

in the future, with particular reference to the question of employment. On those people belonging to the specified occupations—farm labourers and domestic servants—and who intend to follow those occupations in Canada, the booking agent who sold the ticket is allowed one pound on adults and ten shilling on those between one and eighteen years of age.

The CHAIRMAN.—We know that there is a large immigration coming in here from London, Manchester and from other large centres of Great Britain. Is it a fact that those people come in without any bonus being paid on them at all?

Mr. ROBERTSON.—Of the British immigration for the past eight or ten years a bonus has been paid on about 17 per cent; 17 out of 100 have qualified for bonus payments.

Hon. Mr. BOLDOC.—Only that proportion?

Mr. ROBERTSON.—About 17 out of 100. It varies in different years. The largest is 20.39 and the lowest 13.7.

Hon. Mr. JAFFRAY.—That bonus is paid when they come here, not before they leave.

Mr. ROBERTSON.—After they have arrived and we have found out from the examination conducted by our own officers that they belong to the particular classes for which we are catering, the bonus is paid; and if within a year they leave and go to the states, or if they are deported back to their own country for some reason, the bonus is deducted from that particular agent's future earnings.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND.—But that agent applies for his bonus?

Mr. ROBERTSON.—Yes.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND.—And sends a copy or the original document signed by that party purchasing the ticket?

Mr. ROBERTSON.—Yes; that is his claim.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND.—How do you explain that 83 per cent of the immigrants escape the ticket agent and the bonus?

Mr. ROBERTSON.—They do not escape the ticket agent; the ticket agent knows it is useless to send in a bonus claim on a carpenter in the Old Country who intends to be a carpenter here, and the other classes that do not come within the bonus regulations. Over and above that, we do not allow a bonus to the head offices of steamship companies or shipping offices; the head offices of steamship companies sell a large number of tickets. When I say we allow bonuses on 17 per cent I do not mean to say that only 17 per cent of the immigrants from Great Britain belong to the agricultural classes; there are a great deal more than 17 per cent belonging to the agricultural classes.

The CHAIRMAN.—Is it a fact that the Salvation Army and charitable organizations of that kind are booking agents?

Mr. ROBERTSON.—The Salvation Army, in so far at least as its immigration business is concerned, can hardly be called a charitable organization. The Salvation Army is selling tickets and bringing immigrants forward to Canada. In their largest year, when the Salvation Army booked most people to Canada, they booked some 26,000. I am speaking from memory.

Hon. Mr. BOLDOC.—In the year?

Mr. ROBERTSON.—In the year; and they financially assisted 460.

The CHAIRMAN.—Themselves?

Mr. ROBERTSON.—Yes; they financially assisted some, only to the extent, maybe, of a pound or two pounds.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND.—When you say 26,000, would they be immigrants who fell under the regulations as farm labourers?

Mr. ROBERTSON.—Not all.