

say that this is an unwise provision. I say regarding this as I said about the terms of the second contract that surely any company engaging in a work of this character and undertaking to make annual expenditures of \$15,000 a year or over should have some permanency to their contract. While the term of this contract is stated to be ten years, practically it is only four years, containing an optional provision of extension by the government if they so wish.

Concerning the whole three contracts I wish to say that I do not think that the criticism made by the hon. member for North Toronto or the hon. member for East Hastings to the effect that No. 2 contract is more favourable to the company than No. 1, and that No. 3 is even more favourable than No. 2, can be sustained. There are other objections which have been made to this contract, and even though I weary the House I propose reviewing them fully. One of the objections made is that there is no method of ascertaining how many immigrants reaching this country came here as the result of the propaganda of the North Atlantic Trading Company. When my hon. friends suggest this they present a very nice question. It is, I admit, very difficult to discriminate; in fact, I admit it would be impossible to tell exactly who came and who did not come as the result of the immigration propaganda of the company. That being so the government and the company agreed to do the only thing that it was possible for them to do; they undertook to deal with this aspect of the question in the only possible business way that was open to them. They agreed to ascertain the number of immigrants upon whom the bonus must be paid in the fairest way that was open to them. Every ship arriving in this country and containing immigrants is met at the port of entry by officers of the government. The name, the age, the port of departure and the nationality of every one of these immigrants is taken down. An examination is made as to their physical condition. The names are remitted to the department. The immigrants are then railed from the port at which they have landed to some other interior point and they are accompanied on the train by an official of the department. If they are bound for Winnipeg an officer accompanies them through to Winnipeg. There they are placed in the care of another officer of the government. These various officers have a list of the immigrants coming into the country. They have the name of every one going into the west upon any one train; they have an opportunity of watching them; they have an opportunity of knowing where they settle, and up to this point you can tell almost absolutely the number that will settle in this country. The next objection raised is this: They may come into Canada, stay here for a few months and then go to the United States. But there

is a protection against that. They cannot, according to the evidence of Mr. Scott and of Mr. Smart, cross the boundary line without the knowledge of the American officers and the American officers advise the Canadian officers. The Canadian officer at Winnipeg, or elsewhere advises the immigration office here; he gives the names of the people crossing to the United States and if they were among the people who came as a result of the propaganda of the North Atlantic Trading Company and if the bonus has been paid upon them when the accounts are next adjusted these amounts are deducted. That is the evidence of Mr. Smart and that is the way it is worked out. The hon. member for East Hastings, night before last, read some reports of one Mr. Smith, a Mr. Johnston and a Mr. Moffett. I do not think that my hon. friend used these reports in quite the proper manner. They were reports from these gentlemen who were officers of the Interior Department giving the names of certain people who came over in ships from continental Europe, immigrants in which the North Atlantic Trading Company were interested and they were simply giving to the department the names of these people who, after having reached Canada, had left Canada and gone to the United States. That is the way these officers were advising the Interior Department, so that when the accounts came to be adjusted the North Atlantic Trading Company would be docked for these immigrants who came into Canada and subsequently went to the United States. It is not fair, I submit, to expect that the company should have been compelled to give to the government the names of the immigrants they induced to leave Europe for Canada. At one time the Department of the Interior did insist that the company should give them a list of these emigrants leaving Europe, and the company very properly said it was impossible for them to do so; that their business was to carry on a propaganda.

I wish to illustrate this propaganda business for the benefit of my hon. friend (Mr. Foster) and I am going to ask his permission to use his name; it is rather fortunate for me that I can take from him many illustrations. The contract with the North Atlantic Trading Company was to this effect only; That they, by certain means, were to carry on an active, educative, emigration propaganda in Europe; that these emigrants were to go to Canada to be examined by the officers of the Canadian government and those who belonged to the agricultural classes were to be checked by the departmental officers, and the department was to send to the company a statement of these emigrants. Surely my hon. friend (Mr. Foster) would not expect the company to have a squad of policemen to accompany the emigrants to Canada, to marshal them out to the west to see that they got a house and