

of continentals now being poured on her shores at a rate that must sensibly affect the abundance of her public domain and very seriously influence her future. We should give thanks to God that now that this long-impending flood has broken loose it has come in so mitigated a form. \* \* \* But those who are coming are not all either Doukhobors or Finns, and there is every reason to expect, possibly to dread, a wholesale migration of the semi-civilized peasantries of Poland, Hungary and Russia. \* \* \* The various railways are prepared to handle the traffic, and will convey these people to the west, where, if permitted, they will settle together in large communities. It is of the utmost importance that this last should not occur, as only those who have travelled in the country they come from can tell what it would mean to have a new Galicia in Canada. A railway management, whose talk is being rapidly appreciated by the profits of this traffic, and still more by the increased value it gives to railway lands in the North-west, looks, of course, with the most cheerful optimism of this movement, and assures us that the conditions of life in America will in time turn these people into citizens like ourselves."

That shows that even the papers supporting the present Government see a danger in this tide of immigration which is being induced to flow into this country. I am told by men whom I can trust that these people are wanting in all the principles of loyalty, patriotism, cleanliness—in fact, all the principles that go to fit them for good citizenship. I would ask, have they ever been trained so that we can expect them to accept our laws and usages? Were their ancestors law-abiding people? Have they been loyal to their own king and country? I am afraid that no one can say that they have. Have they been willing to fight for their country and religion? I am told that these Doukhobors maintain, as a principle of their religion, that they will not fight under any consideration, and I am also told, whether true or not—and if not true I know that I shall be set right by hon. gentlemen opposite—that before these men could be induced to come in, the Government had to pass an Order in Council exempting them from military duty. If that was done, it is a disgrace to the Parliament of Canada. I will not say so much of the Doukhobors, but the Galicians live under circumstances that, I think, can hardly be found to exist even among the Chinese. Their manners—so I am told by men who lived close to them for some time—are very little removed from the habits of animals. Again, the Doukhobors have religious scruples against bearing children. They neither bear arms nor children. That is considered to be the highest virtue they can have. They have no idea of what we consider the decencies of home life. The other day, there was an account in the press of one of them in Winnipeg selling his wife to another and thinking nothing of it, not having the slightest notion that it was wrong at all. Then, there have been several brutal murders committed by these Galicians under the most revolting circumstances. Only the other day I read that a woman was tied up

by the hands and feet and almost beaten to death by her husband. I am aware that brutal assaults are sometimes made by white people, but these are exceedingly brutal. These people have never shown themselves in their native country, Russia, to be thrifty and able to make a good living on the lands on which they were established. The lands on which many of them who have come here were settled, are, I am told, even finer than the lands in the North-west Territories, and the climate as good, if not better. Yet with all these advantages, they have been found going off to the cities and turning out anything but desirable citizens. That is my information, whether true or not, but, no doubt, the hon. Minister of the Interior will be able to inform us on this point, as he must have secured a great deal of information concerning them before he allowed them to come into the country. How can we expect Canadians to welcome these people? We have nothing in common with them. They cannot assimilate with us in any way, and the settlers around them say they do not wish their young people to have any communication with them whatever. Are such people likely to make good citizens and contribute to building up the British Empire? If it be true that they will not fight, are they men who, if the time should ever come, as I hope it will not, would be willing to go forth as citizen soldiers and face the enemies of the Empire, as every Anglo-Saxon will be found to do, should the occasion arise. I do not think it is good policy for this Government to fill up the country with these people, simply for the sake of developing it. It would be far better to be less in a hurry, and restrict the influx of indifferent classes of immigration. It would be better in the long run to adopt such a policy than bring in people of a kind detrimental to the welfare of the country at large. I do not think that the Government is doing its duty in bringing in such people. I do not think it is right for them to pay \$5 a head for men and women of this description, and only pay \$1.75 per head for immigrants from the British Isles? The United States has had a good deal of experience in this class of immigration, and I think any man who is well posted on that subject in the neighbouring republic will say, that they want no more of them, because they are a menace to their institutions at present. The Chinese, to my mind, are bad enough, and they should be taxed, as I said before; but I do not think they are one bit worse than the Galicians who are going into the North-west to-day. It is all very well for the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Sifton) to point with pride to the large number of immigrants he has brought in since he took office and to the way he is filling up the North-west and Manitoba. It is all very well for the large railway companies and steamboat companies that carry these people and make so much out of them, to wish