

Sixty per cent. of the farmers and farm workers in Canada came from Europe during the past twenty years, and 90 per cent. of the labour to build Canadian railways came from the European Continent. These figures are sufficient to give Canadians much thought.

#### **The Improved Quality of the British Settler.**

Because the quality of the British emigrant has so much improved, the conditions of travel by sea should be as generous as possible. It might be well if sympathetic and skilled advisers travelled the ocean with them. So many leave these shores with nothing more than a cursory idea of what is in front of them. They are great venturesome souls, like those who generations ago made Canada what she is to-day. They need sympathetic guiding, at least as much as a Canadian would need were he leaving Canada to make a home for himself in some other land.

Conditions of railway travel in Canada are not always what one would like them to be, and have not kept pace with the improved character of the people, whose finances oblige them to use the cheapest class of travel. There ought to be a porter in charge of every colonist car, because on such a journey the qualities of human nature are seen in full play. One sees the advantage attaching to any special coach under the control of such an official. Would it be too great a strain on the financial fabric to provide something that would tend to relieve the long journeys of tired, and perhaps dirty, immigrants? Those who fail to appreciate this point should spend two or three nights in a colonist car and they would realise it was a poor sort of introduction for those we invited to come to Canada.

#### **A Trump Card.**

The system of giving free land in Canada was a trump card with the land hungry. It is possible to get free land to-day, but it is mostly some distance from a railway track. The policy of building gigantic lines of railway resulted in wide-spread and sparse settlements. That system has not proved the best, nor did the system of homesteading, which never provided for social intercourse and close settlement of the agricultural classes.

Instead of wonderful and long lines of railway, many branches were needed, and very many of them are needed to-day. If that policy had been adopted, one-half the great West would now have been closely settled, and the other half yet available for new people. The principle of obliging each settler to live miles away from his fellow on his own homestead, instead of giving each settler a couple of acres for his home at the cross roads in each township, has always been a mistake. The rectification of that error would remove a prolific cause of terrible isolation and lack of community