

made, that they are going to give a bounty to the head of every family and an additional sum to every member of the family to bring them to this country; and the report of that committee clearly indicates that a very large percentage of the immigration, and even a considerable percentage of the objectionable portion of it, come to Canada in order that they may cross the border into the United States. The same precautions are not taken with regard to immigrants coming over Canadian lines as with regard to those carried by American lines. The American lines are obliged to assume the responsibility of carrying any immigrants back who are objected to, but no such system is enforced here. When once they come out with the sanction of an immigration agent, they are received, if they are in a proper healthy condition; and they take this course: First they get a bounty on coming here, and then they evade the rigid inspection to which they would be subjected on arriving at an American port. We are going to expend, under the proposed system of immigration, a very large amount of money this year, and these people, knowing the conveniences which exist for crossing into the United States, will take advantage of the bounty offered them and then cross the line, so that we will be helping them on their way into the United States, into which they would not be admitted had they come by an American line. I would like the Minister to secure a copy of the report; and if he gives it his attention, he will find that it contains information which possibly may be of benefit to him in this matter. With regard to this report of the delegates, I think it is a pity that the Government should have returned it. Undoubtedly we should be placed in possession of all reports that cost the country money; and while I cannot raise any very serious objection to the suggestion of the Minister of Justice, at the same time he has created the impression that this matter has been treated in a very cavalier fashion. The Commons of Canada are entitled to be treated with courtesy, and every item of information to which they are entitled should be laid before the House when Parliament meets. Considering that the Minister of Agriculture was aware that Parliament was about to meet shortly after he received that report, he should have put himself in the position, by having a copy made, to communicate its contents to this House, so that in the event of any discussion arising, the information gathered by the delegates would be before the House. Instead of that, he is in the unfortunate position of having to admit that he had never read the report, and that, notwithstanding the extensive staff under his control, he did not take the precaution of having a copy made. It is very desirable that we should have that report. It may contain remarks not very creditable to hon. gentlemen opposite as regards their trade policy. I do not know whether it does or not, but if it does we should know it. When we gather information outside the political arena by means of independent men, possessed of extensive knowledge, any remarks they chose to make with regard to our policy from the standpoint of immigration, the people should be made aware of, even though those remarks might be objectionable to the Government. I hope the Minister will take care to secure a copy of the report to which I have

Mr. McMULLEN.

drawn his attention with regard to immigration, I mean the report of the commission appointed by the American Government to enquire into the advisability of continuing their present system, and he will find in it that attention is drawn to the influx of a large percentage of objectionable immigrants *via* Canada; and until such time as very rigid quarantine regulations are established between us and the United States, the American commission look for nothing better in the future than what has taken place in the past.

Mr. CARLING. I would like to correct a wrong impression of the hon. gentleman with regard to the bonus given immigrants. Bonus is not given to people passing through, but to those who become actual settlers. We do not give an assisted passage, but offer a bonus of \$10 to every head of family and \$5 to every member of family over twelve years of age, when they become settlers in the Province of Manitoba or the Territories; but if they do not become settlers, they do not receive any bonus. I explained that the other night.

Mr. McMULLEN. If this bonus is distributed in proportion to the number of men actually settled in the country, and the figures for this year are no more correct than they have been in the past, we will be far short of having accurate information.

Mr. DAVIN. As the question has just been raised, I will say that I hope that, if these reports would in any way swell the tide of immigration to Canada, the motion of my hon. friend will be adopted, because I think that every means in the power of the Government should be used to bring immigrants into this country. It must be remembered that the field of immigration may, within a measurable number of years, cease to be as plethoric as it is at present. You have at present a vast field to cultivate and get immigrants from, but the schoolmaster is abroad; and we know very well that it is a law that, as you extend education, you diminish fecundity.

Some hon. MEMBERS. Explain.

Mr. DAVIN. My hon. friends say explain, but it does not need any explanation. All it needs is to state the facts. You have only to look at the history of the New England States, you have only to look at the history of mankind to see that in proportion as you increase education and refinement, in the same proportion you circumscribe families; and therefore the time may come in Europe—if those gentlemen will stop their levity and pay some attention to what I am saying probably they will appreciate my argument—when you will not have the armies of immigrants to call upon that you have now. You should be up and doing now. I say, Mr. Speaker, that we have at the present minute in Canada the means, if properly used, of greatly increasing the immigrants into this country. Now, what have we in Canada? We have the Dominion Government. We have the Provincial Governments. You have the railways and the shipping companies. You have at the head of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company four or five men of great executive ability. We have two railways in the west with men of great administrative power at their head. The shipping companies are deeply interested, and I say that all a man controlling the Immigration Department has to do is to sit down, consult with