

ed as to the number of immigrants brought into Western Canada as we are with the all-important question of what has become of them? How many are producers on farms and how many consumers and unemployed in the cities?

R. D. WAUGH,
Mayor of Winnipeg."

This letter of Mr. Waugh's is transcribed in full for several reasons. First of all, it has to do

and its utilization, and the answer to Mr. Waugh's question is that the great railway corporations having elected to go in for construction work far in excess of the needs of the unsettled country, lured thousands of men to come westwards who were left with nothing in sight when the railway boom came to a sudden termination. These men were dumped in the cities, and recently we have had them par-

migrant is expected to invest on his holding.

A little more than three years ago a great missionary movement with its slogan "A Million for Manitoba" was organized in that province, chiefly in Winnipeg, and pushed ahead for a brief space, but in the end it came to little or nothing. It was largely engineered by some advertising men, and probably it never extended very far beyond the advertising stage.

Now mere "advertising," however costly, will never effect the settlement of the land on a satisfactory basis. Canada has been over-advertised on one side, and much of that one-sided advertising has given her the blackest eye she has ever received as the result of any blow aimed at her real interests.

This advertising has largely emanated from men whose interest is entirely the pecuniary one of having land to sell, but a vast amount of government publicity literature has been of a kind calculated (we will say unintentionally) to mislead the intending immigrant.

When the "Million for Manitoba" scheme was in full swing, an editorial appeared in this paper in which certain types of these men who had been misled were referred to, and the case was put for the intending settler in the light of the experiences of these men who had been lured from their life's anchorage to come to Western Canada. What has happened in the three years

the dollars it will bring in, said enterprise or corporation.

We have on record many examples of efforts of this kind, bringing people out from the cities with all sorts of easy-going on-crop results bait dangling before their eyes, but it is unprofitable for our present purposes to dwell on these sorry details.

It will take some time and more of something else besides a great deal of the dispendence that has been occasioned by the suspicion that still exists as a result of these mistaken advertising and therefore abortive schemes in immigration, but it must be done, and there will be no other like the present moment for getting in to solve it.

The men we want are those thousands of fine fellows who are sweating out their lives on the country farms for a livelihood.

What can these men have in common compared with what the same intelligent industry can produce in Manitoba. They have drunk the spirit of selfishness from their mother's milk. They are seeking help but merely an opportunity to help themselves, an assurance that they are not being victimised by land speculators as they set foot in the country.

Here is the case of an agricultural laborer possessed of an industrious wife and four healthy children evenly mixed. He has spent all his days on the farm, and is for one of the most intelligent successful mixed farmers in Wiltshire. His savings are



Great men are wasted on primitive methods. What a chance for Canada with a few thousands of these lusty, sober-living toilers!

with what is, next to the war, the most vital question affecting the domestic life of Canada at the present moment. Secondly, it is a strong, sincere and intensely earnest desire to get at the root of a long-established evil which has grown out of a mistaken immigration policy. Thirdly, it is a real "human document," of real national significance as distinguished from the mass of recent immigration literature which bears on the face of it the underlining of political gag or the purely self-seeking interest of the land speculator.

Taking a retrospect of the past ten years, and having regard to the extraordinary, if not matchless, opportunity Canada does offer to agricultural development, it can never be alleged that the immigration results covering that period (not in numbers, but in character) have been a success. We have courted failure in many directions. In certain respects the indiscriminate features of much that has been done speak most pungently to the fact that "someone has blundered."

The fact is that the conduct of this great national interest has been from the first at the mercy of one political party or another. There has been no National Party to lift it out of the weltering mess of politics. An able writer has well said that "Canada is cursed with too many busy-body little ministers, just like all their predecessors, who chase all up and down the country looking after their little jobs that make votes and the little organizations that manufacture votes.

Canada's first care is her land

adding the streets in thousands; one day in Winnipeg there could not have been less than eight thousand on the march from their rendezvous past the city hall to the government buildings.

That the great bulk of these men were not English speaking men, and quite a number of them recent importations from Germany and Austria, does not affect the point at issue. Had there been no war, the sorry sight would still have remained to vex us. They were lured to come to handle probably the only kind of work they are fit for by certain men who have no further use for them, and could not make any legitimate use of their services for a long time to come.

That in the ten years covered by the census, our rural population increased only 17 per cent is sufficient evidence that the tide of immigration is not flowing on to the land; and this is a country in which only one-third of the land fit for cultivation is occupied!

The question of settling people on this land must be lifted entirely from the realm of party politics; it must be approached from the national standpoint, for the country's development is built upon its natural resources of which agriculture is and will be the all-important one.

To secure immigration is important, to direct it into proper channels in this country is of much greater importance, and let it never be forgotten that the tide cannot permanently be set in the direction of the land unless agriculture offers a sufficient reward for the capital and labor the im-



"Contented w/ little."—He will fight his way to an honest competence by industry and thrift.

since that article was written has justified its strictures in an almost tragic manner.

No inducement or missionary enterprise is needed to bring artisans and shopkeepers to swell the population of the cities, but the business of securing the right type of men and women to handle the millions of unoccupied areas is one that may not safely be left to any private enterprise or corporation whose chief concern is

more than sufficient to bring himself and his little crowd to Canada and leave him when he lands at Winnipeg, with some \$800 or \$900.

To whom can that man look not merely for "advice," but for real assurance as to the maintenance of his family while he is waiting for the first fruits of his soil on the virgin soil? He wants to fairly and squarely earn every dollar, he will accept no "char-

not even a first-story settler, he while he is out and doing what he is getting at by urging men of and take a hard

The man will comparatively take care of his to get the high quantity to industry, we must be referred to the experience, from brilliant records in the North (particularly this) whose acquire cultivate—who courage at any problem of one dependence.

We have persons many such capabilities without families what we have who are held a sentence for and be blamed. department has the victims in the past something take up the case of the immigration left the immigrant

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