

said he would walk to Yorkton and try to get work, so that they would have something to eat. She made him take two of the loaves for the road, saying that she would try and get some flour for herself and children from the neighbours until he came back. He was unable to obtain anything in Yorkton, and started for home on foot, as he had come. Weak from long fasting, he got tired, then got wandering about, and, as a result, was lost for two days and one night. She said: We have eaten nothing but flour and water, with a little milk, this winter, and the flour is bad. She said that Mr. L—— had brought them a little meat while her husband was sick. I was told by her that in Galicia they always raised plenty of vegetables and pigs, and never had to live on bread and water over there. There was no furniture of any description here, except a few rough seats; the stove was made of mud. No blankets or bedding. I got a sample of the flour (?) here; it was either middlings or shorts, but certainly not flour. Mrs. Panchuk told me that this was what the Government issued her.

The next place visited was also a dug-out, about 10 x 15, with walls about 3½ feet high. In this house slept every night four families. No partitions or privacy of any description; no blankets; a few pillows, and hay was all I saw in the way of bedding. Food—bread and snow water. I was told here that the shipping agents in Hamburg had sent circulars through Galicia urging the people to sell out and come to Canada, as the Queen of England would give them everything needed for a start as a loan, and all that they would need was sufficient to pay their passage and \$10 to pay for the land. I asked them to give me one of the circulars; but was told that a man named McKorski or McCrosky in Winnipeg, had got them from them as soon as they arrived. One of the men, named Tanasco Muskoluk, said that Mr. Genik told them in Winnipeg that if they came out here they would get a cow for each family, some hens and a year's provisions of flour for all, of which they understood they would have to pay later on when they were able. Muskoluk said that they wrote for this, but as yet they have only got a little flour. This man also told me that his baggage is at the station at Yorkton, and that as he is unable to pay the charges on it, he has not any clothing for himself, wife or children, except the inevitable linen shirts and what he is wearing. I then visited a place where two families were living in a dug-out about 12 x 12—13 souls in all. Food, same as in other cases, with the exception of a little milk, obtained from a cow with a diseased udder, one side of which is so badly ulcerated that they cannot milk on that side. No bedding; mud stove; children look unhealthy; I was told that the children slept on top of the stove to keep them from freezing. These people were told by the shipping agent to sell their sheep-skin coats as this was a warm climate and they would not need them. They say that they never experienced such a cold winter as this.

I visited several other places that day, but to describe each place would be too monotonous, as all the places were, as regards food and bedding, in the same sad plight, the only difference being that some had a little more shorts than others. One place I came to on the following day I must describe. It is the residence of Mr. Handibuboa. House, "dug-out," 12 x 14, mud stove, mud roof, mud bed, and mud and wattle door!!! This man must be ingenious, to say the least of it. He told me the same story as regards promises made in Hamburg with this

Mr. SPROULE.

difference, that he says Mr. Genick, and a dark-complexioned officer in Winnipeg, whose name he does not know, repeated these promises to him in Winnipeg, namely, that he would receive from the Government a team, wagon, plow, harrows, harness, and a cow, and that he would be helped until he was able to get along. He said that he was sorry that he had left Galicia, but he hoped for better times. He has one child, and it looks very delicate. Handibuboa said that if it was not for the help he had received from the English settlers, that they would have starved.

When I arrived at the next place, which was Wan Hlayi's, they were just preparing the last flour in the house for that night's supper, and did not know where they were going to get their breakfast from. While I was at another house the next morning, on my way to Yorkton, a woman arrived who had just walked over from her own house, about two miles distant, to borrow a meal of flour. She came in crying, and said that her two remaining children were starving, and that she did not know what to do. She volunteered the statement that one of her children had died before Christmas for want of proper food, and she was afraid the others would die too. I asked several of the English-speaking settlers their opinion of these people as settlers, and in every case was uniform that the Government must be crazy to imagine that these Galicians, without any money or means of subsistence, will be a benefit to the country. They say that they will have to leave if the Galicians stay, as they cannot see them starve before their eyes, and it is impossible to give them effectual help without ruining themselves. The land that they are settled on is more suited for stock-raising than farming, and stock-raising is a little too much for the means of these people, whom the hon. the Minister of Interior referred to in his address to the people on the occasion of his last visit to his pets at this place, as the most "desirable class of emigrants that ever came to "Canada." He surely must have meant "undesirable," and if he did most people will agree with him.

On my return to Yorkton I was told that Mr. McCreary was looking for me, and also that that gentleman had denied my report as being incorrect. I met him at his request, and also, on being asked by him to furnish him with the names of the destitute, I replied that I would do so with pleasure, on one condition, which was that he would forward relief to them. He said, "I have seen your interpreter, and have engaged him to go with relief in the shape of beef and flour to-morrow." On this I sent him a list of the names. Judge of my surprise the next day to find that so far from keeping his promise, that my interpreter, Mr. Grunert, should go with the relief, that no relief was sent. Mr. Genick, the Government interpreter, refused to take Mr. Grunert, and left himself for Beaver Hills in a light rig, taking with him some 25 pounds of beef, and I believe one bag of flour.

This corroborates the statement made by the hon. member with regard to the class of people who are sent to Canada. I understand that two nationalities inhabit Galicia. Those of German descent, are industrious and well-to-do people, and they are becoming crowded in the country, while the poorer and more helpless class, who are unable to do anything for themselves, are being sent out. That Government, with the desire to keep the better class at home, advertise the