

IMMIGRANT ISSUE

Grave Danger to Canadian Nationality Caused by Ignorant Europeans.

SHOULD NOT VOTE

Unless British-Born—Advocates Compulsory Military Training as a Solution.

A special session of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire was held this morning at 9.30 to hear the reading of two papers. The first on "**Immigration**," by Mrs. Walter James Brown, of Aylmer, Ontario, late member of the Chamberlain Chapter, Toronto, and the second on "Assimilating the Foreigner," prepared by Mrs. Spence of Calgary, Regent for Southern Alberta. The paper of Mrs. Brown will be printed in the official organ of the order, "Echoes," and this morning roused considerable discussion, which was hastily checked by the President as the ladies were expected to leave on the noon train for Hamilton.

Mrs. Brown pointed out that the rapid growth of Canada had resulted in our now having 157 religious sects and 60 dialects. It was bringing the slum problem.

Inspect at Shipping Ports.

According to the statement of Rev. W. D. Reid at the Presbyterian Congress, the foreigners of Canada furnish twice as many criminals, two and a third times as many insane, and three times as many paupers as the native element. Instead of bonusing the S.S. companies to secure immigrants we shall soon be obliged to follow the example of the United States and demand a poll tax.

Our Government has already spent millions in bonuses, and the time has come when this system should be revised, for it is a temptation to immigration agents to send us undesirables.

We should insist upon more stringent rules at our ports of entry. In fact, it is at the shipping port that these examinations should be held. Many an unfortunate immigrant who has spent his savings to get to Canada is turned back when he reaches our shores; whereas, if he had been put through a strict examination at his home port he would have been spared this humiliation.

Applause Interrupts Her.

The speaker was interrupted by applause and a suggestion that an amendment urging this be added to the resolution being drafted by the Heather Club Chapter, but owing to the rush of morning business the matter was dropped pro tem.

Continuing, Mrs. Brown advocated farm training schools for ignorant immigrants.

The granting of the vote to the foreign after only three years residence, is a condition which should be changed, according to the speaker. "This is altogether too soon, except in the case of British immigrants. It is dangerous to give the vote to such men, for they are but tools in the hands of unscrupulous politicians.

Mrs. Brown considered that military training would be a panacea for many of these ills.

Resolution on Life-Saving.

At the conclusion of this address the paper by Mrs. Spence on "Assimilating the Foreigner," was read and concluded with a resolution moved by Mrs. Spence, seconded by Mrs. John Small, and duly passed: that in view of the effect which the unassimilated foreign-born were having on the national life of Canada the Primary Chapters of the Order be urged to co-operate wherever possible in efforts to educate these people and fit them for citizenship.

A resolution was introduced by Mrs. A. G. Williams of St. Catharines, urging the Order to provide adequate life-saving appliances on the Niagara River; this being amended by Miss Boulton to take the form of a petition to the Government, whose business it was, and the matter was finally laid on the table as being an international affair.

The annual meeting of the Order was hurriedly closed as it was neces-

sary for the ladies to reach the station in time for the noon train to Hamilton. There they were the guests at luncheon of the Hamilton Chapters, being received at the Wentworth Arms. After luncheon the whole party proceeded in motors to visit the sanitarium and the girls' club, both erected by the Order. A trip to the Stony Creek Battlefield, where there is thought of erecting a monument, completed the day and the party returned to the city by the 5.30 train. The 1915 annual meeting will be held in Halifax.