

(March 14th.)

Canadians of To-Morrow.

BY REVEREND J. S. WOODSWORTH.

DRESSING the Canadian Club on the subject, "Canadians of the Future," Rev. J. S. Woodsworth said:—
President and Gentlemen of the Canadian Club,—Let me first express my appreciation of the opportunity of addressing you upon a matter that is vital to us as Canadians. I speak to-day as a Canadian to Canadians upon a subject which must be admitted as of the greatest social and national importance—the citizens of to-morrow. While we are paying great attention to our agricultural resources and are hardly bestowing as much thought upon the population that we are importing into this country. You all know of the interesting experiments that have been carried on for many years by Burbank in the western states, by which he has accomplished wonderful transformations in the vegetable kingdom. We are told that he has transformed the desert cactus into an edible fruit, and by crossing various species of plants has developed entirely new kinds of vegetables. What has been done in a small way with fruits and vegetables we are doing on a gigantic scale with the human species—these men and women who are being transplanted by tens and hundreds of thousands from the old world and being placed in the soil of Canada. It is as if we went out with but a handful of seed and scattered it broadcast over the prairies. Surely we should look to the importance of our grain, our stock, our cows and horses, it is high time we looked after our human stock. We cannot think that it is unimportant that we should pay attention to the race stocks that are being transplanted.

Whatever our theory of heredity may be we must all agree that breeding has something to do with the development of types, and we ought to pay attention to that in this country; and further it is of high importance that we should pay attention to the cultivation of these people whom we

Rev. J. S. Woodsworth is Superintendent of All People's Mission, and Secretary of the League of Social Service of Winnipeg, and has abundant opportunities for studying the phase of the immigration question which he is here presenting.

are transplanting. It is not enough to bring a man out and fasten him to a piece of land and expect him dig right in without making a mistake. We take numbers of young clerks from the shops in London and wonder in the West that they do not adapt themselves to the new conditions; we bring whole colonies of Europeans out and put them in the cities and then wonder what stops the development. We must pay as much attention to the human quality as well as the agricultural. I would like to place some statistics before you. I have some charts here which I prepared a little while ago, and I shall ask your indulgence in showing them at this time.

OUR IMMIGRANTS	{	1,070,548
	{	×146,908
BRITISH (English—Scotch—Welsh—Irish)	{	440,419
	{	×52,901
UNITED STATES (The Mormons)	{	322,583
	{	×59,832
NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING	{	307,546
	{	×34,175
SCANDANAVIANS (Norwegians—Swedes—Danes—Icelanders).		
GERMANS (Germany—Austria—Russia—Mennonites)—The Dutch.		
FRENCH (France—Belgium).		
RUSSIA Doukhobors—(Lithuanians).		
AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Bohemians—Slovaks—Ruthenians—Galicia—Buckovina—South Russia—Poles—Hungarians).		
THE BALKAN STATES (Roumania—Bulgaria, etc.).		
THE HEBREWS.		
THE ITALIANS (North and South).		
LEVANTINE RACES (Greeks—Turks—Armenians—Syrians)—Persians.		
ORIENTALS (Chinese—Japanese—Hindus).		

(NEGROES and INDIANS).

MIX—WHAT?

Thus you will see that out of 1,070,548 immigrants, 440,419 are of English, Scottish or Irish descent; 322,583 are from the United States (last year nearly 60,000 came from that country); and 307,546 are non-English speaking. So for every three people who come to us, one is English-speaking, in the larger sense, one is an American, and the third is non-English speaking. They are Scandanavians, Germans, French, Russians. Those from Russia are not real Russians,

but are like the Ruthenians. From Austria-Hungary there are three main classes, the three being—Ruthenians (Poles and Hungarians), Bohemians and Slovaks. Then for the balance there are those from the Balkan States, the Hebrews, Italians (north and south). Negotiations are now pending looking for a direct steamship communication between Canada and Italy. When that is consummated we will have a larger number of Italians coming into this country. Finally there are the Levantine races and Orientals. With regard to the Hebrews, they have congregated in large numbers in Montreal, you have many here in Toronto and there are many in Winnipeg. In Montreal over half the children attending public schools are Hebrews. Then we also have in the west 34,000 Indians besides many Negroes. My question on this chart is: mix all these people together and what are you going to get. I just want to leave that with you—mix all together and what are we going to become?

