

NEED FOR DOMESTIC HELP

Your committee was advised that many public institutions such as hospitals and homes for aged people and other public institutions are handicapped by a shortage of domestic help. It was stated that in Europe there are numbers of women, experienced in housekeeping, who would be happy indeed were they admitted to Canada to work as domestics in public and private homes.

LABOUR NOT OPPOSED

Organized labour is not opposed to immigration as has been suggested. The Presidents of the Canadian Congress of Labour and the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada both assured your Committee that their great organizations were in favour of immigration provided it did not reduce the Canadian standard of living which they have struggled so long to improve. Labour is definitely opposed to the improper use of immigration to provide a pool of cheap and docile workers, but it will support a selective immigration designed to develop our resources and thus give additional work to our people. Labour is of opinion that Canada should do her share with the other nations of the world to solve the refugee problem, and that we should grant refuge to our full quota of displaced persons, even though it may cost something, so long as it does not adversely effect our living standards.

RAILWAYS

Canada's great railway systems both maintain departments of agriculture and industrial colonization and development. These departments are under the direction of well informed experts in farming and industry whose duty it is to promote enterprise in Canada in every way that is sound and practical. These men have gathered a vast fund of knowledge as to Canada's resources and opportunities for enterprise and they spend their time in energetically bringing together the men and the opening, the demand and the supply. It is to the credit of both the Canadian National Railway and the Canadian Pacific Railway that this work has been maintained courageously throughout even the non-immigration and stagnation years which followed the outbreak of the First Great War. Canada is indebted to its Railways for the active encouragement they have given in the past to immigration and settlement, the founding of new industries, tourist traffic and foreign trade, and for the access which they provide to millions upon millions of used and unused acres. Your Committee is indebted to its Railway witnesses for their informed optimism as to Canada's possibilities, which sums up in the phrase—"the resources are there; the problem is to put them to use."

Ocean steamship companies have co-operated with the Canadian Railways in the past in bringing immigrants to Canada, but shipping losses during the war have been heavy. A representative of the Cunard White Star and Donaldson Atlantic lines expressed to your Committee his company's faith in Canada's resources and her powers of expansion, but stated that ships are costly and that an announcement by the Government of Canada of a long-term immigration policy is necessary to the institution by his company of a shipbuilding program.

The Swedish-American line is now carrying immigrants from Scandinavian countries to the United States by the War famous "Gripsholm" and a sister ship, and a representative of that company assured your Committee that arrangements could be made to have these ships and additional tonnage which is being secured call at Halifax to land immigrants so soon as Canada is prepared to admit them.