

Mr. FOSTER. I do not understand what all this business is at Vancouver. It seems to me you are putting in a superintendent at \$2,500 and a staff amounting in all to, I think, four men.

Mr. OLIVER. There are two medical officers and one clerk.

Mr. FOSTER. Two medical officers and one clerk for a detention hospital in Vancouver. Is that a new institution there?

Mr. OLIVER. Yes, that is a new institution caused by the legislation of last session and the demand for more care in the admission of immigrants. This provides for the hospital and the inspection of vessels arriving.

Mr. FOSTER. Is this a new building or is it rented, or what?

Mr. OLIVER. At present we have no hospital building, we are using the Canadian Pacific Railway building.

Mr. FOSTER. Where do these immigrants come from?

Mr. OLIVER. Of course all vessels landing there, whether they come from American ports or from China or Japan or Australia are medically examined there and detained if the conditions require it.

Mr. FOSTER. I did not understand that the minister has anything to do with anything else than immigration. This is a vote for immigration and it is not intended out of this vote to pay for anything but what is absolutely necessary for immigration purposes. Where do your immigrants come from and how many of them come in from Pacific ports and land at Vancouver?

Mr. OLIVER. This inspection has only recently been established during the last few months, and there are no figures available at present?

Mr. FOSTER. Before we can grant a large amount for this, we want to know who is coming. Are they Chinese? No, they are excluded by a prohibitory tax. Are they Japanese? No, there is no Japanese immigration to our country. Are they from the Philippine Islands or where are they from? The minister must have some groundwork before he asks for the establishment of a detention hospital with this expensive staff.

Mr. OLIVER. As I said this arrangement has only recently been instituted on account of the legislation and the general feeling of last session that it was necessary to take more care to guard against the introduction of immigrants who might convey disease, and therefore the establishment was made. We are not able to give any satisfactory returns as yet of the number coming in but there are people who come

Mr. OLIVER.

from the Pacific ports of the United States to Vancouver, some from Australia and some also from Japan. Of course immigration from China is discontinued under the prohibitory tax, but there is no such tax on Japanese and there is a considerable employment of Japanese, I venture to say.

Mr. FOSTER. What were the figures of immigration last year? No minister can make an establishment unless he founds it on something that has been and then make it sizeable with what is likely to be. What is the 'has been' on which the minister is putting up an expensive establishment at Vancouver?

Mr. OLIVER. This establishment was organized some three months ago. Before that time, no record was kept, there was no attempt at any record in regard to the entry of immigrants at the port of Vancouver. The establishment was placed there not because of the volume of immigration but because it is the port through which immigrants may enter or do enter from the Pacific, and it is placed there in response to the generally expressed feeling as I understand it at the last session of parliament that greater care should be taken than had previously been taken as to the introduction of diseased immigrants into the country.

Mr. FOSTER. I cannot understand that and I do not think the minister has made any case at all. Do you mean to say that the Immigration Department does not keep a record of immigrants who come in? You give us statements every year and our statistics are based upon your statements. How many immigrants came in at Vancouver last year and from what ports? The United States immigration does not come in to any extent by these ports, it comes in from the interior of the country, I suppose 99 per cent of it. It is not amongst the United States immigrants that we look for diseased persons. Those are cleanlimbed and healthy like our own people. Where you will get disease is among those from those far-off regions which you seem to be scouring in the centre of Europe, among the Molokans and Syrians and Arabians, and Mesopotamians. They will have all sorts of diseases, but they come in on the other coast. It was a surprise to me. I had an idea there were no immigrants coming in from the Pacific. How many Japanese have come in as immigrants. What are the figures for last year? What are your records for the Pacific coast?

Mr. OLIVER. I said a moment ago that up to three months ago we had not kept records of entries at the Pacific coast.

Mr. FOSTER. Very well, if the minister will give us the records for the last three months. That is an admission surely. We have been paying three-quarters of a million