

the views of certain people on the so called necessary immigration to Canada; we have had the visit of distinguished Lords who came to submit immigration schemes, and on August 30, 1928, in these parliament buildings, the British Parliamentary Association held a meeting where the delegates of all the sister nations were present in numbers. The United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, the Irish Free State, Newfoundland, India, the Island of Malta, Southern Rhodesia and Canada took part in the proceedings. The agenda was as follows:

Trade and economic development particularly from the viewpoint of markets within the empire, and the immigration problem.

As a result of this conference, we may conclude that the majority of these states regretted that they were unable to admit any more immigrants owing to the large number of unemployed in their respective countries. All agreed with the fact that Canada had an immense space to fill up and that Great Britain had a choice in material to send over.

Expressing my own personal views, I put to myself the following question: have we in Canada, at present, and for years to come, a real problem of immigration to solve or inaugurate with whomsoever it may be? According to certain newspapers' reports, 1,500,000 British people without work and unsuited to farming would immediately be dumped into this country, this would simply increase the number of those at present out of work, create a problem of unemployment, cause misery and reduce the wages of our excellent workers or replace them as the thing too often happens. Indeed, we sympathize with those unfortunate unemployed of the motherland, but not to the extent of shouldering their burden. We may thank Lord Lovat for the great interest he takes in the development of Canada, but we would prefer that he exerted his energy in solving the problem of his country, and this on his own soil. We consider it too dangerous to allow waves of immigration like those of 1815 when Great Britain which had thousands and thousands of unemployed soldiers threatening to stir trouble, sent us thousands of them to found a military colony in the neighbourhood of Perth, soldiers with no other training than that of camp life or of factory work in Glasgow's spinning mills. Again, in 1823, to relieve Ireland of its unrest, poverty and misery, the Ramsay district, near Perth was invaded by hundreds of these poor Irishmen; and again in 1825, the district of Peterborough, on the river Trent, admitted thousands of unemployed that the mother country sent. Furthermore, weighing the

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words, I think, of Mr. Chamberlain, addressed to the British Labour party with reference to the approaching general elections, in England, I state that at present Canada does not desire immigrants, with a revolutionary and subversive turn of mind to disturb the peace of this country. Shall we be so unfortunate as to have an immigration problem because our country, of all those that took part in the last war, is recovering more rapidly and marvellously from the disastrous effects of that war? Or will it be because, besides meeting our current expenditure, we are yearly redeeming our debt by 50 to 60 million dollars? Does danger threaten because we are the foremost nation of the world in the production of nickle, asbestos, paper, water-powers and agricultural cooperation? Or because Canada stands foremost as a producer of gold, silver, copper and all metals even coal, or again because statistics place us in the forerank in regard to construction, automobile industry and tourist trade?

Is it a calamity for our people to be assessed by banks at \$225 per capita and that our dollar by its purchasing power is worth more than the par value of all countries in the world? Were we wrong in ranking ourselves the second nation in exports, per capita; are we in danger because out of a total of 15,000,000 h.-p. we develop at present 5,000,000 h.-p., and because prosperity is at its peak in all fields of activity: insurance, banking and industry especially the wheat industry which has given Canada the surname of granary of the Empire?

What in the world is there to induce us to create here a problem of subsidized immigration? I cannot see why we should solve the problems of others at our expense and at the risk of the worst consequences. The problem we have to deal with in Canada is one of moderate and careful settlement, that of stemming the emigration of our people in order to keep up farming activities in those parts already cleared, and then opening new districts giving preference to the native sons of Canada, or later to an immigration of farmers coming from a country where the climate is similar to ours and where the people are accustomed to economic and strenuous farming life.

I shall not refer to the vastness of our country or of our national resources whose development is in its infancy, I shall even acknowledge that agriculture, trade and industry can absorb a certain number of chosen immigrants. However, if the reports of the Labour Gazette on unemployment are consulted, the government will not allow any-