

Immigration After the War

Professor Ward, of Harvard University, thinks that the danger to the United States after the war is not so much the dumping of cheap European goods as the dumping of cheap European labor. "Goods from abroad concern pocketbooks only. Human beings from abroad enter into our national life. They contribute to the blood of the future American people. They determine what our race is to be. It is the cargoes of men and women and children, not the cargoes of goods, that are the real problem."

Europe, he says, will strive to retain the fittest of its men; those who in the past have had the initiative and the courage to emigrate will be dead, at the prime of life, or will be needed at home to carry on the work of rebuilding and reorganization. These are the men whom Europe will do its utmost to keep at home. The least fit are most likely to emigrate.

There is truth in this, and it applies to Canada as well as the United States. We shall have disabled men of our own to care for, and they will need and deserve our care. We cannot carry

the burden of taking care of the disabled men of Europe.

This view is not a selfish one. It is not so much that we should shun the financial burden, as that we should maintain a high standard of living in Canada. Cheap labor is bad for the country. It tends to reduce wages, and to make the lot of our workmen harder. It stands in the way of social progress.

Industries are good for a country only as they employ well-paid workmen. Good wages mean comfortable homes and educated children, who will become intelligent, independent, self-respecting citizens. Wages also circulate more rapidly than money in any other form, benefiting merchants and farmers. The money of workmen is spent for the necessaries of life. They have none to spare for luxury or speculation.