

APPENDIX No. 3

regarding the feasibility of directing people to the proper kind of employment, I can give you the case of a Scotchman and his wife of the name of Davidson. They arrived at Quebec in the early part of May, 1911, and were sent up here to Ottawa to a namesake of my own—a dairyman. Mr. Davidson, though a farm labourer, had no knowledge of milking, and what my namesake wanted was some one who could milk. Now, it is a long way to send people from Quebec to here to a place for which they are not suited. If Davidson had gone to an employment agent in western Ontario, with the telephone facilities they now have, our distributing agent could have phoned to the farmer, the farmer could have come in and seen the man, talked with him, and found out what his qualifications were, whether he was a general farm labourer, or a ditcher, or whatever he might have been. The nearer you get the man to the farmer who is employing him the better.

Q. The trouble is you are not getting him there?

A. Ontario gets more than any other province.

By Mr. Smith (South Ontario):

Q. Are Canadians on a visit to the old country inspected on their way back in the same way as immigrants?

A. If they are on a visit to the old country, and if they are Canadian born or have been in Canada long enough to be domiciled they are provided with a certificate. If you are going to the Old Country on a third-class ticket, when you purchase your ticket say at Toronto or London or Hamilton the agent has a certificate that he will give you, and which you sign in his presence. You put that ticket in your pocket and when you come back you simply present that certificate which says that you are a Canadian, and there is no inspection for you at all. If you do not get that ticket it is the fault of the ticket agents in Canada.

By Mr. Sutherland:

Q. Are the immigrants for the Maritime provinces placed from the ports of landing?

A. Yes.

Q. At the beginning of last year, 1911, the Ontario government were loaning money to farm labourers to come out here?

A. Yes.

Q. And you had a request from the Ontario department to allow an official of that government to interview these men who were coming to Ontario at the port of landing with the view of placing some of them in eastern Ontario. Now, you say these men are placed in the maritime provinces in that way. Here is a letter from you in which you said:

I regret being unable to comply with your request in the matter of stationing one of your officers at the port of Quebec. We have been obliged to refuse this privilege on a good many different occasions, and I am afraid to open the door now would only result in confusion.

A. I may say that the object of that was this: We had received applications from every province to place their own officers at the ocean ports to interview immigrants. Now, if an immigrant was going to Ontario and we allowed an officer from Manitoba or Saskatchewan in the building he would naturally try to induce that immigrant to go further west, while an Ontario officer might try to induce a man booked for the west to go to Ontario. It was only to prevent confusion.

Q. If he were booked to Ontario there would be no occasion to ask him to go to western Canada. Now, in this case in Ontario it was done with the object of sup-