I think you will find in the United States more Germans, more Irish or more Italians than you. will Anglo-Saxons, and F. Walker is authority for the statement that the immigration to United States has imparted strength to the foreign stock. It is a serious problem what we are going to be racially; what we are going to be politically. My own hope is that we will be able to influence those who are coming that they may be properly and wisely directed, and yet that is going to be no easy undertaking. Take the province of Saskatchewan, it is capable of supporting as great a population as is any state in the union. To-day only about 30 per cent. of the people in the province of Saskatchewan are Canadian born, and upon this 30 per cent. falls the tremendous responsibility of moulding the other 70 per cent. In the other provinces of the west similar conditions prevail. What in the light of these circumstances are we going to become politically?

Then there are the great social questions that press themselves upon us. These people come with various grades and standards of education, they come with social ideals foreign to us, they come each bringing in a generation of family tradition with them. What are we going to be when these are all melted together?

Israel Zangwill, in that great play "The Melting Pot," tries to show that America is God's great melting pot in which are being fused all the different people of the world. He thinks that from this fusion is to arise a higher and better people, but what reactions are going to take place as all these

diverse elements are being brought together! How are we going to effect that, and how will they affect us? What is going to be the solvent that will break down these social, religious and social barriers; what is going to be the precipitant that is going to bring about this solution? What are we going to have in our Canadian life that will build them up again in a new form and crystallize them? What are the Canadians of to-morrow going to be along with these foreign elements? I leave the question with you.

If you will allow me, I would like to make a comparison of the immigration to Canada and United States, as developed on the following chart. (See page 143.)

The population of the United States in the year 1800 was 5,308,483, and the population of Canada in the year 1901 was 5,371,315. You will see that so far as population is concerned we are just one hundred years behind United States.

But look at the immigration statistics. From 1800 to 1810 the immigration to United States was 70,000. The immigration to Canada for the corresponding decade this century is estimated at 2,300,000. The immigration to United States a hundred years ago was 7,000 per year. The immigration to Canada last year was 262,469. Last year it dropped back to 146,000. There is no doubt at all that it will be up again. The ratio, therefore, is one to thirty-seven. Where United States received one immigrant in their early stages we received thirty-seven.

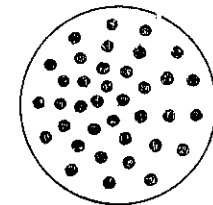
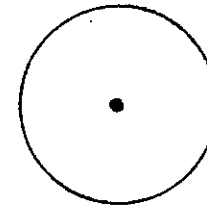
Someone said the other day "We will even be as bad as the people in United States."

"Well," I replied, "if you are thinking of immigration and the effect of it perhaps we will be thirty-seven times worse."

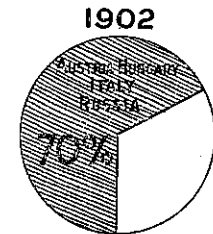
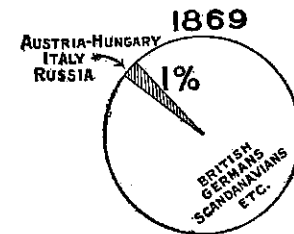
They have had their immigration problem. We have a much greater immigration problem than they ever had. Up to the year 1869, nearly all were British, Germans or Scandinavians, and the British were the best type of Britishers. You all know of the early immigration from the old land. I do not think I will make any exception, the British people who are included in that compilation were a splendid stock on the whole, and were perhaps a higher type of British than we have had coming out for years. The Germans came out at that time, also Scandinavians, and one per cent. were from Austria-Hungary and Russia. The character of immigration has changed greatly so that in 1902, 70 per cent. came from

THE PROBLEM.

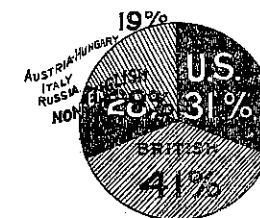
Population of United States in 1800	5,308,483
" " Canada in 1901	5,371,315
Immigration to United States, 1800 to 1810	70,000
" " Canada, 1901 to 1911 (estimated)	2,300,000
" " United States, 1800 to 1810 (per year)	7,000
" " Canada a year ago	262,469



United States received 1 Immigrant. Canada received 37 Immigrants.



United States Immigration



Canada.

