

Mr. HARRIS: Yes. I was just thinking about this particular statement that you made on page 217.

"If such a situation would come about, if a tariff would be put up which would practically prohibit the movement of freight from Europe to Canada, we would, of course, have to trim our sails to meet the wind, and have to adjust our forces accordingly."

The same answer would apply?

SIR HENRY THORNTON: If you are sailing a boat, you have to depend upon what kind of wind blows. I am not sure, though, that I have really given you the right impression.

Mr. HARRIS: I think so. I did not mean to interrupt the questioning; I am sorry.

Mr. MILNE: I should like to back the stand taken by Mr. Stewart. So far as the group settlement is concerned, the only argument I have ever heard appealing for the group settlement idea was the social side of it. The social life is of very great importance, but still you have to have the wherewithal to live as well as to have a social life. It looks to me, in the observations I have been able to make, that the social end is stressed with the view of making it look more pleasant and more rosy to prospects coming here, and I am firmly of the opinion that the whole immigration work is not so much to induce the people to come in, but to look after them when they get here.

SIR HENRY THORNTON: Make them all contented, so that they will become propagandists in their old homes.

Mr. MILNE: Yes. Mention was made of education along social lines. We had a statement a short time ago to the effect that we had 41 employees in this department. I cannot see how this number of men could possibly follow up the people coming in.

SIR HENRY THORNTON: I do not suppose they could. Of course, it takes more effort to follow up a foreigner, or a non-English speaking immigrant than one who speaks English.

The WITNESS: We have the assistance of the Government Land Settlement Board in our follow-up of the settlers, as well as our own department.

Mr. MILNE: How is the work divided up? Does the Soldier Settlement Board look after the financing of it?

The WITNESS: No, the man comes and the Land Settlement Board takes it up, and what they do is this. When a settler comes they have all the land listed; they have C.P.R. land and Colonization Association land, and Hudson Bay land, and individual land, and Canadian National land, and they tell this man where the land is. They ask him where he wants to go, and he may say he wants to go to a certain place which is owned by the Canadian National Railway, or say an outside individual. They will see what they can get it for him at; the price will be so and so, and if the price is too high, the Settlement people will tell the man the price is too high, and will advise him not to purchase it. However, supposing the price is satisfactory, they assist the man just as we were saying. They assist the man to get his horses and his stock and all the rest of it, and follow it up and have people visit him from time to time.

Mr. MILNE: That is an official of the Land Settlement Board?

The WITNESS: Yes.

Mr. MILNE: With regard to the group settlement, perhaps I might just make myself clear on the matter. It is simply this. Take an individual, dropped into a community which has already been established, and if the people are human—and my experience is that they are very sympathetic when a new settler