

APPENDIX No. 3

capable man, and I have already mentioned the subject to him, but he replied, 'Well, \$2 won't pay me to bother with it.' I say that a cheap man is generally no good, an experienced man can demand good wages, and instead of censuring the Department here I think that as representatives of the different parts of this country, when we find that we are not getting immigration, we should report to the Department and endeavour to get it put on a satisfactory basis

Mr. SMITH (South Ontario).—It will be all right to do that now, but it would have been no use a year ago.

Mr. MARSHALL.—Just take my own case, I never thought about it until I began to look into the question lately although I am interested in a business that gives employment to a great number of people. I think we must be reasonable in our criticism of the Department, it is our own fault if we have not been looking after matter. I think one of the reasons why there is a scarcity of help, we are losing men every year, and I am very much interested in getting them, is that if we had the right kind of men engaged, and if the Department would pay them the wages that would make it worth their while that they would get the men. Do you not think that it is our own fault if we do not pay these men enough to make it worth their while looking after this matter properly.

Mr. ARMSTRONG (North York).—With an inspector appointed for the purpose of looking after these agents would you not imagine that it would be part of that inspector's duty to ascertain the number of men the agents have placed in order to see whether they are doing their work properly.

Mr. MARSHALL.—Yes, I think so.

Mr. SCOTT.—As I say I have not looked at the reports of the inspectors carefully.

Mr. MARSHALL.—I think the system of paying so much per head is wrong because you pay \$1 or \$4, whatever it may be, no matter what kind of man the agent sends and hundreds of men coming here are not worth their salt. I think it would be a good thing if you were to get better agents over there and pay them by the month or by the year instead of so much per head.

By Mr. Thompson (Qu Appelle):

Q. It has been stated that in Ontario one system is adopted of having agents in different parts, while in other provinces the work is done from a central point, and the complaint is made that in Ontario a great many localities receive no immigrants at all. How do the other provinces compare in that particular with Ontario—is it better or worse?

A. Well, of course, Quebec, Montreal, St. John and Halifax are ocean ports. Toronto is not an ocean port.

Q. In Quebec, for instance, can you tell whether the people are better distributed or worse? I think it is an important point?

A. I do not think I have the information here as to those placed by our agents in the province of Quebec. The number placed at farm work in Quebec is not very large, because the bulk of our immigrants are English-speaking people, and as I explained they do not care to live with French families where nothing but French is spoken. In the province of Quebec, the eastern townships are the only places where we have those distributing agents. In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, Halifax and St. John are ocean ports. West of the lakes, Winnipeg is the gateway of the west, and all immigrants change trains there. The conditions are entirely different in the west from what they are in the east.