Did the U. S. Succeed?..... { The South—Lawlessness.
The West—Immorality.
The Great Cities—Irrigion.

What about Canada? { Already a Divided Nation.
English Protestants and French Catholics.

Austria-Hungary, Italy and Russia. Now we have nothing against these people particularly but I think it must be acknowledged that we have the right of selection of those who come from other lands.

From the last census return the British population is said to be 41 per cent. Probably these are the best we have. From the United States come 31 per cent. These people with their children have pulled up stakes and trekked across the boundary into Canada. The remaining 28 per cent. are non-English, and in this figure is included 19 per cent. from Austria-Hungary, Italy and Russia. These are the people most difficult to assimilate.

Did the United States succeed with these people? I ask the question. A great many of these people reside in the cities. You all know that there have been political and moral corruption in the great cities of United States. They have had an awful fight with political corruption, and as they are emerging from it we are just entering upon a similar struggle. What about success? We are already a divided nation—I should rather say we are not yet a united nation. English protestants and French catholics—we cannot get over the effect of this unhappy division. Yet I do not like putting it that way, because I think the two races should come together, should build up a stronger nation. The situation to-day, however, has produced difficulties, it has found its way into the educational work and political life of the people.

Now, gentlemen, to assimilate to-day thirty-seven times as many immigrants as the United States received when it had a population the same size as Canada is the problem we have to face. But it is impossible of mathematical demonstration, and a tremendous responsibility which has been placed upon our Canadian people.

Here is a school register of one of the city schools of Winnipeg with 590 children on the roll. You will observe there are only 45 Canadians. These 590 children are to become the Canadians of to-morrow. Over all our schools in Manitoba the Union Jack is flown. There is a sentiment in our Canadian schools. You call a small boy out of his class and ask him what he is, he will say "Canadian." He may lie for a time. He may be a Pole or a Russian, but he knows "Canada." After all it is not what we are or what we have been, but it is what we are going to be. Then you will see there are sixty-one English, nine Irish and fourteen Scotch with ten Americans. That makes a total of 139 English

speaking children. The remainder are all non-English. Out of these 590 only 274 are in grade I and only 13 have gone up to grade 7. You will see that there is a rapid falling off in the higher grades. The Canadians keep up their average well. The serious fact is we are not getting these foreign children in our schools beyond the lower

OUR SCHOOLS.

Nationalities.	Total	Grades						
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII
Canadian.....	45	12	4	3	6	3	12	5
English.....	61	12	12	6	19	4	5	3
Irish.....	9	1	.....	2	2	2	2	.....
Scotch.....	14	3	2	1	3	3	2	.....
American.....	139	10	1	.....	1	2	2	2
Swedish.....	16	4	4	3	5	.....	.....	.....
Norwegian.....	13	6	2	1	4	.....	.....	.....
Icelandic.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
German.....	135	85	14	13	18	2	3	.....
Austrian.....	7	1	.....	2	4	.....	.....	.....
Russian.....	23	21	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
Polish.....	43	22	5	2	7	4	2	1
Galician.....	9	4	1	4	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bohemian.....	7	4	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jewish (Russian).....	95	45	22	13	7	2	5	1
Jewish (all others).....	102	52	20	5	19	3	2	1
	590	274	88	59	96	25	35	13

IN MANITOBA

From 26,705 to 40,707 Children of School Age are not attending any School.

Over One Quarter of the Rural School are Bi-Lingual.

grades. There are from 26,705 to 40,707 children of school age in Manitoba who are not attending any school. I won't say whether the figures are liberal or conservative, but I assure you that both are official figures given on the floor of the house. I do not care which is correct, it is a bad job either way. It means that one-third of the children

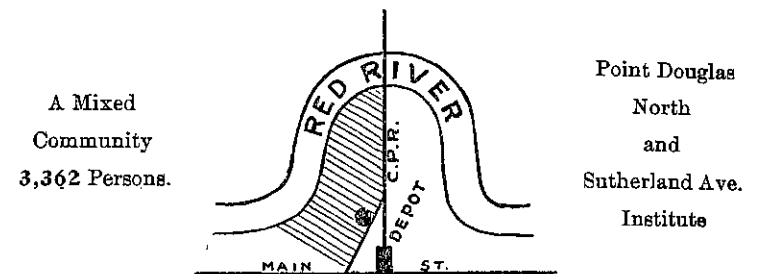
in Manitoba are not in any school whatever, and 96 per cent. of the children who are in school range from the age of six to fourteen years. From these ages the children are compelled to attend public schools. Similar conditions to these prevail all through the west. I do not know that Manitoba is the most guilty and has lost interest in education, but Manitoba is unfortunate in inheriting the result of a great political controversy. These figures show about where we are to-day. A great many are interested in the cause of education in Manitoba who for political reasons cannot see their way to make a move towards the betterment of affairs.

