

Today the prairie provinces have great difficulties in providing adequate high schools of the composite type and vocational training. Scattered habitat, small number of people in one area, insufficient local means to secure appropriate facilities for any community effort and the much-needed community centres, contribute much to the unsatisfactory, often drab, life in our rural districts. This in its turn causes young people to leave the farm for the city, and adds to the present problems of our agriculture.

If Canada wishes to become a great nation, not only in terms of material wealth, she will have to keep up the noble values of Western civilization whose guardianship is gradually slipping from the tired hands of Europe. She can only do so if her population is large enough to sustain and give resonance to men and women who devote their genius to the higher values of culture. The United States has already gained a considerable advantage over us in this respect. This is due not only to her larger population, but also to immigration of Old World talent, while Canada's restrictive measures have so far largely excluded a similar influx. We must not complain if our young physicists, artists, writers, and scholars, are continuously drawn to the United States, as long as we do not take the necessary steps to provide for them scope and sustenance in our own country. Again, much depends on our population and immigration policies.

It has been said that Canada has not really gained in population by past immigration movements. It is said that about as many emigrants were lost to the United States as have been gained from overseas. Although this is quite true, there is nothing to prove that Canada would not have suffered the same losses if there had not been any immigration at all. Mr. Mosher and others appearing before this Committee have suggested that European immigrants have proportionately partaken into this exodus to the United States. Where does he get the facts for his contentions?

As far as we are aware, no special study has ever been made on the subject. All we know for sure from an as yet unpublished survey, is that the Mennonites, for instance, who have come to Canada, and their descendants, have shown no tendency to emigrate to the United States. They have rather spread westward and northward into regions as yet uninvaded by Anglo-Saxon Canadians at the time.

Hon. Mr. EULER: And South America, some of them, some of the Mennonites?

Mr. DUBIENSKI: Yes, Honourable senators, I mentioned them because Mr. Mosher cannot prove that the Canadians of Central European stock are drifting out of our border. It is true some of the Mennonites have gone to Peru, Paraguay and Chihuahua, which is a general demonstration of protest to an assumed or imaginable infraction or offence against the promises that they were given in 1872. However, Mr. Mosher, representing organized labour, wishing to argue why immigrants should be restricted, used the argument that we are getting no more in than we are losing to the United States.

Hon. Mr. EULER: Is that true?

Mr. DUBIENSKI: Well, the statistics show that Canada has lost a terrific number.

Hon. Mr. EULER: I know, but I do not think that as many went to the United States from Canada as this country has obtained from other countries.

Mr. DUBIENSKI: I am sorry, sir, but I think the statistics will show that, whereas we got in the last thirty years five million people, these five million have moved to the United States, so that it is a very strikingly large number, and it is an extremely important question that should be studied.

Hon. Mr. HAIG: Just a moment. You would not say that the five million that came was the same five million that went out?