

MORE IMMIGRANTS; BETTER SETTLERS.

Canada is Carefully Sifting Out
the **Undesirable**.

FROM RURAL DISTRICTS

The Canadian Agencies Are Now
Getting Many People.

The Change in the Method of Pay-
ing the Bonus Has Had a Good
Deal to Do With Increasing the
Stream of Farm Workers.

(Special Despatch to The Globe.)
Brantford, July 15.—Mr. J. Bruce Walker, Assistant Superintendent of Emigration for Canada in London, has arrived here on a short visit to Canada in connection with **immigration** matters. A large and representative party of pressmen connected with the principal Provincial and county newspapers in the three kingdoms will leave Liverpool on the 19th instant for a six weeks' tour through Canada, and it is the intention of Mr. Walker to accompany them during a part of their Canadian trip.

Asked as to the condition of emigration matters in the old country, Mr. Walker said that the favorable feeling towards Canada was still growing. The number of British immigrants arriving in Canada up to the 1st of June of this year is 64,911, as compared with 48,227 during the same period of last year, an increase of 35 per cent. This large increase in numbers is accompanied by a corresponding improvement in the class and condition of the emigrants being sent out. While the increased numbers may be due, to some extent, to favorable conditions prevailing in Canada, the activity of the emigration department in England and its policy may reasonably claim to have a large share in bringing about the results.

Expanding **Immigration** Work.

When asked the special causes to which the increasing **immigration** might be attributed, Mr. Walker said: "During the past year new offices have been opened at York, in England, and Aberdeen, in Scotland. The offices formerly located in Cardiff, in South Wales, have been moved to Exeter, in Devonshire. Those formerly located in upper stories have been placed on the ground floor and fitted up by the products of Canada in an attractive manner. The office in Dublin, which was temporarily closed, has been re-opened in a locality where more business is transacted, and on the ground floor, and, with an attractive display, every effort will be made to take advantage of the attendance at the Dublin Exhibition to bring Canada before the notice of the Irish people.

To Reach Rural Districts.

"For some years a large motor and a team and waggon had been employed in distributing literature and attending exhibitions. During the present year another motor and three additional waggons have been added. The motor at first in use could only be used effectively at exhibitions, while the new motor, being on the same principle as the motor busses in use in London, can visit the rural districts in all parts of the best farming country. Three new waggons are of the democrat class, and one is for use in the hilly portions of Wales, another in the highlands of Scotland, and the third in Ireland, while the waggon formerly in use is employed in the lowlands of Scotland.

"In April, 1906, a radical change was made in the system of bonuses to booking agents, whereby the amount was increased from \$1.75 for each adult to \$5, and the restrictions on the classes of emigrants in respect to which payment would be made were very materially increased as well. The purpose of this change was, first to stimulate the activity of the booking agents in the country districts by making the bonus well worth striving for, and next, to hold out a strong inducement to discriminate against the classes upon whom it was the policy of the department that no bonus should be paid. Formerly a bonus of seven shillings was paid upon all classes who declared their intention of following agricultural pursuits in Canada.

Change in Bonus System.

"Under the present arrangement, the bonus is only paid upon those who have had actual experience in farming and kindred occupations in Great Britain, and who declare their intention to follow farming and laboring on railways as occupations in Canada. An immediate result of the change in the bonus system was to enlist active work on behalf of emigration to Canada of 1,500 out of a total of 3,000 booking agents in the United Kingdom, representing different steamship companies, and thus increasing the effort on behalf of emigration to Canada to that extent. As the greater proportion of these agents are resident in the country districts the result of this policy is seen in the improved character of the emigrants sent to Canada."

"What is the nature of your advertising?"

"The distribution of the Government literature, forwarded from Ottawa, through the medium of our agencies, motor cars, waggons and from stands at shows and fairs. We also have recourse to display advertisements, principally in the great provincial and country newspapers, the experience of the department being that advertising in the large city papers reached only a small class of the people that Canada wanted.

"In addition, there have been distributed throughout the public schools in England, Scotland and Ireland a large number of wall maps of the Dominion, showing the geographical boundaries of the Provinces and also the great trunk railways, with their several systems in detail.

Distribution of Farm Labor.

"The system of distribution of farm labor which was adopted last year and carried forward this year on an improved principle has been of the greatest assistance in facilitating the operations particularly of the booking agents in the country districts. A number of

emigrants of the agricultural classes who were unused to travel would be exposed to a great many risks in emigrating to Canada. Now the booking agent, with a complete system for the distribution of farm labor in Canada, is in a position to assure each intending emigrant desiring agricultural labor that he can be immediately placed on the land. Each booking agent in Great Britain is furnished with a list of some 200 employment agents in the older parts of Canada who will immediately place the emigrant on his arrival. Eighty per cent. of the ocean tickets sold to emigrants are sold at least thirty days before the emigrant sails. This enables the booking agent to advise the employment agent in Canada of the name of the man, when he is sailing, what his capabilities are, and when he may expect him to arrive, so that the distributing agent has at least thirty days to make inquiries of the farmers of the district where the immigrant can be placed. At Winnipeg and points west the immigrant is given a card of introduction by Mr. J. Obed Smith, Commissioner of **Immigration**, who advertises in the country papers for farmers to advise him of their needs. The immigrant on arrival at Winnipeg registers at the **immigration** office and is immediately sent forward to some point where his services are required. Up to the present time about five thousand laborers have been placed with farmers in Ontario through the medium of the distribution agents appointed this spring."

Mechanics Not Bonused.

"Do you receive many applications from mechanics who desire to emigrate to Canada?"

"Yes, but the policy of the department, which is carried out rigorously, is to confine its efforts to the securing of agricultural laborers and those intending to work on railway construction—the only classes upon which bonus is paid."

"Do you come in contact with the emigration work of benevolent organizations in the old country?"

"Yes, and I confess it gives me a great deal of anxiety. They are doing considerable business amongst the class of people that require a great deal of careful selection. We have been insisting upon a higher physical standard, and in order to prevent, as far as possible, **undesirables** coming to Canada I am requiring a medical certificate in every case where the emigrant receives aid either from the State or from a benevolent organization. This medical examination is largely upon the lines followed in the case of life insurance, and I have repeatedly declined to permit those to proceed to Canada who have physical defects that render them undesirable.

Sifting Them Out.

"The new **immigration** act is particularly stringent as regards the health and morals of the emigrants, and I say without question that more and more vigorous steps are being taken to-day than ever before to reject **undesirables**, physically and morally. The provisions of the **immigration** act regarding deportation have been effective in impressing upon the steamship companies and other agencies as well as the benevolent organizations that it does not pay to send out people who come within the scope of that act. During the last fiscal period which ended in March of this year 3,543 immigrants were detained at ocean ports for closer scrutiny, which resulted in the rejection of 440. During the same period 201 persons who had come into the country and who afterwards became public charges were deported at the expense of the steamship company bringing them to Canada.

"From these facts it will be seen that both on this side of the Atlantic and on the other side every effort is being made by this department to prevent the emigration of **undesirable** persons."