

unless something is done which will afford some assurance that this loss is going to cease to some extent, production will be considerably discouraged. A man came to me before I started down to Ottawa the other day, to give you an instance, and wanted to know what the prospect was of getting this Wheat Board. He says "I am thinking about renting quite a farm out here and putting in quite a bit of wheat." He said "before I decide whether I am going to rent or not I would like to know what would be the chances of getting this Wheat Board." That is just an indication of the feeling among the people. They have got to begin to curtail production. Of course they are all doing that to some extent and will be forced to do it to a greater extent.

Now another objection that has been raised to it is that it is compulsory. Well, I presume it is but what is there that is not? You have a grain market system to-day absolutely compulsory because you have not got any other system just as compulsory as this would be. I don't know anything that is not compulsory. They are passing laws all the time that are compulsory but on the other hand we are meeting a condition that actually exists and it is a very serious condition and it has to be dealt with in a serious way. Now, are we going to proceed in a practical way and deal with conditions that exist? Are you going to proceed along sentimental lines? I don't believe sentimentality will save the situation that the people of Canada are facing at the present time. There is another phase to this question. It has a bearing on it. I don't pretend we are solving any of those problems we are facing by this method but I do claim we will be doing something and doing what we can in a practical way to meet the situation, and that is the matter of immigration.

All over the country people are talking about wanting more people to come in here and one man expressed it "Get tied up to a piece of land," and "tied up" was the expression. What reason can we give for the kind of agricultural immigrants we want to come to this country, to come here under present conditions? What logical reason can we give them for coming here? Why would they come? The farmers that are here are in a most serious condition of distress. They are going behind all the time and why would immigrants come to this country? The best advertisement we would make for immigrants to come to this country, it seems to me is to show some sympathy and some disposition to try to help the people who are already tied up with pieces of land in this country.

Now, to meet this there is quite a bit of propaganda. I have seen some propaganda recently to ignore immigration from the British Isles, to ignore immigration from the States, and go to central Europe and get immigration. These people will come here and succeed. Do we want them? Do we want to recognize conditions in this country, with great stretches of unoccupied fertile lands? Do we want to acknowledge that the conditions of Agriculture are such that we have to go and appeal to the very lowest class of immigrants that there are in the world? I don't think we do.

I do not know that I have anything else I can say to you. We come to you in distress, in absolute distress. I don't know how to describe it but in a financial condition that is exceedingly serious, if not appalling, and we ask you to give us a small measure of relief. It is only a small measure of relief, but we believe it is the only practical thing that can be done at the present time, and we think it is in the interest of agriculture; we think it is in the interest of every legitimate interest there is in Canada, directly to agriculture but just as indirectly to every legitimate economic interest. It may work a hardship in some ways to a very limited number of people, but a very limited number of individuals. It will be beneficial to all legitimate economic interests because every dollar that is brought from a foreign country which you put into the channels of Canadian trade will build up the trade of this country just a dollar's worth, and we insist that this is a practical relief to some extent and we also insist that it is the only possible immediate practical relief in

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