

Some hon. MEMBERS. Oh, oh.

Mr. CRAWFORD. Hon. gentleman opposite say 'Hear, hear,' but no people have given more graft—if I may be allowed to use the word—to their friends than have our friends of the Conservative party. I consider that so long as we have a square and fair business deal with this company, paying them so much a head for selecting immigrants, nothing more, and nothing less there is nothing wrong. We select those immigrants. I was in the Agriculture Committee yesterday where the mode of selection was discussed, and the system of selection seems to be most thorough. This North Atlantic Trading Company has to submit to the decision of the officers of the government. If these officers decide that an immigrant is not fit to land in this country, he does not land, and that is an end of it. We only pay on good agriculture immigrants coming into this country, and if any of our officers make a miss occasionally and allow undesirable immigrants to get into this country, it is not the fault of the North Atlantic Trading Company, the fault is with the officials or those who are in control. Now, the other night the hon. member for East Hastings made this statement:

The contract made by the present government hands over the whole continent of Europe to this company, and obliges us to pay the same bonus per head on desirable and on undesirable immigrants.

When the hon. gentleman made that statement I fancy he did not understand what he was saying, for it is not in accordance with the facts. We do not pay on undesirable immigrants unless the officials happen to make a mistake and allow them to enter this country. The North Atlantic Trading Company do not ask us to take undesirable immigrants. If we pay the North Atlantic Trading Company on undesirable immigrants we cannot blame them for taking the pay. But that is not the case, we do not pay on undesirable immigrants.

I suppose it is no harm for me to go back to the early days of this country. We heard an hon. gentleman opposite compare a contract made by the Conservative government in 1882 with the present contract, and he claimed that under the contract made in 1882 payments were made on adults only. Now I would like to point out that there is a great difference between making a contract and living up to a contract. I think I can prove to this House before I get through that when our Conservative friends were in office they not only paid on adult immigrants, but they paid on immigrants we never got. He accused this government for acting improperly in the management of immigration. He said that this government paid on babies in their mother's arms. Let me say that I think it is much better to pay \$5 for a baby than to pay on something you never got. Now there is another matter —

Mr. BERGERON. Dispense.

Mr. CRAWFORD. I fancy you will get enough before I am through. I say that we have made a straight and square business deal with this trading company, nothing is paid until we see what we are getting. There seems to be an impression abroad, possibly not in this House, though I fancy many hon. members are not acquainted with the mode of selecting the immigrants that come into this country, but there is a wrong impression being made on the minds of the people throughout the country in that regard. I have here a list of the immigrants who came to this country from continental Europe, and some of them from Great Britain. Let me remind the House that before immigrants are allowed to land, in fact before they are allowed to go on board ship on the other side of the water, they have to pass an inspection. They are first inspected by the doctors of the ship; then we are supposed to have a good staff to inspect them before they are received in this country. They have to pass a very rigid medical inspection before they are allowed to land, and that inspection was described before the Agricultural Committee yesterday. If ships bring any immigrants to this country that are undesirable they may be held for a short time and during the time they are held the ship that brings them over is responsible for their expense, and have to pay to the government 75 cents a day for every immigrant that is detained on shore until it is decided whether he is a fit and proper person to become a citizen of this country. To show you how rigid this inspection is, I may say that last year we deported from this country 611 immigrants. I have here a statement which shows that only a very few of the immigrants who come to this country entitled the company to any bonus. Take the steamship *Montrose* from Antwerp, which arrived in this country on the 24th of April, 1905. There were 786 passengers on board, and we only paid a bonus on 354; there were 432 on which no bonus was allowed. The steamship *Albania* arrived on the 6th of May, 1905, from Glasgow, with 284 passengers and immigrants. We only paid a bonus on 10 European immigrants. There was a bonus paid to the booking agents in England on 46 British immigrants that happened to be on this boat. The steamship *Montreal* from Antwerp arrived on the 18th of April, 1905, with 1,611 passengers. We paid a bonus on 432, so that there were 1,179 immigrants arriving on that ship on which no bonus was paid. The steamship *Lake Erie* from Liverpool arrived on the 9th of May with 737 passengers. We paid a bonus on 64 of those passengers as foreign immigrants. On that ship were 101 British immigrants on which a bonus was paid to booking agents in Great Britain, leaving 572 on which no bonus was paid. The steamship *Sarmatian*