

Supply—Citizenship and Immigration

resources. We, as a nation, cannot indefinitely retain this dog in the manger attitude about our resources.

Someone may say, "Why suddenly this problem? After all, civilizations have been going on for thousands of years. Why, all of a sudden, in the last 50 years or the last 10 years, should a shortage of this world's goods suddenly be created?" The answer is very simple. At the present time the population of the world is increasing at the rate of about 60,000 per day, net increase. In other words, every day we get up it means that the world has to supply the means of livelihood for about 60,000 new people; that is for a net increase of about 60,000.

That situation is created partly by the advances of science in the last number of years. In earlier times populations did not increase rapidly. Owing to plagues, famines and wars, the population of most areas of the globe remained fairly constant or even declined. At the time of the fall of the Roman empire the population of Europe was estimated to be about 100 million. In the 15th century it is estimated that that population had dropped to about two-thirds of that number. That drop, of course, was caused by pestilence, famine and, as I said before, disease.

For instance, during the black death at least a quarter of the population of England died off in one year. During the last century in Ireland alone it is estimated that a million people died of starvation. That happened in the small country of Ireland. In the last 100 years at least 100 million Chinese have died of starvation. A few simple scientific advances have cut down the death rates and the natural forces which kept the human population down. That fact is strikingly illustrated with regard to the British race. I am now quoting from a book called "Human Fertility" by Cook. At page 54 of that book it is stated:

In 1650 there were only six million people living in the British Isles. Today they are represented by a multitude of descendants on every continent . . . In 1950 the descendants of the six million on the British Isles of 1650 showed a twenty-six fold increase, distributed in the following countries;

United Kingdom	50,300,000
Ireland	2,900,000
United States	84,000,000
Canada	7,425,000
Australia	8,000,000
New Zealand	1,000,000
Scattered in Asia, Africa and the islands of the sea	5,000,000
Total	158,625,000

So in that period from 1650 to 1950, which is 300 years, you have a population increasing from 6 million to 158 million as the result of natural causes alone.

[Mr. MacLean (Queens).]

The simple sanitary advances have caused the natural increase in the population to accelerate at a terrific rate. Even if that acceleration did not increase further beyond its present rate, and the current increase of one per cent per year were to continue for only the better part of a century, the numbers would have more than doubled in 75 years. This is the way the world population would multiply in two centuries. In 1950 the world's population was about 2.3 billion. In 70 more years—that is by 2020—the population will have doubled to 4.6 billion, and so on. So in 200 years from now the population of the world, at its present rate of increase, will have reached over 18 billion.

We should therefore recognize that there are, in the other parts of the world, large and increasing pressures of populations demanding living room or living space. I think it is childish for us to expect that we with our meagre population, can hold out against that pressure for any length of time.

As I say, Mr. Chairman, I do not look on this problem of immigration as merely a national or an international one. It is a world problem that must be tackled with courage of a high level. The amount of productive land in the world is small. The hardships and privations which are caused by the lack of food and living room are greatly accentuated if the populations, as they exist, are not reasonably evenly distributed over the productive areas of the world. For instance, in the case of China it has been estimated that 100 million Chinese have died of starvation during the past century. There is little likelihood that we have seen the end of famines. China possesses less than one-half acre of arable land per person. That briefly is the situation in the more densely populated parts of the world.

As I said, of course, this becomes a multi-lateral problem, a problem which must be tackled by this nation on the one hand and the other possible sources of immigration on the other. It is all very well for a person to point out the difficulties and not suggest any cure. I am not going to suggest that I know the answer, or anything of that sort. But I am justified in pointing out the problem and perhaps making some suggestions which might be used as a point from which we should do some thinking.

This is not a problem which concerns Canada and any other single country. I should like to take as an illustration the problem as it exists between Canada on the one hand and the United Kingdom on the other, merely as an example. I am not suggesting that the United Kingdom is the only suitable source of immigrants, but I should like to take