

ACON

(i.e. Canada) represents eight million people, with its nearest neighbor of one hundred million people, and that both of these countries are trying to carry out and develop the same kind of civilization. We are a hundred years behind you, for reasons which I shall not enter upon to-day, but during the past hundred years, with such measure of success as we have had, we have been, especially in our pre-railroad time, remote from all other countries in the world except the United States. Long before that sixteen hundred miles of line of transportation across the prairie meant anything, we dealt with you across the lakes, our nearest neighbors in trade and in society and every other way, and those lakes were to us but the pleasure ground for our steamers and yachting and the highway for such commerce as existed between us.

We owed to you at that early day much for the consideration that was shown to a small nation. At the present time eight millions are trying to develop a country which is—in our boastful moments we say—larger than the United States and Alaska put together, but it does not matter, because we shall never have as large a population as you have in the United States—but in any event a very vast country which we are trying to harness and develop. In doing so we are called upon to receive a new population which amounts to five people for every one hundred people already in Canada; and for the actual parts of the country where these people settle, ten new people per year for every one hundred in Canada. I ask you, those of you who remember the tide of immigration which swept into this country, to remember that you did not have, nor has any other country in the world ever had, such a problem of assimilation as we have. Because five new people in the country would mean four and a half million people coming to the United States in a year, or four million people coming to Germany in a year, or two million people coming to England in a year.

Canada's Resources and Drawing Power

And now they come because we have vast expanses of country to settle and we can receive the people, so far as finding land is concerned, for many, many years to come; but we have to develop every species of implement necessary for civilization in order that those people may come and settle in our country. And in doing that we do that with the great help of the Motherland, which down to date has lent us the money to do it.

Among the people who come to us, to the extent of over one-third, are people from the United States. That immigra-