

Mr. OLIVER. Owing to the conditions and circumstances I have mentioned it was not possible, at a certain time, to secure immigrants from Britain, and there were better opportunities in continental Europe owing to the pressure of population there. Those conditions however have changed very largely owing no doubt to the immigration propaganda the government have kept up in the mother country, so that to-day we find in Great Britain the most favourable field for immigration, and therefore we are justified in using our best endeavours to secure that immigration. We cannot and do not want to cover the whole world. Our favourable attention being particularly attracted to Great Britain it must be to some extent drawn away from other countries.

As regards the general question, I think I have shown that bonuses are not being paid on the principle my hon. friend supposes. They are being paid with the view of securing a selected, and not an indiscriminate immigration, and so as to give us the best results for our money.

As to the discrimination which my hon. friend alleges is exercised against eastern Canada in favour of the west by directing the flow of immigration to the west; in one breath the hon. gentleman decries the immigration policy of the government and in the next he complains that the flow of immigration is not directed to eastern Canada. In the one breath he complains that we are bringing out immigrants who would swamp our present population, and then he complains that we are not so directing them as to swamp eastern Canada in particular. But, Sir, the whole purpose of our immigration policy was to secure development of the great productive areas of the west. That was the policy and purpose of the fathers of confederation. Any one who understands the requirements of our country, will understand that the filling up and development of the western country cannot fail to increase the prosperity of the east. My hon. friend has made a speech which, in my opinion, was most discreditable, because it was a deliberate attempt to set section against section and excite race against race, if you like, and creed against creed.

Mr. BOURASSA. If you like.

Mr. ARMAND LAVERGNE. How does it compare in that respect with the policy of the government?

Mr. OLIVER. I say that the people of the province of Quebec are just as much interested in the development of the natural resources of the Northwest as any other people in any other section of Canada.

Mr. ARMAND LAVERGNE. Hear, hear.

Mr. OLIVER. And the policy of developing the Northwest is one of the many

features of the immigration policy which my hon. friend has decried.

Mr. ARMAND LAVERGNE. In my language I was not nearly so violent as the hon. Minister was before he was a minister.

Mr. BENNETT. Tell us about the Gallicians.

Mr. OLIVER. The hon. gentleman has said that before, and I asked him to turn up the 'Hansard' and furnish proof in support of that assertion. He did not see fit to do that, but at any rate whether I was wrong or right years ago does not make him right to-day when he is wrong. It is a number of years since the statements were made which my hon. friend attributes to me, and I cannot now recall all of them; but so far as I have had the opportunity of looking over them in 'Hansard,' I think they were good statements.

Mr. ARMAND LAVERGNE. Hear, hear.

Mr. OLIVER. And they are just as good to-day as they were then.

Mr. ARMAND LAVERGNE. Hear, hear.

Mr. OLIVER. If the hon. gentleman will read them, he will gratify me exceedingly. I have nothing to take back as regards any statements I may have made concerning the question of immigration, and to-day the principles I formerly enunciated are being carried out. I was about to say that if there is any part of the Dominion of Canada that is interested in the development of the Northwest it is the province of Quebec. To what end are the ports of the province of Quebec, to what end are the industries of the province of Quebec, to what end does Quebec exist, except it shall have something behind it to support it and make it great? Quebec has always been interested in the Northwest. Quebec's explorers were the men who discovered the Northwest and why should Quebec's representatives in the House decry the policy which develops the Northwest and makes Quebec something more than it would ever be without developing the west, realizing the great dream of great men—it is a pity they are not succeeded to-day by my hon. friend.

The necessity of immigration, if we are going to develop this country within a reasonable time, goes without saying. It also goes without saying that any system of immigration may very easily be made the subject of criticism. As I said in the beginning of my remarks, what may be a good and wise policy to-day may, by reason of a change in conditions, be an unwise policy to-morrow. Because the policy of to-day is not in all its details the same as the policy of yesterday, because the policy of to-morrow may still differ in some details, does not show in any degree that the policy of yesterday, of to-day or of