

APPENDIX No. 2

Mr. WILSON (Laval).—I would like to examine that man under oath.

Mr. WILSON (Lennox and Addington).—There is the written statement.

By Mr. Wilson (Laval):

Q. I would like to find out from Mr. Scott how long an immigrant is supposed to work on a farm to be a farmer's help.

A. No time at all.

Mr. WILSON (Lennox and Addington).—But this man did not go on a farm at all.

Q. But suppose he was on a farm one day and made a change. Would you interpret that as a crime if the agent claimed his commission?

A. We would pay it—he had done his part.

Q. Is it necessary that an immigrant should be an expert farmer and have experience in the old country before being brought here?

Mr. WILSON (Lennox and Addington).—Mr. Jury was out here two or three years ago and he said unless a man had been a farmer before they would not pay a commission on his being sent to Canada.

Mr. MCINTYRE (Strathcona).—That is a bonus.

A. A different thing altogether.

Mr. WILSON (Lennox and Addington).—That shows that a farm labourer was reported as a farm labourer because he worked as a farm labourer in the old country.

A. An entirely different proposition. You are mixing two things. In the old country we pay booking agents a bonus of £1 per head on farmers and domestics, that is those who have been engaged actually one year as farmers or domestic servants. In placing men in this country we do not care whether a man has been a farmer or not.

By Mr. Smith (Namaimo):

Q. What is the amount of commission you pay for placing them?

A. \$2 for each man. Last year we paid men, women and children, this year we do not pay for women and children; only men.

By Mr. Sproule:

Q. What evidence satisfies you that you are sending a farmer a man who is accustomed to farming or who is a farm labourer? What evidence have you to satisfy you that you are sending that class of man?

A. We do not handle them here at all. We send a list of our employment agents to the booking agents in the old country. When a booking agent sells a ticket, we will say to some country village, he immediately notifies our agent at that point that he has sold such and such a ticket to such and such a man, giving the necessary information as to his experience, whether he is an experienced farm labourer or a general labourer. Ninety-five per cent of the ocean tickets sold in the old country are sold thirty days before the ship sails, so that the agent has thirty days on this side to look around and find whether he can place that man.

Q. How can you call him a farm labourer if he has not had experience?

A. Some of the best men in this country have had no farm experience in the old country.

Q. If you send me a man how would I know that he was a farm labourer?

A. If you wrote to me we would send your letter to our agent at the point nearest to you and he would select a man whom he thought would be suitable.

Q. A farm hand?

A. If you asked for an experienced hand.