

# Austrians Want Work on the Land

Left the Old Country to  
Gain "Larger Free-  
dom"

From a Staff Reporter.

Ottawa, May 26.—Sir Robert Borden has received a petition from some nine hundred Austrians of Slavic origin, now of Fort William, pointing out that they are being refused work on account of being Austrians, that they are peaceable and law-abiding and anxious to obey every mandate of the Government concerning them, and urging that they be given an opportunity of working on the land either by clearing undeveloped land or by working it after it is cleared.

They point out in the petition that they left Austria and came to Canada because they sought a greater freedom. If they should ever return to Austria they would suffer for not making a greater effort to return and join the army. They observe that the task of developing this country, for which they were induced to come here, is still unfinished.

In closing the petitioners say:

"We desire also hereby to petition you and your Government that you use some means of connecting up our labor with the great unfinished task of developing this country, in which effort we pledge our most faithful labor for a just return to our work.

"By favoring us in this way you will relieve our people of the demoralizing influence of accepting charity and will help us to take our place in the future development of this great democracy in which we have every faith and in the formation of which we are anxious to make our contributions."