

Q. What information have you to enable you to know that this man is a farm hand?

A. The booking agent when he sells a ticket advises our agent that he is a farm hand.

*By Mr. Wilson (Laval):*

Q. You have to take his declaration?

A. We take his word.

Q. An agent in the old country would not write to an agent here about a man who was not a farmer. He would not get any commission?

A. Yes, he would get his railway commission and steamship commission.

*By Mr. Wilson (Lennox and Addington):*

Q. If he was not a farmer in the old country?

A. I say a steamship agent in the old country would get steamship and railway commissions.

Q. But nothing from you?

A. No.

Q. What inducement would he have to write to an agent in this country?

A. To sell him his ticket. It is a great advantage to the booking agent in the old country to know that they can send these men out and get work for them.

*By Mr. Sproule:*

Q. Are we right in assuming that you have no definite information as to the employments of those people before they come here?

A. We have information.

Q. So you write a farmer that you are sending him a farm hand?

A. No, not an experienced farm hand. We repeatedly send out circulars to those employment agents asking how many men they can place. Here is a circular I send out: 'Please let me know by return mail if you are willing to continue in your position as Canadian government employment agent for the present year. It is my intention to correspond at once with the booking agents in the old country and endeavour to secure if possible for each employment agent the number of immigrants required for their districts. Underneath is a form which I would like you to fill out showing the numbers wanted, the month during which they are wanted, and the rate of wages the farmers are willing to pay.' We divide the classes into four:—Experienced farm labourers, single; experienced farm labourers, married; inexperienced farm labourers, single; inexperienced farm labourers, married. The domestics are another class. These are the different classes that we place with farmers. This man replied that he could place 10 experienced farm labourers single in March, 5 in April and 5 in May; 2 experienced farm labourers married in March, 2 in April and 1 in May; 2 inexperienced farm labourers single in March, 2 in April, 2 in May; that he could not place any inexperienced farm labourers married and that he could place 2 domestics in February, 5 in March, 7 in April and 8 in May.

Q. And did you send him any?

A. That is simply his request. I do not know whether he received any or not.

*By Mr. Wilson (Lennox and Addington):*

Q. That is the man you dismissed?

A. I am simply quoting that as a sample of the circular.

*By Mr. Smith (Stormont):*

Q. Was it not a crime for this man to charge commissions on men that he did not place?

A. I would not like to say that.