Another thing is pointed out on this chart. One-quarter of the rural schools in Manitoba are bi-lingual. This is also an inheritance from the Laurier-Greenway compromise, and the present government is proud to point to the fact that the Laurier-Greenway people introduced the condition in the terms of settlement that if there were ten children in any school speaking a tongue other than English as their mother tongue they could have a bi-lingual teacher. As a result of this there are French-English schools, German-English schools, Polish-English schools. The fact is you cannot get an English teacher who understands Polish, so you have to get a Polish with a smattering of English, and he is sent out to teach in the Polish-English schools. The government is doing what it can to teach the Polish and the people of every nationality to take up this work, but it seems to me that the whole system is a vicious one. I think we all should rise in this matter and get together, above political allegiance and above religious prejudice, and do something for this great question.

I really do not think Winnipeg is one whit worse than Toronto or Montreal, and I have tried to study the situation from the standpoint of the social workers in other cities. Here is a chart giving particulars of the population of one community in Winnipeg. (See page 147.)

Here you will find 18 nationalities in a community of 3,362 persons.

This is a great social question which should engage the interest of the whole of our Canadian people. This is also an educational and political question. But I have no time to talk about politics to-day. In Manitoba one-third of the constituencies are controlled by Galicians alone. Before long they are going to swing the whole west—at least the foreign vote. In this connection there is just one idea I would refer



Nationalities:	No. of Families.	Adults (over 18)	Lodgers.	Children.
18	662	1,369	575	1,418
Ruthenian.....	194	352 (72)	346	332
English.....	145	351 (16)	49	383
Hebrews.....	92	144 (3)	9	226
Polish.....	70	164 (27)	122	173
German.....	43	101 (3)	13	84
Canadian.....	41	102	2	75
Scotch.....	20	39	.....	31
Syrian.....	12	24	.....	27
Russian.....	10	21 (2)	5	19
Roumanian.....	9	18	.....	30
Hungarian.....	7	14 (2)	9	7
Irish.....	5	10	.....	7
Lithuanian.....	4	9 (2)	20	6
Icelandic.....	4	11	.....	7
Negro.....	2	3	.....	2
Spanish.....	2	2	.....	3
Bohemian.....	1	2	.....	3
Swiss.....	1	2	.....	3

Of the 1,418 Children
873 were of School Age.
660 attend Public or Church Schools.
213 attend no School.

Of the 575 Lodgers 432 were unemployed.
Of the 662 Families 80 own their homes.
One third of "Homes" dirty.

to, I think we should have some restriction of the franchise at least. We should have some sort of an educational test and not give the franchise to these people merely because of residence in the country. A great many regard their votes as a merchantable asset. You will find men who are traitors to their country who will buy up votes. We ought to have compulsory education, and we should maintain our rights as Canadians to say who is going to come and how many are going to come into the country. It is not for me to lay down any law, but we ought to regulate the number of people coming in and take no more than we are prepared to look after educationally, morally and socially. We ought to preserve that right, and we ought to get near these people personally. I refer to the settlement workers in American cities, such as the University Settlement in New York and Hull House in Chicago.

One more suggestion: could we not have in Canada something of the nature of a *Welfare Commission* composed of men who are high above party lines and religious bigotry. We have recently appointed a Conservation Commission. We know the great work they are undertaking to do. The Welfare Commission would be something of the same kind. Their function need not be executive, but rather advisory. Let them study the whole immigration problem, and follow the immigrant from the time he leaves his own land until he becomes a good Canadian citizen. Our department of immigration is doing good work and the labor department is doing good work. But there is something lacking still. These men could devote their whole attention to this problem. There is room for the appointment of some kind of a welfare commission to look after the immigrants. It is a pressing question, and schools and technical education cannot solve it unaided.
