

no objection to these people on the ground of their religion, for I am absolutely tolerant of all forms of belief. I am not worried about that. I do say however that the minister is not justified in issuing permits to the Canadian Pacific Railway to bring in large numbers of unassimilable people.

Mr. ROSS (Kingston): How many of them have moved away?

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): A small section, not a material number. In my own province their colonies have been steadily growing. They are spreading out and their holdings this year are larger than they have been within my memory.

Mr. ROSS (Kingston): I understood that many thousands had moved to Mexico, taking with them some \$7,000,000.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Some of them went away, but I do not remember the exact number. The minister would be well advised to give this matter his serious consideration. Mr. Coats, a man for whom I have the deepest admiration and respect, a few years ago wrote an article for the Polak Institution of the United States, the most advanced scientific research organization on the North American continent. The article appeared under the title Immigration Programme of Canada, and in it Mr. Coats pointed out clearly as no other writer on the subject has done, that the reason for the tremendous influx of settlers into Canada in the early years of the century was to be found in the enormous expansion of credit and in the existence of free lands.

Mr. BENNETT: And railway construction.

Mr. GARLAND (Bow River): Exactly. There has been in recent years no such expansion of credit. I admit that this year there is an indication that credit is loosening up, and the minister may find it not so difficult to place men satisfactorily as the department has done in the past. A reference to the figures of the Immigration department will convince one of the insanity of a vast immigration scheme until we have learned how to keep at home the people we already have. I have a return from the Bureau of Statistics covering recent years. The facts regarding the more distant past are already on Hansard but it will be interesting to look at the figures more recently available. In 1924 we brought to Canada 124,450 immigrants. Our natural increase was 91,398. In 1925 we brought 84,907 and our natural increase was 88,384. By natural increase is meant the net of those

who live over those who die. In 1926 the figures for the eleven months from January to November are 130,569 while the natural increase is estimated at 89,000. So that in three years we brought in 339,926 immigrants, and the natural increase amounted to 268,782. At the end of 1923 the total population of Canada was 9,150,940. Add to that the immigration for three years of 339,926 and the natural increase of 268,782 and you have a grand total, showing what we should have had if we kept our immigrants and our natural increase, of 9,759,648. But the census bureau reports an actual population of 9,390,300, and we therefore must find out what happened to 369,348 people. While our total immigration was 339,926, the actual statistics prove that we lost a number equivalent to all we brought in and 29,422 in addition.

There is a story I would like to tell which some hon. members may have heard before. Many years ago in the medical profession there was a method of testing the sanity of a person whose mental balance was questioned. If a policeman arrested a man on the street and suspected him of being in an unsafe condition, he would be taken to the police station and a local medical man called in. The medical officer would take this poor chap into the yard at the back of the station and show him a wooden barrel which had a lot of little holes punched around the bottom, and he would tell the man to take a pail and fill up the barrel from a tub of water in the yard. If the man kept walking patiently to and fro from the barrel to the tub with pailfuls of water, without paying attention to the fact that the water was running out, he would be put away where he would be safe; if he protested against this labour he was adjudged sane, and released. If that proof of sanity were applied to the policy of the Department of Immigration, undoubtedly the judgment would be that the policy in the past has been an insane one, because we are not learning how to keep our people in the country; we do not seem to be able to keep either the immigrants or the natural increase here. Under these conditions may I point out just one fact at the moment. There is not to my knowledge, and I challenge the minister to indicate where there is, one single industry in Canada suffering from lack of labour, nor is there a locality suffering from the same thing; as a matter of fact, the contrary is the case. As the hon. member for Comox-Alberni (Mr. Neill) indicated, the cities on the Pacific coast, the cities of eastern Canada and even those of the prairie provinces are today carrying large numbers of unemployed,