

less sympathy, could well have a colder nature than is shown by these words from the hon. gentleman's speech :

But we have no sympathy with the right hon. gentleman who leads this government—your sins are now coming home to you with just retribution. . . . If to-night, these apples of Hesperides in your mouth become ashes—and bitter ashes—we don't sympathize with you; not one little bit.

You could hardly imagine such words as these coming from any other hon. gentleman in the House. Coming to the resolution itself, there is only one clause that I will attempt to deal with. It is this :

That the engagements thus undertaken cover a possible period of nearly thirteen years, and involve the payment by the country of about one million dollars, without any reasonable compensating advantages.

Now, I do not see how the hon. gentleman can find any such results from this contract with the North Atlantic Trading Company, when we only pay on what we get. We are not giving thousands of dollars of money away to pay the company's expenses, as was done by the late government in connection with these colonization companies I have just mentioned. We are not paying anything except on the immigrants we get, and I cannot conceive how any hon. gentleman can get up and interpret the terms of that arrangement as the hon. member for North Toronto does.

That the conditions of the contract are injurious, improvident and absurd.

Well, now, we will admit that this contract, according to the hon. gentleman's own interpretation, covers a term of thirteen years, and that it involves an expenditure of a million dollars. Nevertheless, I think this contract should be continued. I understand the Minister of the Interior is about to cancel it, but if it should be cancelled, some other like arrangement must be entered into. This country will not stand for such a policy as is proposed by our friends of the opposition, a policy of inactivity, letting people come if they will. That policy will not satisfy the people of this country at the present time. We all know that the future of this country depends on the settlement of the great west. We all know that at the present time there are only about five million acres of land under cultivation, and we have possibly 175,000,000 acres of land to be put under cultivation before that country is fairly well developed. Now, I say that in view of the expectations of the western people, in view of the expectations of the eastern people, in view of the expectations of the manufacturers of Canada, that policy of inactivity must not be allowed for one minute. We have got to continue a vigorous immigration policy, whether with the North Atlantic Trading Company or

with some other company. We must continue a vigorous immigration policy, and if we do not pay any more than we have been paying to that navigation company, and we can fill this western country on those terms, \$5 a head, it is up to us to do it.

Now what does the expenditure of \$1,000,000 mean to this country on the terms that we are paying it to that company? A million dollars spent on immigrants at \$5 a head practically means that we will get a quarter of a million immigrants, as many people as would settle one of the western provinces, as they are populated at the present time—250,000 people secured at the expenditure of a million dollars, without any other expenditure whatever except in taking care of the immigrants after they arrive here. Now that will practically mean another province settled at the expense of a million dollars. What would it mean to the revenue and business of this country to have 250,000 more people settled here than we have now? It would mean that we would secure one more inhabitant for every twenty-two that we have at the present time, we would increase our population by about four and a half per cent. If we got 250,000 agriculturists, as they must be under this arrangement, it will mean that we would secure for that western country 50,000 more farmers. Now, those 50,000 farmers, very soon after they got into that country, would bring under cultivation at least 40 acres each, and that 40 acres would possibly produce 1,000 bushels of grain. Now if each settler were to produce 1,000 bushels of grain it would increase the production of that western country to the extent of some 50,000,000 bushels a year. Now, 50,000,000 bushels per year, and produced year after year, at 70 cents a bushel, would be worth to the people of this country the sum of \$35,000,000—\$35,000,000 yearly for the expenditure of \$1,000,000 in thirteen years. Our total revenue to-day is about \$75,000,000. If we increased our population by 250,000, adding four and a half per cent to our present population, they would increase the revenue in one year by some \$3,375,000. This increase would not be for one year only, but for all time to come. Now can we afford to drop a policy of that kind, to quit the business, when we have such a tremendous extent of country in the west to fill up? Unless we go on and fill up that country we cannot meet the expectations of the people of Canada. We in western constituencies expect that this immigration policy will be continued. It is the life of the whole country. The manufacturers of eastern Canada would naturally expect to sell to those 50,000 farmers after they had been here two or three years, 50,000 ploughs and harrows, 50,000 binders, 50,000 mowers, 50,000 rakes and 50,000 each of many other things, in addition to the millions of dollars worth of supplies that these people are going to pur-