaded that we will find they are very fine people and that we could not get better immigrants in this country.

Hon. Mr. EULER: I would be glad to report on that at the next meeting.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: I would personally appreciate it if you would. In the same connection, if you are going to make representations, I should like you to consider the Slovak immigrants from Czechoslovakia. As I said a while ago, we have in Manitoba a very large settlement of farmers from that country