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that country? He answered me in the negative, in fact one or two came during the winter of 1909-1910, and another one in 1910-1911, his name was Mercier. He came without instructions, hardly saw our agent, and went back the following spring, without having done either good or bad.

The participation of Canada in agriculture fairs? No. The permanent exhibition of Canadian produce in the steamship agencies? No. The co-operation of our agent with the assistance bureaux? No. A more strict control of the steamship agents, with the suppression of the premium as sanction? No. The publication of our wants of farm and domestic labour through the steamship agents? No. The periodic trips of the lecturers and agents to Canada? No. The circulating exhibition? No. The publicity in newspapers? No.

Finally, Mr. de Coeli summed up all his answers to me by stating that nothing in the laws or police regulations of Belgium prohibit us from virtually doing in that country, with certain modifications, the same work as in England, that at a very much lower cost, we could, with regard to population obtain as good results. The repressive action of the Belgian Government is only employed against breach of trust, it is to prevent those abuses, possible in Belgium as in England, that they require from steamship agents about 40,000 francs.

If our own agency, 23 Place de la Gare, bears the modest name of *Information Bureaux*, it is because the emigration agent, according to the laws of Belgium, is not the person who sells the fare tickets, but the company who employs him, he being simply an employee, and as such, subject to the much smaller bond, and Canada can then prosecute, through authorized agents, all the propaganda operations which it will think fit to do, upon the only condition that it will respect the truth.

The Belgian Government never ignored the existence of our agency, they know that our action does not restrict itself to give information, undesignedly to intending emigrants to Canada, but they have always closed their eyes to it. Mr. de Coeli is on the best of terms with the immigration inspector at the port of Antwerp, Mr. Venescon. The Government themselves, though the Department of Foreign Affairs, published last year, on Canada, for the use of emigrants, a pamphlet, which I hold at your disposal, and which although more concise than most of our own, and less exuberant in its optimism, is very sympathetic all the same. The emigrants have the benefit of special fares on the railways managed by the Government, within a circuit of 100 kilometers from Antwerp, the ordinary tariff is reduced to half in their favour. Argentina has at Brussels an agency which, the same as ours, operates freely.

Does our agent lack initiative? Should he have, and has he made to our chief agent at London, from which he depends, the suggestions required to increase his means of action? Does the responsibility rest on his superior? In order to decide the question I should want information which it was not in my power to obtain. However, some of the official representatives of Canada in London are under the most erroneous impression concerning Belgian emigration. In your letter of January 5, you told me to take instructions from Lord Stratheona while in London. I saw the High Commissioner twice, and each time, he mentioned to me what he called the hostility of European Governments regarding emigration. Each time he related to me that, a few years previously, he had nearly placed himself in a bad fix for having attempted to relieve a Canadian agent arrested by one of those Governments. Each time he advised one, and repeatedly, to be extremely prudent, if I wished not to expose myself to trouble. One would have thought that jail was open for me on my landing in Belgium. The same story was repeated to me at least once, by the secretary of the Commissioner, Mr. Griffith. It was only later, and on the spot, that, having known the very special circumstances the origin and the venerable antiquity of the incident which had so much alarmed the noble Lord, I understood the real importance of those stories. I