

Emigration From Canada During Next Few Years More Probable Than Immigration to Dominion

J. S. Woodsworth Addresses Board of Trade—Problems Arising Out of Present War—Austria and Borders of Russia Will Provide New Settlers for This Country

"For a few years there is more likely to be an emigration from Canada than an immigration to Canada. Many of those who are here from the old lands are going back to help build up. But in a few years the old tendencies will re-assert themselves and we may look for an increased flow of immigration."

The foregoing is one of the most interesting excerpts from the address of J. S. Woodsworth before the board of trade at noon today. The subject of the address was "Immigration Problems Arising Out of the Present War" and the speaker clearly showed where the great European war is bound to have a great effect on the future of Canada so far as immigration to this country is concerned.

He predicted that Austria and the borders of Russia will be the countries to provide the great flood of immigration when the war is over. Industrial conditions there are anything but favorable and Canada, who has welcomed them in the past with wide open arms, will get them in larger numbers than ever.

Much Depends on War

"Much will depend on the way the war will go during the next few months, the ultimate victory and the terms of settlement," said Mr. Woodsworth. "If the Allies are defeated, a result unthinkable from our viewpoint—our fate will be tied up with that of the United States. If the Allies win much depends on the terms of settlement and indemnity. It is doubtful if we will have the same wonderful immigration, however, because Great Britain is sure to have great trade expansion giving openings for the classes, which in time past came to Canada.

"Belgium will need to retain every available man to build up her broken resources. As far as Germany is concerned we have not had any great influx from that country for years and are not likely to get any more after the war. It is quite possible that Poland will become an independent nation and will call in her people in the hope of building up a great country."

Canada's Great Problem

Mr. Woodsworth went on to point out that it is the assimilation and taking care of these foreign-born and non-English speaking people that are coming from Austria and Russia that will be Canada's great problem. In many instances the situation has been dealt with stupidly and ineffectively in the past. Hundreds and thousands of these people come to Canada without capital and without a knowledge of the English language. They take the government grant of 160 acres of land. The handicaps are too great and they fall out of the immigration problem arises the great unemployment problem.

"A great many foreigners would be bet-

ter off if given forty acres of land and a little bit of working capital by the government," was one of Mr. Woodsworth's terse statements. Millions of dollars have been given to bond manufacturing industries, and I think the time has come when the great agricultural industry of the country should be bonused."

Illustrates Address.

Mr. Woodsworth illustrated his address by the aid of several wall maps giving interesting comparative figures in regard to the immigration of Canada and United States and also showing what countries Canada's future citizens are being received from.

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Woodsworth for his interesting and instructive address. The following nominating committee was named by President S. Smith to nominate officers for 1915: J. K. McGeorge, H. M. Martin, H. H. Cooper, T. M. Turnbull, R. McKelvey.

WANTS CONTRACT FOR DEVELOPING VIKING GAS FIELD

Eugene Coste of Calgary Offers to Complete Work for \$3,000,000

Frank Ford, K. C., representing Eugene Coste, of Calgary, appeared before council this afternoon asking for a 20-year contract to develop the Viking gas fields at a cost of \$3,000,000. Mr. Coste, through his representative, admitted that he knew that the policy of the city council was against granting franchises to public service corporations, consequently he offered to drill four more wells to a depth of 4,500 feet each. He was prepared to commence operations by May 1 of this year and pipe the gas to the city limits where the city could take it over and establish a distribution plant. No mention was made of the price of gas at the city limits. Mr. Coste merely asking that a committee be appointed to discuss the matter with his representative. Council decided to lay the matter on the table.