

Alabama imported canned goods and other food supplies from California and elsewhere to the value of \$110,000,000. In less than a quarter of a century the total assessment of North Carolina has increased from \$1,000,000,000 to \$4,000,000,000. In other States of the South there have been material accretions of wealth and prosperity. So one believes that the Western Provinces of Canada cannot have their full measure of prosperity until they develop industries naturally related to their resources or such as supply the needs and demands of an agricultural population. In no other way can they provide satisfactory local markets, escape the heavy freight charges for carriage of goods from remote industrial centres and retain in their own country the sons of farmers and townspeople who cannot be persuaded to follow agricultural pursuits. Evidence that this view begins to prevail in the West is afforded by the organization of Industrial Committees in the Legislatures of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta and by the activities of the Alberta Industrial Association. Nothing is more impossible and impracticable than to force upon the land those who have no inclination for farming and only need to cross the international boundary in order to find any variety of employment and every opportunity for the exercise of their talent and the gratification of their ambition. I firmly believe that if the factories of Woodstock and Ingersoll did not exist the farmers of Oxford could afford to tax themselves directly in order to create such factories and thereby provide local markets and maintain land values. We may deplore "rural depopulation," but who believes that Oxford would have its present population if we had failed to encourage manufacturing in Canada and so fashioned public policy as to maintain this as a strictly pastoral country? I believe that if a policy directly inimical to industry

were adopted in this country a few years of practical experience would demonstrate the force of these arguments. I am old enough to remember the Great Exodus, which carried every member of our family except myself to the United States and when there was scarcely a household in Huron which was not depleted by the movement across the border. And they fled from low tariff to high tariff. I recall a verse by Miss Machar:—

Out from our bounds they're going,
scores, hundreds, day by day,
O'er country roads and city streets
they take their lingering way;
They wave their hands and smile
goodbye, the gallant boys and true,
The lads that love the dear old flag
at least as well as you.

AIDS TO AGRICULTURE

One does not deny that scarcity and cost of farm labor constitute a supreme problem in agriculture. But it is impossible to believe that a national policy which would create depression in the towns and cities would materially increase the supply of farm labor or enhance the prosperity of the farming communities. The solution lies in a change of social temper and individual outlook. The change must affect other countries as well as Canada, and particularly, it must affect the country to the south of us, which has an avaricious maw for Canadian raw material, for the best product of Canadian colleges and universities, and for the incorporation in its civil and industrial activities of a people distinguished as Canadians are for industry and efficiency. If you go to any of the great centres of the United States you will find Canadians in positions of influence, authority and responsibility, out of all proportion to their numerical representation in the population. For many years the drain from this country was so great that it was almost mortal. If we are to create a powerful nation in British