

ALIENS GIVEN MORE THAN THE SETTLERS

Discrimination Is Charged by Witness Before Kapuskasing Probe.

Special to The Star by a Staff Reporter.

Kapuskasing, Ont., March 8.—William Gough, of the Princess Pats, formerly a Toronto bricklayer, assured the commission to-day that during the winter of 1918 foreigners were paid \$45 an acre for slashing timber on the Government farm, while he was only paid \$30.

In the previous spring, said witness, he and his son took a contract to clear ten acres on his own place that had already been slashed. They finished the work in ten weeks and received \$100 per acre.

Gough said he expected to clear land when he came and to make a farm for himself. He would be disposed to stay if he could get work while waiting for results on his land. He had expended \$1,400 on his holding. Frost spoiled his crops and vegetables in 1918 but his 1919 crops were showing up well, he said.

"You should telegraph right away to Toronto to fire Mr. Bruce, he is not fit to hold the position," so said William Gough, in referring to the secretary of the Northern Development Branch, who acts as buyer for the colony store. Witness declared he could have bought pig feed from Fort William at \$57 per ton, while the settlers here in 1918 paid \$80. Gough declared that hay could have been procured from Toronto and elsewhere at a lower price than he paid for "shoddy" stuff at the store. Several horses had died through the poor quality and shortage.

"I know positively that whole quarters of meat have been destroyed or thrown in the river on ten occasions, and I have fed some of it to my pigs." Chairman Nickle closely questioned witness on this subject, and he vowed that he had witnessed the beef funeral and his son had assisted at the obseques.

Gough stated that he had sold \$2,000 worth of pork and beef to the store. Mr. Telfer, store manager, preferred to purchase meat from the Government farm and from Toronto, and it was only through compulsion from the Ministers that Telfer bought from witness.

"In 1917 Mr. Grigg told us at the Parliament Buildings that if the settlers' houses cost \$700 or even \$1,000, we would only be charged \$400. I was charged \$137 more than this, and want it returned."

A. S. Currie, a practical lumberjack with six dependent children, declared he had been promised a \$500 loan by Mr. Grigg, but the colony accountant had refused it. He must have capital, having spent his \$600 on his house.