

THE SAULT'S FOREIGN PROBLEM THE WORST IN CANADA.

The problem of the foreigner is "more acute" in Sault Ste. Marie than in any city in Canada, according to Mr. W. W. Lee, secretary of the National Council of the Y.M.C.A., who has paid the city a visit during the last few days investigating the immigration problem here.

Mr. Lee says that there are at least 4,000 or 4,500 foreigners living here permanently, these figures not including the transient population. Other estimates place the foreigners here as high as 7,000. It is a certainty that the number is very high,—too high for the good of the community. If these citizens had a Canadian standard of living there could be no objection to them, but very many of them are content to live in such a way that in the event of slack times, Canadian labor could not compete with them.

But they are here to stay. Manifestly the best thing to do in our own interests and theirs is to see that their standard of living is raised. Their children must be compelled to attend school. The men must be reached by some educational means, Mr. Lee's plan of opening classes in the boarding houses being an excellent scheme. The provisions of the Health Act must be rigidly enforced, overcrowding prevented, and a fair share of the taxes spent in giving the new citizens better surroundings.