

does not know, but this is no ordinary time for Willie. Perhaps it is because his thoughts are all on Jane Monaghan that he does not place his bets on Daredevil, but on a new horse, Dashing Jane.

Willie has such a wonderful time that the rest of the afternoon is gone before he knows it. And when he hears that Daredevil lost the race he is very much disappointed. But his heart brightens up when he sees that he is holding the tickets, not for Daredevil, but for Dashing Jane, who comes first because Daredevil gets something in his oats and is not able to run very fast.

Willie is a very happy man indeed when he is leaving the track, and who would not be if he were in Willie's shoes.

Willie walks out to the gate with a big smile on his face and Jane Monaghan on his arm and with five hundred dollars in his pocket because Dashing Jane pays ten to one this day because she is not considered a very likely win by the bookies.

Although five hundred dollars is not very much money to use to start up a business, Willie is determined to buy out a store next to Joe's place and settle down for the rest of his life.

But my cousin says that he gets the rest of the money from his wife, who by this time calls herself Jane Lynns-worth, because this is what Willie the Whip's real name is, J. William Lynnsworth.

—J. S. MacDONALD, '49.

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### IMMIGRATION AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Within the past two months I have read several editorials in which it was contended that Canada should at once begin an intensive immigration policy. This opinion was based on figures published by the Bureau of Vital Statistics, which indicated that Canada's population will have reached a maximum before the end of the century, and will thereafter gradually decline, unless the birth rate rises appreciably or large numbers of immigrants are attracted to the country.

Now such a policy designed to increase the country's population may be the best for the rest of Canada, but I contend that we should best serve the interests of Prince Edward Island, not by adding to the number of her people by immigration, but by keeping our own young men and women from emigrating to other provinces and countries.



In the first place, the Island's present population is approximately ninety-three thousand people, or forty-five persons per square mile, making it by far the most densely populated Canadian province. The birth rate is the second highest in the Dominion. Life on the Island is for the most part rural, conducive to a high birth rate. The trend towards urbanism, with a consequent decreasing birth rate, has not made itself evident to any great extent. Therefore it seems reasonable to assume that if our young people remain in our own province there will not be any decided drop in population.

If, then, the natural increase of the inhabitants of the province is sufficient to maintain the population at about its present level, it must be that those who advocate immigration think that our industries can be expanded sufficiently to absorb labor. Let us examine this aspect of the question.

The Island has only one main industry, farming. True, there are other small industries but they are all more or less dependent upon farming. That industry, then, would naturally be expected to absorb most of the immigrants brought into this province. Can it do it? I think that it cannot. It is true that there are many abandoned farms on Prince Edward Island, farms once productive enough to support large families. But due to improper methods of farming, caused in no small measure by economic injustice to the farmers, these farms are for the most part cropped out and the soil impoverished, and even the woodlots seem to produce little but scrub trees, next to worthless. In order to bring back these farms to a state of fertility necessary to grow even average crops, much fertilization is necessary. But this requires capital and plenty of it, something that most immigrants have not; if they had, they would not leave their own country. But perhaps the government will lend financial assistance to farmer immigrants. If so, would it not be wiser to help establish some of our own young farmers, men who are familiar with soil peculiarities, climate, and marketing conditions? Surely their chance of making a success of farming ought to be at least as good as those of newcomers to our land. If the agricultural industry needs more men it can find them in our own province, if the farmer can obtain for his products such prices as will enable him to pay wages comparable to those paid by the other industries.

As far as the small industries are concerned, there seems little likelihood of their being able to give employment to any considerable number of immigrants. The most important of these secondary industries is fishing which in



pre-war years scarcely gave a subsistent wage to those engaged in it. With the advent of more modern methods of operating, the number of persons required per fishing unit is being gradually lessened. Since there are no new fishing grounds to be opened up, it would seem that this industry is not in a position to employ any more people than it does at present. Our small manufacturing industry, too, must always remain small. We lack the two pre-requisites for expanded manufacturing, cheap power and a close source of raw material. Hence this industry is as little able to absorb large numbers of immigrants as is agriculture or fishing. The same applies to the other local industries: from present indications there seems to be little need for outside labor to operate them. Indeed the competition from mainland sources has been so strong that some of our local factories have been forced to close down. Thus it appears to me that the influx of large numbers of immigrants into this province would cause added unemployment with its resultant economic upheaval.

It seems to me, therefore, that since our industries are incapable of absorbing many immigrants, and since such immigrants would not add to our peace or prosperity, regardless of what policy is pursued in the other eight provinces, Prince Edward Island can best work out her destiny through the efforts of her own sons and daughters, and those other Canadians who wish to share in her future.

—JOSEPH CAIRNS, '49

## BOOK REVIEW

### SUMNER WELLES — THE TIME FOR DECISION

New York and London—Harper and Brothers, 1944 (414P)

In this latest book by Sumner Welles, the author gives his interpretation of world history from the first Great War till the present time. He divides his work into three parts; the first part deals with the course of events between the two Great Wars and discusses American policy towards world events during that period. Welles deals at some length with the failure of the League of Nations, and expounds his views as to why it was a failure and how it could have succeeded. He discusses his mission to Europe in 1940, and describes in detail his visits with the leaders of those countries which were then in the war. The momen-