

A. They were opened in my office.

Q. By yourself?

A. Not necessarily.

Q. But you understood their contents?

A. Which letters?

Q. I mean the one, for instance, about Spinks, which I read at the last meeting?

A. I don't see all the correspondence.

Q. You do not see any?

A. I did not say that. I said I do not see all the correspondence.

Q. But when a letter came in with reference to Mr. Miller reporting that he had located a man, Mr. Spinks, and you wrote and found from the man he was located with, that Spinks was not a farmer, the man he was located with was not a farmer, and that Mr. Miller did not locate him although he reported that he did, what have you to say to that?

A. He was to be paid as a farm labourer.

Q. Was not your attention called to these facts?

A. I could not say.

Q. Well, cannot you get us that information?

A. I do not know whether I could get it. I have correspondence amounting to between 650 and 700 letters a day. It is impossible for me to see them all.

Q. It is a very important matter, that agents should be reporting falsely to the department and you, who are the head of the department, should know nothing about it?

A. I did not say that.

Q. You did not give us any information about it?

A. I know all about it.

Q. Then what do you say?

A. I know all about it.

Q. Then tell us about that. What is done with these letters when they come in?

A. They are put on the file.

Q. Then, what action is taken?

A. They are acted upon.

Q. Mr. Miller reported on this man Spinks, I could not give you the exact date, but some time in 1907. You wrote Mr. Dennison in February, 1908, and you got his answer on the 8th February, at least the letter was dated then. Yet you kept Mr. Miller in the employ of the government for about a year after that?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you take any notice of the answer that was sent to you?

A. I could not answer that.

Q. How are we to know what action was taken?

A. All the correspondence is on the file and copies have been brought down.

Q. We are practical men and we would like you to give us the information. I asked you the last time you were here to give us all the information about Mr. Miller's dealings with this man and you do not seem to have it?

A. I gave you all the information at the last meeting.

Q. You gave us some information but you did not give us anything as to who opened these letters or if they were brought to your attention or whether the Minister was notified of their contents?

A. And I say that I get 6 or 7 hundred letters a day.

Q. I know but these are important letters. When an agent of yours goes wrong some important officer in the Department should be notified of it, the attention of the Minister or Superintendent of Immigration should be called to it? Is not that right?

A. Certainly.