

say, there is this much larger organization, with agents throughout the whole of the Central and Western States.

Hon. Mr. POPE: I am glad to hear that. But now let me say something else to the honourable gentleman. A Canadian-born citizen, living in the Province of Quebec, can get no encouragement to move from his home to the West; but when he goes down into New Hampshire or Vermont, he can get aid or assistance, because he is in the United States of America.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: My honourable friend knows why.

Hon. Mr. POPE: I do not know why. Because I have continued to live in this country, because I am rearing a family in this country, is no reason why money should not be bestowed upon my children, if they should decide to go West, as well as upon those who have gone across the line.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: That is a question that I put to myself some twenty-five or thirty years ago, and to which I tried to secure an answer. I wondered why Canadians in the East should not be given the same facilities as people from outside to move toward the West. The reason which was given by all Governments—Governments supported by my honourable friend as well as those which he opposed—was that it is not the function of a Government to transfer its nationals from one place to another within the country. The justification for helping immigrants coming into the country is that it is done in an effort to increase the population. On the other hand, if you move a group of people from one part of the country to another, you are not increasing the population. I may say, however, that an effort has been made to facilitate the movement towards the West of young Canadian farmers. I may add that during the crop season the Canadian Pacific railway and the Canadian National railway offer thirty thousand young men transportation from the East to the West at \$10 per head. That is a splendid opportunity for young men who are desirous of locating in the West, and many of them have taken advantage of it.

Hon. Mr. POPE: I am very glad to hear the honourable gentleman say that twenty-five years ago he was of the same mind that I am to-day. I too was of the same mind twenty-five years ago, and as yet I have had no reason to change. I see no reason why a citizen living in Canada is not just as good as the fellow who goes to the United States. He ought to be better.

There is no use talking. Our population is decreasing, or at any rate is not increasing, and the want of increase is due to the fact that the United States is offering employment to our people and that we are not. There is no getting away from that. Then, why should we tax our people in order to bring in people, desirable or undesirable, when there is no employment for them? There is not a doctor from one end of the country to the other who is not bothered every week by people wanting certificates to enable them to go to the United States, because they cannot find employment here.

Hon. Mr. LACASSE: Is my honourable friend aware of the conditions in the New England States during the past few months? Also in Detroit?

Hon. Mr. POPE: The cotton trade has gone south and the people are without employment, and we are sending over money to bring them back. But that has nothing to do with the condition of this country, or with the fact that our population is stagnant to-day, remaining at eight or nine millions, or nine and a half millions, if you like; and I have no hesitation in saying that the Government is to blame, that these people have been frightened away by this free trade doctrine. What does this doctrine mean? It means the exportation of our natural resources to the United States, to be manufactured there and sent back in the manufactured form. Take asbestos, for instance. We have employed twenty or thirty thousand people digging the asbestos, but the United States employs two million people in its manufacture. Why do not we keep that article in Canada and have it manufactured here? Give a bounty or do anything you like to assist the industry, and offer work to those two million people in Canada instead of in the United States. Take our forest products. It is true that we have great pulp and paper mills in this country, but anyone who goes to any of our railway stations before Christmas will see trainloads of Christmas trees being shipped out of this country, thus depleting the forests and farms of the country. And why? Because the poor devils of farmers have to sell their trees in order to buy a Christmas present or a Christmas turkey. There is no mistake as to these things. I speak about what I know. I am not drawing the long bow; I have no political ambitions, as honourable gentlemen know; I am simply drawing attention to facts. The Governments, regardless of party, are failing in their efforts to accomplish what they should.