

man had told him how he had come that way to go to the United States, Mr. Watchorn allowed him to go. This case shows that the agents in the old country are aware of the law that exists in the United States, and when they have a doubtful case they send it via Canada. This difficulty may have been remedied somewhat, because last December the government made an effort, in a feeble way, to have some inspection of people landed at our sea-ports.

But I want to give a quotation from the report of the Commissioner of Immigration of the United States which I think will be startling to the House and the country. This is from the report for the year ending 30th June, 1902, and will be found on page 39 of the report:

From this report it will be seen that those aliens classified as Canadian immigrants, but who are simply so classified to conceal their real intentions, furnish in the aggregate a greater amount of specific disease and general inadmissibility than all the immigrants examined at all the United States ocean ports of entry combined including Quebec, St. John and Halifax. At first glance this may be regarded as an extravagant statement, but an analysis of the records of all the above mentioned ports and a comparison thereof with the statistical records herewith submitted will amply attest its incontrovertibility.

It is not to be presumed that all of the 26,000 destined to Canada subsequently went to the United States; but it is not known beyond a doubt that very large numbers of them did enter the United States without any inspection whatever, and the extent to which the law was thus violated will not be fully appreciated until statistical information taken from the records made during the period of actual border inspection has been considered.

This was before they extended their inspection west. The agents in the old country seem to have been fully aware of the progress made by the Congress of the United States in passing laws prohibiting the entry of such kinds of immigrants to the United States, and they still passed these immigrants on and told them to go further west; and, as you see, after they passed the 'Soo,' they were free from any inspection by American officials. It therefore became necessary for the United States to establish offices at Winnipeg and Vancouver. Then Mr. Watchorn continues:

That a Canadian destination is given by a very large number of people from Europe who are diseased or likely to become public charges, as a subterfuge, there can be no doubt. Experience amply establishes that fact, but we have also the sworn statements of many rejected aliens to confirm that experience. Why they seek this mode of reaching the United States is easy to comprehend when they are seen, for in appearance they are the very essence of all that is undesirable in the way of acquisitions to our population from foreign countries.

I have had the honour to represent the bureau in the capacity of an inspector of Chinese, Japanese, Mexicans, Canadians, and the various people of Europe, and I unhesitatingly assert

that no human beings who ever came under my observation presented a more forlorn and hopelessly unimproved appearance than those who have attempted to enter the United States via the Canadian border during my incumbency of this office. The Canadian route to the United States is known to every unscrupulous agent in Europe, and is by that means made known to the very dregs of society, many of whom having been rejected at United States ports sought this easy mode of escaping the effect of official vigilance.

What has become of these people who have been rejected by the United States? The description of them given by Mr. Watchorn is such that no country under heaven would desire such people. We have a country second to none in climate, soil, mineral wealth and fisheries, and all we require is a good class of population to be equal, if not superior, to any country in the world. It is therefore a great mistake to allow the class of people thus described by Mr. Watchorn to be left on our shore. The United States, during last year, got 648,743 immigrants in the ordinary way. They came as steerage or second class. Then there came cabin aliens to the number of 82,055, making a total immigration into the United States of 730,798. Then there were 4,974 rejected for the following causes: There were 7 idiots; 27 insane persons; paupers or likely to become paupers, 3,944; loathsome or dangerous contagious diseases, 709; women for immoral purposes, 3; contract labour, 275, making in all 4,974. In addition, there were deported, after they had been in the country a year, 465 persons. I am now giving the statistics of the United States. In addition, there were rejected from Canada and Mexico 5,437 persons for various causes.

I then come to the port of Montreal, and have the report of Dr. James Barker, medical examiner. During the ten months of 1902 he examined 4,985 and rejected 2,028 for the following reasons: Prostitutes, 3; no certificate, 235; contract labour, 419; paupers or persons likely to become paupers, 812; insane, 10; idiots, 8; ex-convicts, 5; loathsome or contagious diseases, 406. Not one of these was deported, but all of them left on our hands to become part of our population, and I think a very undesirable part.

Mr. Watchorn was considered such a valuable officer by the department in Washington that last year they sent him to Europe to examine the conditions there. He made a report to the department, in which he pointed out in what a deplorable condition things were, in so far as Canada was concerned. Before emigrants are allowed to embark for the United States they have to pass a rigid medical examination. That this examination is pretty thorough is shown by the fact that only about two-thirds of one per cent were rejected when they landed in United States seaports. He reports as follows: