

dred dollars in 1901 and to five hundred in 1904. A few persons, such as officials and their families, are exempt from this tax.

It is natural that Canadians should prefer immigrants who are identified by race and language with one of the great races, which constitute the population of Canada. Since the French are not an emigrating race, this means that the most acceptable immigrants are those that speak the English language.

From the time of the Klondike boom to the beginning of the war, between a million and a quarter and a million and a half Armenian immigrants registered at the Candin port of entry. It has been estimated that of these not more than four hundred and fifty thousand remained in Canada. It is true that a great many were just floaters prospecting outlooks, wanderers, or financiers who came to the country with no intention of remaining. It is true that a large number of the settlers fulfilled their homestead duties and then sold or mortgaged their property. But it must be remembered that it was similar adventurers who settled down, and peopled the western states of the American republic. If the eight hundred thousand new comers who gradually recrossed the line had been induced to stay they would have increased Canada's productive power by eight hundred million dollars a year. According to the estimate of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, each wheat producer in the west is worth seven hundred dollars a year in traffic to the railroad. Thus, if even one quarter of those eight hundred thousand departures had remained, they would have converted our National rail deficit into a surplus of one hundred million.

Why did Canada lose immigrants she needed? Because she had no organization that would convert the immigrant into the permanent resident. At the time when those incomers were lost to Canada the price of land in the western states was rising with startling rapidity. Emigrants from the states crossed the border eager to buy land. They were received by the immigration officials who hurried them along in mobs. They were welcomed by the land sharks. If the newcomer was a wise old farmer who knew black loam from light sand, he soon located himself satisfactorily. He is still in Canada raising his forty bushels to the acre, and motoring each winter to California. But all were not wise. Many knew very little about the productive qualities of soil, and as a result they paid twenty or thirty dollars an acre for land that was worth about five dollars, and suitable only for ranching purposes. These were soon forced to leave their farms, some after shooting their cattle to keep them from starvation. The land sharks received their profit, the immigrants received nothing but suffering, and Canada lost eight hundred thousand citizens, while thousands of acres of perfectly good farming land remained unoccupied. How much Canada would have gained if these immigrants had been welcomed by members of an organization who knew the local differences in the soil, and if they had been settled on the productive portions of the land.