

He explained that it was provided to give effect to certain amendments in advance of the consolidation of the statutes, which could hardly take place until late in the year.

Mr. MEREDITH asked if the consolidation of rules of practice would be made with the consolidation of the statutes.

Hon. M. MOWAT said these rules would not be in the same book, as they would take up much printed space and were of interest only to lawyers.

After further discussion the bill was read the second time.

It being six o'clock the Speaker left the chair.

After recess,

The House went into Committee of Supply.

On the item of immigration, \$16,900,

Hon. A. S. HARDY said that this year there was a reduction of about \$7,000 caused by the dispensing with the agent at Quebec and abolishing the allowance for assistant at the immigration shed in Toronto. This was in pursuance of the policy decided upon to abolish entirely the work done by the Local Government at the immigration sheds, the idea being that whatever might be done in this respect in future should be done as part of the system of Dominion immigration. Next year it was proposed to abolish entirely the

#### CARRIAGE OF IMMIGRANTS

through Ontario, the provision for immigrants in Ontario and the agencies in Ontario, unless something should occur to necessitate their retention. It was apprehended, however, that there would always be used for an agent in England. It was proposed to encourage the immigration of farmers possessing some capital, say five, ten or twenty thousand dollars, who would benefit the country by carrying on improved methods of farming and in other ways.

Mr. MEREDITH thought that the hon. gentleman was cutting off the expenditure at the wrong end. There was some reason for spending money in the care of immigrants when they had arrived here, but he thought the agencies in Great Britain should be abolished altogether. He inquired what duties the English agent was performing, and what pamphlets he was distributing.

Hon. Mr. HARDY said one of the pamphlets the agent had been distributing was "Ontario as a Home for the British Tenant Farmer," a pamphlet prepared by the Department for the Colonial Exhibition. Another was a fine illustrated pamphlet prepared by Mr. C. Blackett Robinson. Mr. Burns, the agent, did not reside in London, but

HAD HIS HEADQUARTERS IN LIVERPOOL, with special facilities for communicating with that most desirable class, the tenant farmers. The leader of the Opposition objected that this work was begun at the wrong end. Had it been begun at the other end the hon. gentleman would still have found fault. The business of calling attention to Ontario could hardly be carried on in connection with the Dominion office, for the efforts of the Dominion were directed mainly to immigration to the Northwest. In fact, while Mr. Pope was Minister of Agriculture, more attention was given in the literature to the Eastern Townships than to all Ontario. Mr. Burns visited the fairs and in other ways placed himself in communication with leading agriculturists, and the desirable class could be reached only in this way.

Mr. E. F. CLARKE advocated the maintenance of the agent at Quebec and the closing of the office in Britain. He favored the distribution of literature, making known the advantages of Ontario, and thought the abolition of the English office would place at the disposal

of the Government a large amount to be spent in the distribution of pamphlets

Mr. INGRAM expressed the fear that the pamphlets distributed gave

#### STATEMENTS RESPECTING WAGES

which could hardly be realised, and immigrants might suffer disappointment. Even if the Dominion Government did spend more than was advisable on immigration that was no excuse for extravagance by the Government.

Mr. GARSON said he believed that when immigrants came into this country there should be some means of directing them to their destination. He hoped the Government would seriously consider the case, with a view to abolishing the Canadian agency. The workmen would heartily welcome any man coming from other countries, but they did not want to have their money used to increase the number of those in the labor market competing with them.

Hon. Mr. FRASER said the working classes of Ontario were anxious to have correct information disseminated respecting the rate of wages, etc., in Ontario. If the Ontario agency in England were done away with, the means of

#### DISSEMINATING THAT INFORMATION

would be done away with. The Ontario agent had no interest in increasing the number of immigrants, but if he were withdrawn the whole matter would be left with the steamship and railway companies which had an interest in promoting this class of travel, or in the hands of large employers of labor who desired to secure laborers as cheap as possible, and who, it was said, sometimes resort to the means of making glowing but untrue representations respecting the state of the labor market in Ontario. Moreover he did not think that the fact that there was no need for a year or two or even more to press hard for the promotion of immigration was proof positive that the representation of Ontario in England should be abandoned altogether.

Mr. GIBSON (Huron) said he agreed with the member for Lincoln (Mr. Garson) that the best class of immigrants were those who paid their own way. But he was surprised to see gentlemen opposite so strongly condemning this small expenditure when they favored the enormous expenditures of the Dominion Government. They complained that the labor market was over-stocked, notwithstanding that they had promised that the N. P. would find employment to all who chose to come. The Ontario agent's attention was directed mainly to interesting the tenant farmer class, and as the prices of farms had fallen 20 or 30 per cent. since the N. P. came into force it was most desirable that these tenant farmers should be induced to come to Canada and so revive the demand. (Cheers.)

After further discussion the item passed.

#### THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

On the item of \$137,736, for agriculture,

Hon. A. M. ROSS explained several small increases, and mentioned that a small grant was to be made to the "Ontario Experimental Union," an association of ex-students of the Agricultural College, formed for the purpose of carrying out experiments in farming. The experiment of allowing a student from each county to attend the college free had been much more successful than he had anticipated. Out of 40 counties 32 had nominated students to attend