

complained after they went home that they did not see the agricultural part of Canada, that is those parts to which settlers were going. They saw, as one of them stated in the newspaper article, the immigrants arriving at Halifax, they saw them en route on the trains, but they did not see them in the sections of the country to which they were being taken, in their homes. In other words, the newspaper men were kept along the lines of railway and did not go out into the country. Now, what plans have been made for showing this country to the English members of parliament when they come here?

The MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR. No steps have been taken to procure the immigration of discharged British soldiers as distinct from others. As to the second question of the hon. member for Victoria (Mr. Hughes), I can only say that when lately in England I was seen by a couple of gentlemen who were promoting the visit of members of the British parliament, and I had some discussion with them with regard to the trip which they proposed to take. The arrangements, however, have not yet taken a very definite shape. Dr. Lunn, that is the name of the gentleman who I think is looking after the itinerary, was here a short time ago; and although we have agreed so far as certain features of the itinerary are concerned, which is to be left largely to officers of the Department of the Interior, the details of the plan are not settled yet. The Commissioner of Immigration is coming with them, they specially requested that Mr. Preston should come with them, and I consented to that being done. But as to the large details, so far as my department is concerned with them, they have not yet been settled. While I am on that point I may say to my hon. friend that if he had the same experience as I have had in trying to get people who come into this country to go where I think they ought to go, he would have learned that it is not always possible to send people just where you want them to go. People come here, especially English people, with the notion that they know just where they want to go and it is rather difficult to change their views upon that subject. The party of English journalists was composed of very estimable gentlemen as far as I am aware. We endeavoured to guide them as wisely and gently as it was possible for us to do, but some little difficulty occurred when they were here in regard to the itinerary and the places where they should go, but we found it quite impossible to absolutely direct the movements of this party. They occasionally developed ideas that they wanted to go to places where we knew that it was no use for them to go. The only way to convince them was to allow them to go and see for themselves. Of course in that way time was wasted. Upon the whole, I think the gentlemen who were endeavouring to direct

Mr. HUGHES (Victoria).

them did as well as they could do under the circumstances. I am satisfied that they could not have done any better if it had to be done over again now.

Mr. BROCK. This question of immigration is probably the most important question that can engage the attention of this parliament or country. A great many questions are involved in it. We have been told this evening that no less than 1,200,000 French Canadians have left this country and have gone to another country, and the first thing that would strike us would be to ask the question: Why do they go? Why do they leave this country? The next one is: Where do they go to? That being the case, we come back to the question and ask ourselves: What inducements do we offer these people to stay here? I wish to ask the attention of the committee for a few minutes to this subject, and to put it plainly to hon. members who have been discussing matters here for many years, that, if, when we find level headed, sensible, educated people leaving this country year after year, and day after day, it is not natural for us to ask ourselves: Why do people leave this country? They must go somewhere, and where do they go to? I would ask: Do they go to a free trade country? Why do they leave this country? They leave this country to better their condition, and they think they do better their condition. In looking at the statistics, I find that between 600,000 and 700,000 of these people have gone to the manufacturing states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut and New York. They do not go there to farm. You know as well as I do that the French Canadians who leave the province of Quebec to go to Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont do not go there to farm. They go there because they find manufacturing industries that are highly protected. The manufacturing industries of the United States have their own country for a market sure and solid. The United States keeps the United States for American manufacturers. Therefore, they go there with some assurance of success. The hon. member for St. Mary's, Montreal (Hon. Mr. Tarte) pointed out to us that efforts had been made to bring them back to this country, to parts of lower Canada where there are no manufacturing industries. They have held out very great inducements because they do not come back to farm. These men who have been employed in the factories will not go back to the farm. If they come back it will be because the same inducements are held out to them that are held out by the United States and the principle of these inducements is that we are going to have the trade of Canada for our own manufacturers.

Hon. Mr. TARTE. A certain number of them who have been farmers in the past may be induced to come back.