

import of foreign immigrants, carried on at a very high cost for the last fifteen years. A similar effort could be attempted on a smaller scale, in their respective spheres of action, by the governments of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and British Columbia, where vast stretches of land could be opened to settlement.

### Intensive cultivation

The production of vegetables, eggs and poultry could be largely increased in the neighbourhood of large towns. Around Montreal alone, thousands of acres of land laid waste by the real estate craze of late years could be turned back to their previous state of useful production. A similar situation exists, I am sure, around Toronto, Winnipeg and most Canadian cities. The municipal authorities should be legally empowered to take hold temporarily of those lands and induce a good number of unemployed labourers to put them under intensive cultivation. The cost of city life would thereby decrease, and thousands of people be kept in comfort instead of having to seek refuge in the various homes of public charity.

Through all the Eastern provinces, the growing of wheat could also be stimulated and largely increased at very little cost. Wheat production has been gradually abandoned in these provinces. Why? Largely, of course, on account of the fall in prices after the opening of the vast prairies of the West. This will be practically overcome next year by the abnormal rise of prices. The second cause is the exhaustion of those substances in the soil specially needed for the germination of wheat. If a bag or two of good wheat-seed were distributed to the owner of every farm, the soil of which was once capable of wheat growing, with a proportionate quantity of such chemicals as the nature of the soil may demand, it would be comparatively easy to raise in the Eastern provinces of Canada a sufficient quantity of wheat for their own consumption. The consumers of Great Britain France and Belgium could then get the benefit of the whole of our Western crop, which could be nearly doubled.

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