

the Maritime Provinces, where I have distinctly said so, because I thought the thing was so important. At the present time Mr. E. W. Beatty, Sir Charles Gordon and the papers are crying out for immigration. Why should we not get immigration? One says that perhaps the tariff is not high enough; another says, "Get the people and the thing will right itself." I was in Canada from 1908 on, steadily. From 1909 to 1913 people poured into this country because it was a better place for them to live in than the places from which they came. In giving evidence before the Dominion Royal Commission, I think in 1912, I said much the same thing. In 1915 I was in a position to analyze the cause of immigration from the Slav countries; they came, as they put it, because they could get 160 acres for \$10. My experience in the last ten years—in the last five years particularly—is this, that people are not coming to this country, or if they are, they are not staying, because relatively it is not a good place for them to be in. That may seem an awful thing to say, and an unpatriotic thing to say. I know we need immigration, but until the labourer can be relieved of the constant fear he is in of actual suffering for himself, his wife and children, we cannot get them to come to this country.

By Miss Macphail:

Q. We do not need any we cannot absorb?—A. I do not think you will get them, whether you need them or not. I have said so time and time again. I have said it five times on platforms in the Maritime Provinces, where the people absolutely approved of it.

By Mr. Ross (Kingston):

Q. Do you say that conditions in Europe are better than they are here now?—A. Well, I said Europe originally, but I am speaking in terms of England; I am an Englishman. They have an unemployment insurance scheme there, and a man says that if he cannot get any work he can at least get relief from unemployment insurance. You have only to go there to realize that whilst conditions are not particularly good you do not get that appalling suffering you get under the climatic conditions we have in Canada.

Q. You said something about your own countrymen; you made some reference to them?—A. Yes, I did. In the early years, about 1908, you got people coming out under assisted passage schemes, people who had been demoralized under the old English Poor Law Act, where the people did not want to help themselves. Those people cannot get into the country now.

Q. Do you see any difference between people of particular nationalities, between the Scotch and the English?—A. I have always thought, but Mr. Bruce Walker used to say not, that the Scotchman was more thrifty and better able to look after himself than the Englishman.

By Mr. Letellier:

Q. What amount do they get from this unemployment insurance, and is it paid weekly or monthly, for those who are out of work?—A. It is paid weekly, I think, although Mr. Woodsworth can tell you better than I can. It is paid weekly; it is enough to live on, not riotously, but people have been known to marry on it. It is 17 shillings a week for a man and 15 shillings for his wife.

Q. Did you say there were 25,000 unemployed in Montreal in the winter time?—A. I said in variations in the peak of unemployment and employment; the number of those employed and those unemployed shows a variation of from 20,000 to 25,000 in those industries.

Q. On what basis does your association help them?—A. You mean, how do we decide whether we will help or not? How do we give assistance?