

2 GEORGE V., A. 1912

plying people to eastern Ontario, so that they would not have to go to Toronto and be sent back here, yet that request was refused?

A. It was refused, yet the Ontario government did have an officer at Quebec, Mr. Tutt.

Q. An agent was sent down and was informed that he would not be allowed to interview the immigrants there, the Canadian Northern people offered him facilities and yet he was denied admission to the building for the purpose of interviewing the immigrants that had received loans from the Ontario government and were coming here, although they asked that we be allowed to interview them so as to avoid the necessity of sending them back east from Toronto.

A. This particular man Davidson, whose case I cited, is one of those particular instances, they were originally ticketed to Toronto.

Q. Yes, why was he ticketed to Toronto? It would necessitate having to send him back again?

A. They were absolutely not fitted for one another.

Q. I am speaking with regard to loans which they received, loans from the Ontario government?

A. I do not know anything about loans, all that I know is that a great many that got loans, or to whom loans were advanced by the booking agents, never went to farm work.

Q. Not a very large proportion, a very small proportion.

A. Well, I have your letter, Mr. Sutherland, there are a great many of them.

Q. I stated in my letter that the proportion was very small.

A. Would you like me to read your letter, Mr. Sutherland?

Q. You are at liberty to read it.

By Mr. Armstrong (North York):

Q. What effect would it have if the remuneration of the local distributing agents were increased and if it were made conditional that they must locate so many men before they could draw that remuneration?

A. That would be an impossibility. You cannot tell how many immigrants are coming in; this year we hope to get 400,000.

Q. But it would induce them to work?

A. If I were a member representing a constituency that suffered because of the inactivity of the agent I would see the Minister.

Q. I was just wondering whether it would not have a tendency to increase the number of men placed.

A. If the agent is a good active man he can make anywhere from \$400 to \$600 a year which is pretty good for an old retired farmer.

Mr. HENDERSON.—In reference to that I would like to ask a question. A man is sent out to the town of Milton, for instance, where this man Hartley operated, and as I say, operated very successfully, and is sent out by the agent to a farmer two miles out of town. On the road the immigrant meets a farmer who asks him where he is going and the immigrant replies, 'I am going over to John Brown's, I have come from the old country and I am going to work for him.' The farmer inquires further and ascertains that Mr. Brown is going to pay this man \$12 a month, and as he is in need of help offers the man \$15 a month to work for him. The man accepts his offer and does not go to Mr. Brown at all. Now what becomes of the employment agent, does he get the \$2?

A. If the man goes to a farmer he does.

Q. But supposing the agent loses track of him?

A. In that case when John Brown doesn't get the man who has been sent to him he notifies the agent that the man has not turned up and the agent immediately gets busy to find out where the immigrant has gone to.