

Mr. George M. Hendrie and Mr. Parmer had been prior to 1907 lessees for ten years of the Fort Erie track. In that year the track was sold by the owners to the Texas and Missouri gentlemen above mentioned.

The Rake-off Men and the Immigration Officials

Some of the Ontario tracks controlled by race-track men from the United States have been giving the Canadian Department of Immigration a good deal of trouble by reason of their insistence in the employment of their followers from the United States. According to a letter written by Mr. W. D. Scott, Dominion Superintendent of Immigration, to the Inspector of Immigration at Bridgeburg, last July, "the character of the men and the nature of the employment is not of the best" and "some of the help admitted is German-American and pro-German in sympathy." Mr. James C. Mitchell, Dominion Inspector of Employment Agencies, reporting on the matter to Mr. Scott with reference to the Fort Erie track, said :—

"Mr. Madigan says he is a Canadian. He told me that he prefers Canadians, but that so much of his patronage comes from across the river that he has to employ some Americans. I am quite satisfied that the management of this track is purely American, as their office is at Ellicott Square, Buffalo, N.Y. As for Mr. Madigan claiming that he is a Canadian, it does not look very well when he will allow a German-American to be given preference over a Canadian soldier who has returned from the front."

Later, on the 4th of August last, Mr. Mitchell reported to Mr. Scott that when he raised the question of the discrimination on the Fort Erie track against returned soldiers, Madigan answered that "he did not care about soldiers." Mr. Mitchell added in his letter to Mr. Scott that he thought "a man of this stamp does not deserve any consideration."

Mr. Mitchell also had an experience at the Hamilton track where, according to his letter to Mr. Scott of the 24th of July, he learned that "Mr. Smith, an American, is a very large shareholder," and "that Sam Spencer, who is known as the New York Jew, on the race track, and who caused the trouble on the Dorval track where the Canadians were refused work in the first place, is Smith's representative." Mr. Mitchell concludes his letter with the statement that he thinks the Hamilton Jockey Club has had fair warning.

Reporting to Mr. Scott on the 29th of August with regard to the Hendrie track at Windsor, Mr. Mitchell said :