

QUALITY IN IMMIGRATION.

The policy adopted by the Ottawa Government early last winter was the selection of immigrants with regard to their national development. It was required that the immigrant to gain admission must come direct from the country of origin. The possession of at least twenty-five dollars was also required. The object was to keep track of the newcomers and to insure their not becoming public charges. Inspectors were placed along the United States boundary to prevent immigrants who could not get in otherwise coming in by that route. These precautions helped to lessen the inrush of population, but the improvement in the quality more than compensated for the effect of stricter official surveillance. July returns show that 11,322 immigrants arrived during the month, while in the same month of the year before the arrivals numbered 26,341, a decrease of 57 per cent. During the first six months of the year the arrivals were 107,451, against 185,760 during the corresponding period of 1907, the decline being 45 per cent.

Since the inspectors were placed on the United States boundary they turned back 323 persons as **undesirables**, thus proving their usefulness. During the first six months of the present year 437 persons were refused permission to land at Canadian ports, and 872 persons were returned to the countries from which they came. It may seem harsh to turn away any who might be benefited by our boundless and developing resources. But when a doubt arises the first duty of the Government is toward those who are here and have built up the Dominion. Other nations should be taught the duty of caring for their human residue and dealing with the systems that produce a pauper class.