

this country who are looking for foreign trade to bring over some of these key, skilled men from the old land? Look at what was done by Timothy Eaton and the founders of the Simpson firm, who were pioneers in bringing such people to Canada. Look at the heads of the departments of these stores; you will find that many of them were skilled men in the old land from Belfast and Glasgow and England, who were brought out to work in these department stores and eventually became heads of departments and branches. That was done under the late Timothy Eaton; it was done by Charlie Burton of Simpson's and by the heads of other companies. Of course Eaton's and Simpson's are not the only department stores; there are many others in our cities and towns, large and small; but they grabbed hold of these key Belfast and Scotch and English skilled men and brought them to this country. The present heads of some of these departments even to-day are the children of men who were brought out to work years ago in these large stores.

I do plead with the government that something national be done along these lines. I think we might have some form of assisted passage for people like that who are badly needed in various industries in this country. I believe British immigration should come first, then immigration within the empire. Then we have a large number of applications coming from the United States and from our allies on the continent of Europe. We should not bring refugees to this country, who are likely to become charges on the municipalities, as was the case after the last war. I was the head of a municipality at that time, and I can tell you that between 1918 and 1921 many people came to this country to work in such industries as logging, mining and lumbering. But where did they go in the winter time? Do you think they would stay away up in the north country with the temperature fifty or sixty below zero? No; they headed for the cities and towns of Ontario and Quebec. Some did not have any relatives; they spent the few dollars they had and some became charges on the municipalities, while some had to go on relief. We do not want conditions like that again, but we may have them because, no matter how carefully the department may draft the regulations, they can at times by some be beaten nine times out of ten by people who are in the know.

So I believe the time has come when the government should not be afraid to tell the people of Canada and of the empire what their policy is. Are we to forget all about these people who saved our shores, who looked after us and looked after our own kith and

kin who were over there for four, five or six years during the war? I would not want to see unrestricted immigration into this country such as we had after the last war, when we had a million and a quarter people unemployed many of whom had to go to the United States to look for jobs, including soldiers who had fought in our forces for the safety of Canada. I would not want to see that happen again; but if you examine the university lists next May and June, when the students are graduating, you will find many coming from the schools of science, medicine, nursing, chemistry, biochemistry, physics and so on, who intend to go to the United States to look for positions, because they believe there is a better chance with less taxation for young people in that country.

It is the duty of an opposition, I believe, to encourage the government as far as possible if they find that the policy put forward by the government is right, but I believe this piecemeal plan is all wrong. We have as yet no forward-looking, national well thought out policy in connection with immigration. We are making the very same mistake that was made after the first great war. I urge upon the government that some action be taken immediately to let us know the policy of the government, so that people in the mother country will not be making application to come here when there is no possibility of their applications being accepted.

Sections 2 and 4 of the bill have to do with the Chinese Immigration Act. Notwithstanding what I have said, the government has decided on the repeal of this legislation. I sympathize with the people of British Columbia in the position in which they found themselves when this war began, with the whole coast from Vancouver and Victoria right up to the Queen Charlotte islands, 680 miles, totally unprotected and open to invasion. However, I hope the government will take advantage of this opportunity to formulate a national immigration policy. What is laid down in this bill is no policy at all; it is far from being a policy. It will not solve the immigration problem. It will not mean much more labour for the industries named, and it is no way to show our proper appreciation to the old land which has done so much for this country.

Consider the vast sums of money British capitalists have invested in this country. Why, the Rideau canal near the Chateau Laurier was built by the British government as a back door into lake Ontario after the war of 1812, and they built many other public works and railways and canals. So before the end of this session, whenever that may be, I think