

STRICT LAWS OF CONTINENTAL EUROPE

It must be remembered that in certain parts of continental Europe THE LAW IS VERY STRICT AS TO OFFERING INDUCEMENTS TO CITIZENS TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY.—The system of having local Canadian agents was impossible in consequence of the risk of imprisonment, and as there is no habeas corpus in any of these countries, an agent of the government who might think he was conducting a legitimate business, would be liable to imprisonment for an indefinite term. Under these circumstances the government could not employ paid agents in Germany, and continued the system of giving bonuses to steamship agents.

Mr. Sifton found that dealing with INDIVIDUAL BOOKING AGENTS WAS NOT PRODUCING SATISFACTORY RESULTS, and it was decided to adopt another method. Instead of dealing with scattered booking agents, HE DETERMINED TO DEAL WITH ONE FIRM, COVERING A SPECIFIC TERRITORY IN WHICH A PROPAGANDA IN THE INTEREST OF CANADA WAS TO BE CARRIED ON.

VARIOUS AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO

Therefore on 4th of November, 1899, an agreement was completed between Mr. Preston, acting for the Department of the Interior, and a syndicate known as the North Atlantic Trading Company, by which the Company undertook to carry on emigration work in Russia, Germany, Austria, Roumania, Switzerland, Northern Italy, Holland, Belgium and France. The bonus to be paid on male or females destined for Manitoba and the North West Territories, 12 years of age or over as follows:—17s 6d on any number less than 10,000 in each year; 20s. on any number between 10,000 and 15,000 and 25s. on any number exceeding 15,000 in each year. Heads of families to be possessed of at least \$100.00.

The money qualification was objected to by the Company on 15th April, 1900, and the agreement was revised in this way. The government agreed to pay 20s. on every bona-fide agricultural immigrant and domestic servant, except in the case of Galicians and Buckowinians, when the head of the family must possess \$200. \$50 to suffice for man and wife without children, \$100 where the family did not exceed two. Unmarried persons of 16 years and over must possess \$25 in addition to transportation. Norway, Sweden and Denmark were added to the agreement, and the Company agreed to expend \$10,000 per annum in advertising Canada.

By order in council 1st May, 1902, another change was made. The Company was to receive £1 for each man, woman and child of the agricultural class only, and for each girl 18 years of age and over of the domestic class from the countries mentioned in the agreement in force prior to January, 1902. Settlers from Galicia, Roumania, Serbia and Russia to have money qualification, man and wife \$100, \$25.00 additional for each child, maximum amount for family \$200, unmarried men and women \$25.00 each. The government agreed to make a grant of £750 for special work in Norway, Sweden and Finland for two years, on condition that the Company spend at least £1,000 in this special work. The Company deposited £1,000 with the government on 14th April, 1902, as a guarantee of good faith. Northern Italy, Roumania, Serbia and Belgium were subsequently removed from the operation of the agreement.