

be glad to give any additional information that may be sought.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. How many months in the year is Mr. Haycock in the employ of the government?

Mr. FIELDING. He is employed all the year around, his duties being inspector in the binder twine business, and he also checks the accounts rendered for bounty by the manufacturers of binder twine. He visits all the factories for that purpose.

Mr. BERGERON. There is no danger of a conflict between the employees of the Department of Trade and Commerce and those of the Department of the Interior all over Europe?

Mr. FIELDING. No, their lines are different.

Mr. BERGERON. I understand that Mr. Preston has nothing at all to do with immigration now?

Mr. FIELDING. No.

Mr. BERGERON. How many of these agents of the government are in Europe to-day?

Mr. FIELDING. I shall be very happy to give the hon. gentleman the information later, as it does not come under this vote. The immigration agents come under the Department of the Interior.

Mr. BERGERON. I want to know how many agents of the Department of Trade and Commerce are in Europe.

Mr. FIELDING. Six.

Mr. BERGERON. Who are they?

Mr. FIELDING. Mr. Ball at Birmingham, Mr. Jackson at Leeds and Hull, Mr. McKinnon at Bristol, Mr. MacNamara at Manchester, Mr. Poindron at Paris and Mr. Sontum at Christiania, making four in England and two on the continent.

Mr. BERGERON. Where is Mr. Preston?

Mr. FIELDING. He is in Yokohama or Tokio.

Mr. BERGERON. That would be seven.

Mr. FIELDING. But Tokio is not in Europe.

Mr. BERGERON. I want to know how many agents the Department of Trade and Commerce has in Europe, or China, or Russia, or anywhere else.

Mr. FIELDING. That was not my hon. friend's question. He asked for the number in Europe. In addition, Mr. Larke is in Sydney, Australia, Mr. D. H. Ross in Melbourne, Mr. Chesley in Cape Town, Mr. Donly in Mexico, Mr. McLean in Japan, five in the West Indies, of whom four are local men with small salaries and not in the

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same rank with the others, and Mr. Arnaud in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Mr. BERGERON. That is eighteen altogether. What are the duties of these gentlemen; does the department get any report from them and how does the department know whether or not they are doing any work for the money they receive?

Mr. FIELDING. These gentlemen make reports very frequently, which reports are mailed to every member of this parliament. I am afraid my hon. friend's mail has miscarried.

Mr. BERGERON. Not at all. I read these reports. It is very good reading, but does their work amount to a great deal for the country? It looks to me as if these appointments were made more to provide positions for some people than anything else.

Mr. FIELDING. The department is well satisfied with the results for the money we expend. If we had not these agents, I am sure my hon. friend would be the first to complain that we were not looking after our foreign trade. A trade agent is like an advertisement—you cannot just tell when the business will come, but in time the business increases and we hope that will be the case with these agents. At all events, every member of this House will feel that we should make an effort to get some share of the trade of the world, and if we do not send out these commissioners and make the effort we certainly will fail.

Mr. CROCKET. Which of these seventeen or eighteen agents enjoys the highest salary?

Mr. FIELDING. Mr. Preston gets \$3,600, the others \$3,000.

Mr. CROCKET. Mr. Preston, for the nine months ending March 1, received in addition \$1,254.55 travelling expenses and \$833.30 living allowance. Are the other agents entitled to living allowances?

Mr. FIELDING. No; Mr. Preston received living expenses because on his way to the east he went to South Africa, and did some temporary service there. But when he reaches Japan he becomes a salaried officer at \$3,600 and is not entitled to living allowance. The others are not entitled to living allowance but are entitled to travelling expenses when travelling.

Mr. LALOR. Why was Mr. Preston removed from England?

Mr. FIELDING. He was regarded as a most excellent man for the work in the east and we like to send the best man where the work is most difficult.

Mr. CLEMENTS. Does the minister of his own knowledge, know if Alexander Smith, late Liberal organizer for Ontario,