

*Supply—Immigration*

partmental officials. That is all I wish to say at the moment on this question. I wish to protest vigorously against the continued expenditure of the public money on a forced immigration policy. I would not stop people coming here who are physically fit, men and women who are willing to take their chance with the rest; let them come by all means. But keep an effective force for the purpose of carefully checking the health and fitness of these people who propose to come. Do not put too many obstacles in the way of their coming here if they want to come, but do not continue to spend money on deliberately false propoganda that misleads and deceives the unfortunate immigrant and causes him to suffer after he comes to this country.

Mr. VALLANCE: With reference to the question I asked the hon. member for Bow River, I believe it is correct that for every agriculturist with a family that you can place on a farm in any country, you can place in the urban centres an industrialist. As far as the British Isles are concerned, I believe, as the Minister of Railways (Mr. Dunning) said the other day, talking to a gathering of ladies in the Chateau Laurier, that the development of Canada is in the north country. I believe that the greatest development for some considerable period will be that of the agricultural possibilities of the north country, and I believe that the conditions there are such that the British immigrants will not come in and take advantage of them. There is no use in sidestepping that fact. The conditions in the north are such that he will not take advantage of them. So I contend, and I have argued with the Minister of Immigration, that the individual we want in there—and with this I think most of us from western Canada will agree, is the man with the sheep-skin coat. And for every one of them that you put into the north country, you can place a British immigrant in the urban centres, if he wishes to go there. So far as British immigration is concerned, I do not see any good use of bringing these people here, if we only intend to place them in the north country to engage in development work. I was much amused at the illustration given by the hon. member for Bow River about an individual emptying water into a barrel. The only trouble there was that the wrong material was being put into the barrel. It could not contain water, but it might have contained something else. I believe that he

[Mr. E. J. Garland.]

proved that the immigrant we were bringing in was the wrong type of immigrant because he would not stay. What we want is the chap who will stay.

Mr. BROWN: It is certainly not my desire to delay the passing of these estimates, but I cannot allow the remarks made by the hon. member for Bow River to go unchallenged. I am not going to deal with all the subject matter of his speech but I wish to speak particularly of the special class to whom he referred, and that is the Mennonites. Now it so happens that in my constituency I have nearly all, if not all, of the Mennonites in Manitoba—

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): I have three separate colonies in mine.

Mr. BROWN:—and as evidence that they are intelligent people, I may mention that the oftener I run the more Mennonite votes I get. If there is any better proof of their intelligence than that, I do not know where it can be found. The hon. member's statements are entirely too sweeping. There is a class of Mennonites, who, as he says, do not seem willing to assimilate and who have held themselves aloof. Many of those people who refuse to conform to our school laws have migrated to Mexico, but the statement that the Mennonites will not and do not make good settlers is absolutely without foundation. I could take hon. members into Mennonite colonies in southern Manitoba and show them some of the most progressive farmers and the finest type of people in that part of the country. I had the privilege last fall, after the election, of being invited to a school teachers' convention that was conducted almost entirely by Mennonites. It was purely a Mennonite community, and a group of young men school teachers were there who are the hope of Canada. They had ideals of the very highest. Therefore, when these sweeping statements are made, I must protest.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Is it not true that I stated that in the evolutionary process we throw off individuals of the type that the hon. member has just mentioned, but the colony settlement to which I referred still exists?

Mr. BROWN: These people still live in their colonies, and the fact that they have lived there by themselves since the early seventies has in some measure prevented them from assimilating with the rest