

APPENDIX No. 3

Mr. Armstrong (North York):

Q. Have these agents the power to appoint sub-agents?

A. No.

Q. They have not?

A. They may carry on the business as they like.

By Mr. Turriff:

Q. In these cases where an agent has done nothing for a number of years if the member writes to the Minister and points out that fact and asks that the agent be dismissed action will be taken, will it not?

A. He will be dismissed and another appointed, I have no doubt another may be appointed.

Mr. HENDERSON.—It is not necessary to ask for the dismissal of an agent, but merely to ask that another one be appointed, you can allow the old drone to sit down there and enjoy the honour of being a government agent, if he desires it, whilst the other man gets the work and makes money by placing men where they are required. It is not necessary to dismiss the inactive agent.

By Mr. Steele:

Q. One of the difficulties in our part of the province is that men who have no experience whatever on the farm are sent to farmers as farm labourers. The farmer does not know anything as to the man's experience when he engages him, and he puts up with him for a month or so, but in the end he has to let him go because he is not adapted to the work and the season is then too late for him to get another man at all. I have often wondered why that kind of man is sent to the farmer at all?

A. The farmers ask for that class of man, he is cheaper.

Q. It is not always that way. I wonder whether the fact that farm labourers are admitted without the \$25 encourages these young men to book as farm labourers although they have not much experience?

A. I do not think so. Now if you will notice the list of applications, we will take the man at Cowansville, Que., who reported to me that he required thirty single experienced men, wages according to ability, and 30 single inexperienced men, wages according to ability. You must remember that only 7 per cent of Great Britain is a rural farming population and the agents send over a large number of immigrants from other classes although we endeavour to get the best men from the rural districts, people who are used to farming, and we are also very glad to get people who are used to handling horses, such as carters, or any other class of men who are accustomed to handling horses.

Q. Can you tell me the number of agents that you have in Bruce county, and also the number of men that were placed there in 1911?

A. I have it in the office, but I haven't it here.

Q. Can you tell me what salary Miss Rothwell gets, what she is paid?

A. She is paid, as I explained this morning, \$5 for each domestic she brings out, and \$2 for placing them with some family.

Q. And she pays her own expenses to England?

A. Yes, of course she also receives the steamship company's commission, we pay her nothing else.

By Mr. Sutherland:

Q. Do you get a special rate for these agents on the steamships?

A. We do.

Q. What rate do you get?—A. \$50.

Q. Return?

A. Single, it used to be \$30 but they increased it lately, but that is first-class passage.