

IMMIGRATION.

Last year a warning came from Dominion immigration officials in England that the tide of immigration to Canada would probably show a falling off this year owing to the liberal immigration policy adopted by Australia and the energetic efforts which were being made by the Commonwealth agents to divert the stream of immigration towards Australia. But the official returns do not indicate that the efforts of Australia have had much effect on the flow of immigration into this country. The number of British people who have entered Canada this year in the largest on record, as is also the total number. Here is the record for the last five fiscal years:

Fiscal Year	Britain	U. S.	Other Countries	Totals.
1908.....	120,182	58,312	83,975	262,469
1909.....	52,901	59,832	34,175	146,908
1910.....	59,790	103,798	45,206	208,794
1911.....	123,013	121,451	66,620	311,084
1912.....	138,121	133,710	82,406	354,237

Ten years ago the total annual immigration was 67,379. Since then the increase has been 425 per cent., and in the last five years 35 per cent. There is no reason to expect that the number of arrivals either from British or United States will diminish in the next few years, and it is practically certain that the number from other countries will rapidly increase. These foreign immigrants who do not speak English and have but a vague understanding of our political institutions are the arrivals which should cause the most anxiety. How best to educate them and assimilate them and make good Canadians of them is a problem which the Governments of all provinces as well as the national government should not evade. The first thing to be done is to encourage the newcomers to learn the English language, and with this end in view free night schools should be established for the benefit of all foreigners who wish to avail themselves of this opportunity to learn the language of their adopted country.