

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

COMMITTEE ROOM No. 34,

WEDNESDAY, April 21, 1909.

The Select Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization met at 10.30 o'clock a.m., the Chairman, Mr. Schell, presiding.

Examination of Mr. W. D. SCOTT continued.

*By Mr. Monk:*

Q. I have another Committee meeting at 11 o'clock and I want to be as brief as possible in the few questions I am going to put to you, more particularly as the bill on Immigration, which is at present before the House, is awaiting the closing of your evidence. Let me ask you in the first place: since when has the department employed the Rev. Mr. Berubé? If you have a contract with him state the terms of that contract and also what salary he is receiving?

A. I think he was employed some time last year on a special mission to the United States on colonization work. He was engaged, I think, for three months at \$100 a month. That amount was to cover his expenses as well as his salary. This year I think he has an appointment for three months on the same conditions.

Q. Would that \$100 a month be all that has been paid him?

A. Yes, I think so.

Q. Would you make sure as to that?

A. Yes, I will.

METHOD OF ASCERTAINING MORAL QUALIFICATIONS OF IMMIGRANTS.

Q. How do you ascertain the moral qualifications of the immigrants who arrive? What is the method employed at the landing station to find out whether they are thieves or honest men?

A. That is a pretty difficult question.

Q. Will you just say what the method is?

A. Every immigrant passenger that sails from the old country to Canada must fill out a form stating his name in full, country of birth, race of people, destination, whether he has ever been in Canada before and if so when, where and how long; whether he intends to permanently reside in Canada, the sex, age and whether married or single, whether he is able to read and is able to write, his occupation, his intended occupation; whether he has ever worked as farmer, farm labourer, gardener, stable man, carter, railway sectionman, navy or miner; if so, how long and when; his religion, whether he or his blood relatives were ever insane or had tuberculosis or epilepsy, and if so, full particulars; by whom his passage was paid; whether he is going to join a relative and if so what relative, and the name and address of such relative; the nearest relative in the country from which part he came, and so on. It was also intended to have inserted a question in the form containing these particulars as to whether the purchaser of a ticket had ever been convicted of a felony, but the steamship companies objected very strongly to it. They said that people would simply lie about it, and that it would not work at all. This form, a copy of which I submit to the Committee, is filled out and signed by the passenger when he books his passage and is also certified to by the booking agent.