

regard to Canada doing the same thing. He said :

A system has been in vogue in the western states for some years back known as 'prepaid passages.' It means that through the assistance of local banks, railway corporations, and other agencies, settlers in the western states have been enabled to send money or tickets to their friends in the old land whom they were desirous of bringing to America. It is surprising the thousands of people that have been brought out to the western states by this means.

As a matter of fact, I believe about 95 per cent of the immigration from Ireland to the United States went there through prepaid passages. Mr. Daly goes on :

What we want, and the only class of people our agents are authorized to encourage, are agriculturists, farmers and farm servants of both sexes, or others having experience in, or who are desirous of engaging in agricultural pursuits. We are getting our share of this class of immigrants at present; if we desire them in large numbers, we will have to offer the inducements I have enumerated.

I have spoken entirely of this system being carried out in Great Britain and Ireland. There is no reason why it should not, under the same supervision, be extended to continental Europe—in such countries as the government officials would be permitted to carry on their propaganda.

So we have the statement of Mr. Daly that he would not only allow immigrants to come from continental Europe, but he would actually have their passages prepaid and every other possible inducement offered.

The hon. gentleman dealt at considerable length with the question of foreign immigrants, especially the Galicians and the Doukhobors. I might point out, in the first place, that this government is not to be given the credit of having brought in all the Galicians. The Galician immigration to Canada was started under a former government. I think it was about the year 1893 that Prof. Oleskof was brought from Galicia and travelled through the North-west Territories and made a report in behalf of the Galicians. The first large band of Galicians arrived in this country on the 17th of June, 1896, just about the time of the general election of that year. Mr. Carstens, the Galician interpreter at Winnipeg, speaks in the highest terms of these people in his report, as published in the Report of the Department of the Interior for 1896. Sir Charles Tupper, in his report as High Commissioner, also says that he is satisfied with the Galician as an immigrant; and I submit, after an experience of four years in dealing with that class of settlers, that they are going to make good settlers for the North-west Territories. The Galicians differ from the Doukhobors in some respects. They do not hold their property communally, but individually. They may not be in one way as moral a people as the Doukhobors, and of course they have not the same religion. The Mennonite prefers to go on open prairie

Mr. McCREARY.

where there is no bush or scrub, and where he can engage in the raising of wheat, and agricultural machinery can be used. The Galician differs from the Mennonite in this respect. He prefers to go on land where there is scrub or timber, with which to build his small house and provide himself with fuel; and the quality of the land does not make so much difference to him. For instance, the first party of Galicians sent out settled east of Emerson, in the district known as Greenridge or Dominion City, within forty miles of Winnipeg. The greater part of that district was settled in 1872 by some of the soldiers who went out with Lord Wolseley; but there were six or seven townships of very inferior land left, and the government showed the Galicians that land and they took it up. It has a great many gravel ridges and small pocket meadows or sloughs, and machinery cannot be profitably worked on it; but the Galicians like to have fields of from five to twenty acres here and there, on which they can raise pigs, poultry, coarse grains, vegetables and cattle. They do not care for raising grain on an extensive scale. In fact, they are the very class of farmers the North-west stood in need of. The great drawback in the North-west was that every man wanted to grow grain on a large scale. There were not enough men raising cattle and other stock, or what is known as mixed farming. Fortunately, in the last few years there has been an improvement in that respect. The Galician prefers the very kind of mixed farming which is carried on here in the Ottawa Valley, and I have no doubt that many of those people will be able to supply the country with large quantities of the things which we have hitherto had to import.

As regards the cleanliness of the Doukhobors and Galicians, I would point out that when they landed on the docks at Halifax or Quebec, they had just left a vessel on which they had been two or three weeks crossing the sea. And if the hon. members could see the condition in which the holds of such vessels are kept—vessels that have brought cattle across and return with immigrants—they would realize how difficult it was for these people to have any regard for cleanliness. And there was not much use in their going to any pains to wash and take care of themselves on their landing, because they had still a long journey over land to make. But, the moment a train load of these immigrants arrives at Winnipeg, and before they are there an hour, the water is boiling, and those people are washing night and day until they are just as clean as any other settlers. When I remonstrated with them about their condition, they said to me, with tears in their eyes, how could we help it, our linen was clean when we left, but the vessel was in such a condition that we could not keep ourselves clean, packed as we were in a