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Melting Pot ideal. The advocates of Americanization threw away a valuable instrument when they allowed the notion to spread that the Melting Pot was opposed to their policy, instead of being the process by which that policy could be effected.

The discussion is obscured by vague use of terms. Stoddard declares that the Melting Pot could only produce a chaotic mass. "That," he says, "is what general fusion means. The only practical alternative is assimilation—the absorption of all assimilable elements into one of these human stocks, languages and cultures." But assimilation is not an alternative to fusion. Fusion is a method by which assimilation may be effected. With fusion and assimilation alike the product depends on the proportion of the constituents. Stoddard insists that in the process of assimilation the dominating assimilating factor must survive and retain its identity. It is equally just for the United States to refuse to accept a larger proportion of aliens than it can incorporate without undue disturbance of the community whether it call the incorporation melting, or fusion, or assimilation.

If the Melting Pot process were regarded as the suppression of all the national characteristics of the immigrants the result would be as impoverishing to the nation as would have been the complete suppression of provincial characteristics in Great Britain; but the Melting Pot should fuse the diverse elements into a compound, to which each constituent would contribute its best qualities.

<sup>1</sup> Kellor, "Immigration and the Future," 1920, p. 33.

<sup>2</sup> Garis, "Immigration Restriction," 1927, pp. 22-58.

<sup>3</sup> F. C. Howe, "Civilization in the United States," 1922, p. 339.

<sup>4</sup> S. G. Fisher, "Alien Degradation of American Character," "Forum," XIV, 1893, pp. 610-11.

<sup>5</sup> I. A. Hourwich, "Economic Aspects of European Immigration to the United States," 1912, p. 224.

<sup>6</sup> P. Roberts, "The New Immigration," 1912, p. viii and last chapter.

<sup>7</sup> J. P. Gavit, "Americans by Choice," 1922, Chaps. 7 and 8.