IMMIGRATION AND GROWTH

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Canada can afford to discriminate in the matter of immigration. While it may seem selfish and unreasonable to deprive foreigners of the better prospects of success which our general conditions afford, it is quite fair to take precautions against influences tending to lower our average standard of citizenship. We have not been sufficiently successful in solving the problems of growth to warrant us in keeping the doors open for all who may choose to come. Last year we deported 784 who were found to be physically unfit or likely through evil tendencies to become recruits in our criminal population. This seems a large record, and it is made more conspicuous by the fact that during the same year 17,816 were rejected at the different ports of entry. This seems like a startling record, but as 15,404 were citizens of the United States, it. indicates nothing more serious than border activity in turning back the undesirable floating population.

A bulletin recently published shows the total immigration for the past decade to have been close on two millions. Of these about 750,-000 were from Britain and 700,000 from the United States. During the latter years of this period the influx has greatly increased. As American opportunities are closing and conditions in the Republic are approximating those of Europe the volume of immigration from the United States has proportionately increased. Whatever justification there may have been for indiscriminate admission before the pressure of industrial conditions became a possibility in Canada, it is now the duty of the Dominion authorities to protect the interests of those already here. Even with all the care that can be exercised, foreign admixtures will lower the standard of citizenship, but it is a tendency that should continually be re-Our chief care can now be bestowed on sisted. the quality of immigration. The quantity is assured.

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