

complete exclusion of Indians from Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

The question of naturalization was a subject which, of course, had to be discussed by the Imperial Conference. It was discussed in this House during the year 1914, when we passed an Act concurrently with the British Parliament dealing with the actual conditions then existing. I understand that new features have been added to those laws, extending the privileges of British citizenship to people in the United Kingdom and in the Dominions. The conditions arising out of the war will, of course, make necessary some changes. I suppose the same procedure will be repeated; that an Act will be passed by the British Parliament and a similar Act by the Parliament of Canada, both Parliaments exercising their undoubted rights in the matter.

My hon. friend says that one of the questions which came before the Imperial Conference was that of immigration. It is proposed to establish a central bureau in London, or in England at all events, for the purpose of directing the flow of immigration to the Dominions. My hon. friend said that this would be done in conjunction with the Dominion authorities.

Mr. ROWELL: In consultation with the Dominion authorities.

Mr. LEMIEUX: There is no objection to that, provided always that this Dominion at least remains absolute master as to its immigration policy. We have been too ready in the past to receive immigrants even from the United Kingdom. We must select our immigration, and I am pleased to say that the best class of immigration we can get is from the United Kingdom and Scandinavia. We cannot expect immigration to any degree from France or Belgium, but I hope that if good sturdy people from France or Belgium desire to emigrate, the Government will see to it that if acceptable they are directed to Canada. I agree that the bulk of our immigration must come from the British Isles and Scandinavia. We should keep a very careful watch over the tide of immigration. We should not wait until the immigrant has reached our shores, and then return him to Great Britain or Scandinavia, or wherever he came from, but we should have our agents on the other side at the port of embarkation, and the medical examination should be made over there. In years gone by, our medical officers had to meet these immigrants at Montreal and St. John, but more particularly at Quebec and Halifax and they were

subjected to a very hurried examination. The result was that unfortunately a poor class of immigrant was sometimes admitted. I was startled the other day to see the figures of the feeble minded in the province of Manitoba, in a report by one of the officers of the department. This officer singles out the province of Manitoba because statistics recently compiled show that a poor class of immigrant has been shoved off on that province.

I hope the Government, in its new scheme of immigration, and the representatives of Canada at the Imperial Conference, will see to it that our rights are asserted and that a very close medical inspection on the other side of the water forms a distinct feature of our immigration policy.

My hon. friend spoke of the hope expressed at the Imperial Conference as regards cheaper communications between the Mother Country and the Dominions, mentioning specially cable communications and shipping generally. As regards cheap cable rates I am entirely in accord with what my hon. friend stated, and I think the resolution which was adopted at the last Imperial Conference is the same as those which, from time to time during the last twenty years have been adopted at the various meetings of that conference. It is a great pity that we should not have a state-owned cable between the various portions of the Empire. During the war, the censors and the various governments have done their best to prevent us from getting the real news. That, however, is an aside. But I regret that even in normal times the press of Canada should be served with American news. I do not object to the Americans; indeed I am a friend of the Americans; but we belong to the British Empire and I would like to read in my morning and evening newspapers news that is not tainted, and the only way to obtain a satisfactory result in that regard is the control by the British Empire of a cable which would distribute news throughout the Empire, and at a cheap rate. I am not speaking of state-owned cables for the newspapers only, but for the public generally. Cable rates in this country are certainly exorbitant, and my opinion is that the cheaper the rates, the larger will be the revenues of the cable companies. The cable companies, of course, form to-day a formidable trust, and unless the British Government and the Dominion Government unite and get control of a cable, as we obtained control of the Pacific cable, we shall not be able to make any headway