

## APPENDIX No. 2

which your agents are working in with land companies or are directing immigrants to certain particular districts where they are interested in lands themselves?

A. No.

Q. I had a letter the other day from a man who claimed that one of your agents at Winnipeg, some man employed in the Immigration Office, had sent him to a certain district with a letter to the agent's son and that he had bought land from this man and then found that it had not been patented?

A. If you will send me the letter I will have the complaint investigated.

Q. I will send it to you. Have you had no other complaints at all of that nature?

A. I cannot recall any. I have heard real estate men talking when I have been west and saying that our agents were referring parties to someone else.

Q. I suppose you have issued instructions to your agents that they are to do nothing of the kind?

A. No, I cannot say that I have. These agents were all appointed before I came to the Department. I do not remember exactly as to that.

*By An Honourable Member:*

Q. If you did issue instructions you would prohibit the agents from doing anything of that kind?

A. Certainly.

*By Mr. Lake:*

Q. Have you heard this matter talked of?

A. In Winnipeg I have heard it talked of by real estate men who said they were referring new arrivals to those people.

Q. You have never thought it worth while to give instructions to your agents prohibiting them from doing any thing of the kind notwithstanding the existence of these suspicions?

A. I cannot say that I have. I did not think it was really necessary.

*By Mr. Rutan:*

Q. Some of these immigrants should undergo an examination before they leave the old country as to their character and qualifications. I know that some of them who have come into our part of the country are really not worth anything. It seems to me that it is a waste of time and money to bring that class of people into Canada. They are really not worth anything; they are lazy, will not work, and are anything but desirable citizens?

A. If the clerk of the municipality to which you refer will make a complaint we will attend to it.

Mr. McCALL.—If a large number of immigrants are brought into the country we must expect that some proportion of them will not turn out well. We should exercise proper care, of course, and get the best. I take the ground that these immigrants from Great Britain, our motherland, are worth bringing here even at the risk of occasionally getting an undesirable one. I take the ground that a man coming here with a family of 5 children has brought to this country an asset of two or three thousand dollars. I think the gentlemen will admit with me that it is cheaper to import them than to raise them here. I have in mind an English family that came into my town, the town of Simcoe, and lived quite near me. They were in need and the members of my family had to look after them. There were 5 sons and 4 daughters. The mother was bright and cheerful, a woman full of courage. The father was no good, absolutely no good. I said to my people, 'You help these people through until they get on their feet.' In time the children got work; some went to