

right sort—but the problem of keeping them and turning their ability into the right channels. In a country of such vast area and great resources there ought to be room for hosts of those who are not afraid to work with the idea of winning the comforts and independence they could not find in the crowded Old World lands. Canada should be able to retain them when they do come. If it is found that the "drift to the United States"—a familiar phrase decades ago—is again becoming serious, there should be no halting until the cause is found and remedied. Canada wants the right class of immigrants, and she wants to keep them.

CANADA AND IMMIGRATION.

Washington despatches state that a committee of Congress is to consider a private bill providing for the protection of citizens of the United States by the suspension of immigration for two years. The heavy influx of newcomers is given as the cause for the appearance of this measure. Canada, on the contrary, is eager for immigration of the right kind, especially for the type that is sturdy enough and properly qualified to take up agriculture. There is a call also for men for the forests and the mines, and various construction projects that throughout the war and since have been hampered by lack of labor.

It is probable the new wave of immigration beginning to flow into this country will in a short time redress an outflow to the United States that was beginning to assume disturbing proportions. Since the signing of the armistice the revival of immigration has been most encouraging. For the twelve months ending March, 1920, the number of new arrivals to the country was approximately 120,000, of whom 50 per cent. came from the British Isles, and the major part of the remainder from the United States. In so far as the latter country is concerned, however, the balance for the last five years is against Canada. Between March, 1914, and March, 1920, immigrants from across the border numbered 270,234, while emigrants from this country between June, 1914, and June, 1919, totalled 604,065, a net loss to Canada of 333,831 in the exchange with the country to the south. From all countries in that period, including Great Britain and the United States, the aggregate immigration was 405,476. Thus 198,589 more people left for the United States than the total immigration into Canada in the five-year period.

It should be remembered in considering these figures that in the earlier years of the war the amazing industrial and business expansion of the greatest of neutrals attracted many former American citizens and Canadians to the United States. No doubt large numbers of enemy aliens and recent settlers from European countries not in the war also made their way across the line. That war conditions were almost entirely responsible for the outflow is proved by the fact that if the figures for the last ten-year period are taken they show that 130,000 more people have come into Canada from the United States than have gone to that country. In the three years before the war 50,000 a year was the average excess of immigration from across the border over emigration in that direction. Immigration to Canada reached its peak in the year ending March 31, 1913, when 402,432 persons were formally admitted. The next year the total was 382,878. Then came the war and the cessation of the flow from Europe. In the year ending March 31, 1919, Canada received a total immigration of only 57,702, and 40,715 of these were from the United States. Against that number the 120,000 for the year closing with last March makes a fine showing.

The real question for Canada, however, is not so much the number of immigrants—so long as those who do come are of the