

at its heart it would seem that the balance between this country and Europe might be helped by the immigration of a limited number of artisans or general workmen. There are too many there and not enough here.

Canada's Fisheries

THE first natural resource discovered by the pioneer explorers of Canada was the wealth of the waters. The early French navigators caught fish in the Bay of Fundy and the St. Lawrence River, and from that day till this the fisheries have been one of our greatest national assets. A great industry has grown from a modest beginning, and at the present time the fisheries of Canada represent a total production of over \$25,000,000. The capital invested is \$12,000,000, and the industry gives employment to 15,000 men. Proportions such as these belong only to great concerns.

Canada's facilities for a successful fishing industry are the best in the world. The eastern coast line covers a distance of 5,600 miles, and the western 7,180 miles, while the Great Lakes represent an area of 72,000 square miles. In all these waters there is a plentiful supply of the finest fish, in a great variety of species. The cod-fish of the Atlantic coast and the salmon of the Pacific have made Canada famous as a fishing ground the world over.

The fishery yield of 1901 was the largest in the history of Canada. For the last fiscal year it was somewhat smaller, one cause of which was a falling-off in the salmon catch in British Columbia. The decline in the herring fisheries of the Bay of Fundy is to be investigated by a Government commission.

The Economic Cost of Disease

THE danger to a nation from the presence of a widely-spread disease among its population can hardly be com-

puted. Its seriousness is more fully realized if it takes the form of a sudden scourge, yet the slower-acting diseases to which we have become somewhat accustomed work almost equal havoc in the course of a year or so. Considerable attention has of late been paid to the prevalence of tuberculosis in this country, and preventive measures are being discussed by medical men and legislators. What this danger means to Canada may be gathered from the fact that 8,000 lives are yearly sacrificed to it, while an eminent physician estimates that fully 40,000 persons become infected each year.

Putting the loss to the nation from this cause in purely economic terms, Canada loses annually about \$48,000,000, the average value of a human life at its most productive period being estimated at \$6,000. The loss through the invalidation of 40,000 annually means an additional \$24,000,000, bringing the total economic loss each year to the enormous amount of \$72,000,000. This loss, it is claimed, can be prevented by proper measures. Dr. A. J. Richer, of Montreal, a physician who has given the matter great attention, asks if the Federal Government would not expend almost any sum in the interests of the Canadian wheat-growing industry should that industry be threatened by hail-storms or other injury; and if \$72,000,000 in human value is not as well worthy of consideration as \$25,000,000 in grain value. Yet very little is being done by way of remedy. Only thirteen of the thirty-six hospitals in Canada have accommodation for tuberculous patients, and consumptives are refused admittance into the other twenty-three institutions. It is generally admitted today that tuberculosis is curable if treated in time, and the situation can be very materially improved if public opinion can be directed so that the Governments, both Federal and Provincial, shall require every state-aided hospital to provide treat-