

APPENDIX No. 3

Q. How does it go?

A. It is done through the accountant's branch. I simply certify to the account and it is sent over.

Q. I do not expect you to understand everything that is done in all the branches. You do not know to whom the cheques or bills of exchange or whatever they may be are actually transmitted?

A. No, I am personally not aware.

Q. What do you mean by that?

A. It is not in my branch. It is in the accountant's branch.

Q. But whatever happens in connection with this matter concerns this committee and concerns you?

A. I say, I think they go by letters of credit or by cable to the High Commissioner.

Q. I ask you if any money is transmitted by cheque or bill of exchange from here?

A. I think it goes to the High Commissioner; I would not be sure, though.

Q. If you knew to the contrary I would expect you to tell me, that is all. What investigation do you make into the accounts of this trading company?

A. The accounts are made up in my branch. According to the contract the company are entitled to a bonus upon certain classes of people coming from certain countries. These people, when they leave the other side—the manifest is made up by the purser. That manifest is certified to or declared to by the master of the ship, that the information contained in it is correct. The manifest is handed by the purser of the ship to our agent at the port of landing. The immigrant is first subjected to medical inspection and afterwards to civil inspection by our agent and his clerks, who note upon this manifest any misstatements or errors in the manifest. The manifest is sent to Ottawa here and we select from it the names of those upon whom we consider the company are entitled to a bonus. The same thing applies to British bonuses.

Q. How do you settle that question whom you consider—how do you select?

A. In the first place, the man must be an agriculturist, according to the contract.

Q. How do you ascertain that?

A. The agent asks him the question.

Q. That is all?

A. Yes.

Q. As to the number of those who come out, you simply take the statement made on board the ship?

A. No. Our agent at the port of landing.

Q. That he is an agriculturist?

A. And that he comes from a certain country.

Q. There may be 10,000 or 15,000 of these. Do you make any inquiry in England as to the truthfulness of this statement—check it over?

A. We accept our agent's statements.

Q. And the answer made to you by the agriculturist?

A. By the man himself.

Q. You don't take the word of this company and make no investigation in England through your Mr. Preston or anybody else as to whether the statement is true? You know that man may be told when he is coming over, 'You say in Canada that you are a farmer.'

A. We have found that to happen in the case of English bonuses. I have not discovered it as far as the continent is concerned.

Q. Have you made any inquiry about the continent? You say you find it among Englishmen, who perhaps may be a little more inclined to take advantage of you than the Europeans. Have you made inquiry by any other means, through Mr. Preston or otherwise?

A. No, none.

Q. And very large numbers have come?

Mr. W. D. SCOTT.