

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Why does my hon. friend discriminate? What about his own leader and the leader of the opposition?

Mr. LUCHKOVICH: I will apply it to the leader of the opposition, and suggest that he stop opposing and start proposing, with a view to changing not only his own personal status but that of his party as well; and I would also suggest to the leader of the Progressive group to stop baking biscuits that taste like shrapnel and preserve the health and integrity of this group by eating food such as only a Czechoslovakian wife can cook. To crown the whole thing I would suggest that Bishop Lloyd of Saskatchewan marry all these people off, and that all the Ku Kluxers, Orangemen and Knights of Columbus be allowed to attend the ceremony, as well as the subsequent festivities.

Some hon. MEMBERS: Carried.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: It seems most unfortunate that there has been practically no opportunity this entire session of discussing matters of this kind which are of the utmost importance to Canada. It is only upon the estimates that we have really an opportunity of reviewing the policies of the government. I had placed on the order paper a resolution upon the discussion of which I do not intend to enter, but which I should like to pass on as a suggestion to the government. This resolution was not reached. It read:

That in the opinion of this house the Department of Immigration and Colonization should be abolished, and that the administration of the Immigration Act should be placed under the Department of Labour and the work of colonization left to the provincial governments.

I suggest that the department should be abolished. Apparently the government has partly anticipated this resolution in that no successor to the former minister has been appointed, and we are told there is to be a less vigorous policy. However, I should think that now that the natural resources have passed into the hands of the three western provinces, where in the past, immigration has been considered most necessary, it would be a very good time for the transference of the whole of the colonization end of the department to those provinces. The provincial authorities there, working in cooperation with the municipalities, it would seem to me are the best agencies for carrying on work of this character. I do not believe that colonization work should be carried on from the city of Ottawa now that the natural resources are in the hands of those provinces. The Soldier

Settlement Board, which has been doing good work along this line, will I fancy have to be completely reorganized. This then is the time for that whole section of the department to be transferred to the prairie provinces.

Further with regard to immigration, I believe it would be a very great advantage indeed if we could closely correlate the Department of Immigration and the Department of Labour. In the United States, as hon. members are aware, immigration comes under the department of labour. That seems to be the natural place for it, because in the settlement of a country the number of new people introduced ought to a very considerable extent to depend upon the state of the labour market—the demands for workers. If that principle were rigidly adhered to we would not have a recurrence of the troubles with which we have been afflicted in the past. An increasingly large number of citizens are beginning to question the theory that “the more people the more prosperity.” Immigration may indeed mean prosperity for the railroads, because not only do they participate in the general welfare by increased traffic, but they are very large employers of labour, and there is no doubt that they have been the principal beneficiaries of vigorous immigration policies of the past. I am glad to know that the immigration agreement with the railway companies has been terminated, and I hope it will never again be renewed in any way, shape or form. The Dominion government ought to be the only authority to decide who shall come to this country. They ought to stand at the gate. I hope that no private organization of any kind will be permitted to decide who are to become the future citizens of this country.

I have a number of other matters that I should like to bring before the house, but as we are all anxious to get away I must deal with them on another occasion. I have scores and scores of letters before me which I should like to have read showing the extreme difficulties under which a large number of our immigrants are labouring, and the equally grave difficulties that are being experienced by people who to-day are out of work in part at least, because of the introduction of so many immigrants. There is not the slightest doubt that a great deal of our unemployment is due to the fact that many of our own people have been supplanted in their jobs by newly-arrived immigrants. Only the other day the minister himself in dealing with unemployment in Winnipeg said that before long some of the new arrivals in Winnipeg would be despatched up the Hudson Bay line to Le Pas. Already at Le Pas, returned men and