

anything about Sifton, but if his policy is such as to produce the development of the west that we have seen in the last three or four years, we ought to keep him where he is. It is a policy which has enabled us to double our business, not only in Winnipeg, but in many towns in the west where we formerly were afraid to trust our goods; now we send them out with perfect confidence that we shall be paid.'

What about the value of property in and around Winnipeg? I was for ten years, from 1880 to 1890, handling 80,000 acres of property, as manager for the late Sir John Schultz, and I know almost every quarter section of land around that city. I know that at that time it was impossible to sell much land even for the taxes. The municipalities frequently put up land for sale for arrears of taxes, and they had to adjourn the sale, because no one would give \$30 for a quarter section. The municipality had to buy in the land, and on the day following the sale, I have bought a quarter section for \$5, and got a tax deed for it. What is the case to-day? The country around Winnipeg is filling up with settlers, largely from the United States, to such an extent that land which was valued a few years ago by the Hudson Bay Company and others at 50 cents to \$2 per acre, is to-day worth from \$7 to \$8 an acre. This fact shows the difference between the policy of this government and the policy of the former government; and the same condition of things prevails in many parts of the west. I venture to say that this year that there will be an unprecedented number of people from the United States coming into that country. To-day they are flocking into the country between Calgary and Edmonton at the rate of three special train-loads a day, in addition to the regular train service, and I believe 25,000 people from the United States will go in there this year. I showed Prof. Saunders a letter which I got a few days ago from Thos. A. Foster, a man who went from Kemptville and settled in Iowa and afterwards in North Dakota, where he resided for twenty years, and who sold his land in North Dakota for \$30 an acre, and his land in Iowa for \$50 an acre, and having a large number of sons, came back to Canada and the old flag. I asked him about his politics, and found him to be a good Conservative. He bought 2,240 acres of land within thirteen miles of Winnipeg, and he wrote to me the other day thanking me for a sample of seed oats which I had sent him, and for the care which the government were taking of new settlers, and he added: 'You will be surprised to know that I have already 90 lambs, some over 50 pounds.' He had brought in 800 sheep, and he said: 'This is better than I have done in raising sheep in the United States.' That is the best kind of immigration literature you can send out. I immediately had that letter

sent to the United States, and I am going to use it there. The result of this policy will soon make itself known. It is just like advertising any business; tell the people what you have got, and the results will follow. We have been practically only advertising our wares; now the fruits will be shown. These men will write to their friends, and before long, instead of having 40,000 immigrants a year, we should more nearly approach the number of 440,000 who go to the United States annually. At all events, we ought to get into this country 200,000 people a year, and we will eventually, because we have now the right policy. I will just give you a list of the amounts of money which some of these people are bringing in.

Mr. Foster brought in \$30,000. We have also received the following farmers from the State of South Dakota: Johan Benner and family, with a capital of \$10,000; Peter Buller and family, with \$25,000; Johan Boese and family, with \$12,000; Cornelius Bayer and family, with \$2,000; John Keaassen and family, with \$1,000; Johan Goerzca and family, with \$1,500; N. Sfvoble and family, with \$3,000; Peter Paukratz and family, with \$1,000; John Baerg and family, with \$1,000; Isaac Adrian and family, with \$1,200; N. Patzlaff and family, with \$1,000. The Americans almost invariably bring in large sums of money, whereas during the time hon. gentlemen opposite were in power, some of even those few immigrants we got from the United States were the class of people known as professional movers,—a class of people who keep moving about and will not settle down. A story is told of some of them who settled in Red Deer district, that so accustomed were they to move, that their hens and chickens invariably once a year threw themselves on their back to have their legs tied preparatory to moving away.

I will not enlarge further upon this immigration problem, as it will probably be discussed later on. I would like, however, to quote one authority in support of the policy of the government. I think that the hon. gentleman (Mr. Wilson) quoted the report of the Labour Union of the east—men who know as much about the Doukhobors as I do about the Fiji Islanders. But let me quote the report of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, which is composed of about four hundred citizens of Winnipeg, representing not only that city, but the entire Manitoba and the North-west. When you speak of the Board of Trade of Ottawa, you mean a body whose interests are almost exclusively centred in Ottawa, but the Board of Trade of Winnipeg is a body whose interests extend over the west—who are agents of the loan companies and the machinery companies and the other great concerns which have their ramifications all through the Territories. And if you will read the names