

would be an excellent means to put things in order again, specially as far as the cost of living is concerned. While disproving the claims of the *Bulletin* of the Commission of Conservation, he was unfolding a résumé of the the program and methods to follow in order to attain the end. The best I can do is to refer the members of this Chamber to the aforementioned article; and I will add that I sincerely hope Mr. Léon Lorrain will resume his study in economics, for the benefit of the public.

The favorite argument of those who proclaim the uselessness of all efforts made to keep farmers on their farms is that the reason of their departure is solely psychological; that Canadians who like to enjoy life, are irresistibly attracted to the city, where living is expected to be easy and pleasant. I admit that to a certain extent. But, what would the supporters of this opinion say if it were shown to them that a fair part of those who leave their farms take another road than that leading to the City? That they are found, for example, still in the farming business, in other places of the Province of Quebec, in colonization centres, in Ontario and in the West, and even in the faraway plains of the American Republic? Facing such a fact, of which nobody can dispute the accuracy, what becomes of the theory of the attraction of the City?

Yes, there are other causes, economic ones.

Living in an old district suffering from the evil of depopulation, on first sight I was surprised that such a situation could have prevailed among comparatively well-to-do farmers who owned good enough farms. According to the system recommended by Le Play, I undertook a local investigation, which immediately showed me the above mentioned fact and also the profound causes of the desertion of our oldest homesteads. My experience and study could