

a good citizen, but the Doukhobor or Galician, who leaves a country like Austria or Russia, for the purpose of escaping imprisonment and being permitted to worship God as his conscience dictates, is the kind of citizen we want here. We can very well understand that men who are settled in the North-west may not like these people, but we are not to be the final judges after all of our surroundings. I submit there is not a gentleman in Ottawa, who has a fine residence, who would not much prefer that the small buildings which obstruct his view, and out of which the citizens go to work every morning, were taken away. No doubt he would like to see his property surrounded with fine buildings and splendid approaches, but if he is a good citizen he will admit that the poorer man is necessary, because he does honest work, and although he may not have the revenues of his rich neighbour does equally important work. Well, in this country, with its millions and millions of acres, are you to be afraid of a few Galicians or Doukhobors? Is our civilization so effete that it cannot make good citizens out of them? If we bring only in to this country those who enjoy all the advancement in civilization and religious training and everything that makes a gentleman and a scholar, we will never settle this country. It is because I believe in Canadian civilization that I do not fear a few Doukhobors or Galicians. There are millions of acres in the west waiting cultivation, and I care not whether our settlers be Doukhobors, Galicians or Chinamen, provided they are good citizens and keep our laws and pay their debts, and live honestly. Any man who tills the soil will eventually make a good citizen. The trouble with Canada so far is the lack of population. We have a bigger and a wealthier country than our neighbours, and yet here we are with only 6,000,000 of people, and are we going to have objections raised against any immigrant except upon moral grounds. The fact that he may not understand our language should not be a bar. Let me tell hon. gentlemen that when my grandfather came to this country he could not speak the English tongue. Should he have been prevented entering the country on that account? My father learned English, and though I may not speak that language with all the fastidious grace of other gentlemen here, at least I have the satisfaction of knowing that in the evolution from the grandfather who spoke Gaelic to the present generation, I am a fairly decent Canadian citizen. I believe that the hon. gentleman would have been better employed if he had stated, perhaps, that certain restrictions should be placed upon foreign immigration, but I submit that it is not the proper way to people Canada with good citizens to say that these men are all wrong. Have they been convicted of crime? Is the rate of crime amongst the Galicians and Doukhobors higher than among other citi-

zens? It is true that a few Doukhobors, at the instance of a miserable wretch, who has laid down certain principles that are not in accord with religious truth as believed in by myself and others, have made certain representations, but let me tell hon. members that often worse opinions have been spoken in Canada by Canadian citizens than even those given expression to by that miserable man.

This country is too big for the like of that. And when I go into the magnificent territory that the hon. member for Alberta represents, when I see in the northern part of it riches of soil untold, and when I see in the southern part of it men who have come from Salt Lake City and who believe in having more than one wife, and not a word said against them, I submit that the good citizen who leaves Austria or Russia to escape tyranny, should not be excluded or left without a welcome; I submit that he is a better man than the man from Salt Lake City, who wants to marry more than one wife. Let us be fair to these men. Once upon a time, a man who is now dead but who should never be forgotten, brought to a part of Manitoba that would not be taken up by the ordinary settler from the east or any part of the British Empire, a race of people who came to this country, and lent them some \$96,000. Of course, the same opposition was raised and the same talk was indulged in. And what has happened? The Mennonites of Manitoba have paid back the \$96,000 with interest at 4 per cent, and they are among them the wealthiest people of Manitoba to-day. And the hon. member for Alberta—no, not he, I think he has too much good sense—but men of smaller calibre, who spoke against these people, must surely feel ashamed to-day. There are Mennonites in Manitoba who are worth \$20,000, \$30,000—some of them even \$60,000. Their habits were different from ours; their methods were different from ours. But in less than a generation they have become good citizens, they have extended their bounds and increased their wealth. And an increase in the wealth of the citizen means an increase of the wealth of Canada and larger payments into the exchequer of the people of Canada. We cannot put on too fine airs about our surroundings. Any man must wish sometimes that he could avoid meeting this man, that man or the other. But we must not be too particular—least of all a politician who, in the course of an ordinary campaign, must meet people whom he had rather not meet on other occasions. But I am willing to let any honest man come into Canada, any man who will till the soil or work for a wage and give a fair return in labour for that wage. I call upon the civilization of our country as represented by the government and upon the higher civilization of our country as represented by our societies and churches, to join in lifting these men up and making them good