

that I did not contend that we should organize a movement among the population of the eastern provinces towards the west. If I announced any such proposition, I beg to withdraw it, because it is not at all what I meant. What I did mean to say was that where there were large families as there are in many instances in my own province, and where the farm is insufficient to support a whole family, a portion of that family who cannot reside on the paternal estate might settle in the North-west.

Mr. BOURASSA. They could go to other parts of the province of Quebec.

Mr. MONK. I have heard my hon. friend propound the theory in this House that we should not encourage emigration from our own province to the North-west Territories, and I differ from him there. He will agree with me that most of these surplus members of a family drift off to the United States, and it would be better for us to keep them in Canada whether it be in the west or in Quebec.

Mr. SCOTT. Why do they go?

Mr. MONK. Because they cannot remain on their father's farm. They first come to the city of Montreal and then they are induced to go to the United States because they are told the conditions are better there.

Mr. SCOTT. The real remedy for that is not to be found in the Immigration Department giving assistance, but by creating such conditions in the North-west as will induce the people of the eastern provinces to go there instead of to the United States.

Mr. MONK. I think a little of both would be useful. As an example I may state that I met in my constituency a few days ago a father and three sons who were going out to work by the day, and they told me that if assistance was given them by the government they would go to the North-west and settle on a farm. There are no opportunities now offered them by the government. There is no office in the city of Montreal where they could obtain tickets on favourable terms, or in fact where the terms offered to them would be as favourable as the terms given to these strangers.

Mr. SCOTT. Do not the railway companies give reduced rates to Manitoba and the North-west during certain seasons of the year?

Mr. MONK. There is a harvest excursion in the fall, and I have noticed train after train filled with young men from Ontario going towards the west, but the people of our province for one reason or another have not availed themselves of these excursions.

Mr. SCOTT. Home seekers excursions were run during two or three months of the present year.

Mr. MONK. That is done on the initiative of the railway companies and not of the government. I cannot agree with my

hon. friend (Mr. Bourassa) that a parish priest in the United States is the best agent, because I should think he would rather be disposed to keep his flock with him. I may however, tell the Minister of the Interior that I know of one clergyman—I do not remember his name at present—whom he has appointed as an agent and he is a very competent man, and I think that if his labours were extended upon a larger scale they would be productive of very good results.

Mr. LEMIEUX. I agree in part with what has been said by the hon. member for Labelle (Mr. Bourassa) and by the hon. member for Jacques Cartier (Mr. Monk). I must say that the department presided over by the Minister of the Interior is well administered, but I believe that more should be done to repatriate the vast number of French Canadians who have taken up their abode in the United States. Last year I presented to the House a tabulated statement published in the American newspapers which shows the number of French Canadians living in the United States and with the permission of the House I shall read that statement again:

Maine.....	85,000
New Hampshire .. . . .	95,000
Vermont.....	70,000
Massachusetts.....	310,000
Rhode Island.....	80,000
Connecticut.....	60,000
New York.....	130,000
New Jersey.....	3,000
Pennsylvania.....	4,000
Illinois.....	50,000
Ohio.....	8,000
Michigan.....	140,000
Wisconsin.....	50,000
Minnesota.....	60,000
Kansas.....	8,000
Dakota, north and south..	15,000
Washington.....	7,000
Montana.....	8,000
Washington.....	7,000
Oregon.....	5,000
California.....	10,000
Other states and territories..	30,000

Total for the United States.. 1,228,000

Now, Sir, would it not be possible for the Department of the Interior to have a greater number of agents in the United States than they have at present? I feel confident that if good sterling agents were sent to the States, they would succeed in repatriating a number of these French Canadians and inducing them to settle in both our eastern and western provinces. We have two colonization societies in the province of Quebec, one known as La Société Colonisation de Montréal, the other as La Société de Colonisation du Lac St-Jean. These two societies with limited means, have done wonders in the province of Quebec. I have here the report of the Lake St Johns Colonization and Repatriation Society, and I find that last year, that society brought from the United States 1,129 settlers. I am sure that if those societies were given