

to show the activity in all branches of industry; yet at the slightest reaction the result of it all is gone. Why? Because the people of this country have not had a chance to lay aside a reserve for the hard times that must always follow prosperous days. That is the situation as it strikes me at the present time.

Two explanations have been given, and I will refer to them very briefly. The first is that we have had a short crop in the West. That is true, but the Minister of Commerce has estimated the loss in that respect at \$138,000,000, which is less than seven per cent of the total agricultural production, and less than three and a half per cent of our total agricultural and industrial production for 1929; and to my mind it does not in the least explain the complete change that has taken place in the condition of Canada. What is the second reason given? It is the stock exchange reaction. But everybody knows that that could affect only a small proportion of the population, estimated at three per cent. How could it change in one day a condition of absolute prosperity to one of dullness in business? No, honourable gentlemen, there must be other reasons.

But, alarming as that symptom is, there is a condition very much more serious, and unhappily it always exists: it is the continued and increasing exodus of our population to the United States. Now, honourable gentlemen, I want to deal at once with the answer that is given by the Government in this connection. They say: "Yes, it is true that we have lost a great many of our citizens, but they are trekking back." Did I not hear that statement in this House last year? And has it not been echoed in a certain portion of the press of the country?

I have tried to investigate the return of our Canadians. I wrote to the Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa, asking them to be good enough to give me the figures regarding our compatriots whom we have been losing during the last year; and, not to my surprise, but, I might say, to my great disappointment—for it is not the first time it has happened to me—I was politely referred to the Statistical Department at Washington. It is rather curious that though we have an excellent Bureau of Statistics that carefully records where we send our butter, or wheat, or hams, or bacon, or whatever Canadian agriculture or industry may produce, and though that Bureau keeps track of our goods from the time they leave our shores until they arrive at their destination, yet as to our own people no effort has ever been made to trace those who are lost to us. So I wrote to the Department of Immigration

in Washington in order to obtain their report, and I want to refer my honourable friends on the other side to page 40 of this report. There the number of immigrants from Canada to the States for the year ending June, 1929, is given as 64,440. On the very same page can be found the number of emigrants who have come to Canada, but it is painful to ascertain that out of 30,527 persons leaving for Canada, the number that Canada has reclaimed dwindles down to 2,706. The rest, numbering 27,821, are classified in the report under the term "non-emigrant." That term is defined on page 1 of the report as follows:

The non-emigrant is one who departs after having been admitted temporarily, or a permanent alien resident who departs with the intention of returning to this country.

Of course that is not what we are looking for. The man who departs from the States after having been admitted only temporarily is no loss to Canada; he remains permanently settled in this country. The man who leaves the States temporarily, but returns to live there permanently, is no gain to Canada. The report establishes that out of 30,527 people shown as having returned to Canada, 27,821 are not reclaimed at all; they either have had their domicile in Canada, and continue to have their domicile here, or have had their domicile in the States and continue to have their domicile there. Therefore, of the 64,440 people that we lose, we get back only 2,706. Unfortunately, this is clearly confirmed throughout this report.

If you look at the percentage, given at page 201, of those who leave the States and come back to us permanently, what do you find it to be? For last year it was four per cent of the 64,000. The previous year it was two per cent. What was it the year before? Two per cent. So it is true that when they go they are gone for ever. Tell me, have you ever met a man that came back? I have never in my life—I say it in all sincerity—met a Canadian who settled in the States and came back to Canada. These American statistics constitute the only evidence available. That is the evidence to which we are referred by the authorities here in Ottawa.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I think I can refer my honourable friend to several agents of Canada who would bring him to a number of villages and townships which have been settled exclusively by Canadians returned from the United States.

Hon. Mr. BEAUBIEN: Very good. I am glad that my honourable friend has called my attention to that. That is true, but it only bears out the deplorable conclusion drawn