

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

'MONTREAL, March 12, 1904.

'Messrs. M. TORCHIA & Co.,  
'Boston, Mass.

'I was told that in your bank you hire men to go and work for the C.P.R., in British Columbia, paying one dollar each.

'Really this is very strange news, because I am the sole agent for supplying men to the C.P.R., and I did not give any order to any body to hire men.

'If I had to give such order for Boston, Messrs. Stabile & Co. are my sole agents, so in the event that you have men who want to go and work you must apply to Stabile & Co., who will give you all the information you may require. No shipment of men will be recognized but those made through Stabile & Co.

'Yours truly,'

—A. That is right, that is correct.

Q. You would not let any one else hire men for the C.P.R.?—A. They were strangers. They should not hire men for the C.P.R. without getting their permission.

Q. That is your permission. Why did you not let them have some of these men hired by other people. Why refuse work here and require an entry in your books before they went to work?—A. I do not know.

Q. Just think?—A. I don't think any thing about it.

Q. Did you not know that man in North Bay?—A. Barrachino?

Q. He hires men?—A. He has been hired in Montreal and we refused him.

Q. They refused them in North Bay?—A. There were some men hired for the C.P.R. and were refused, were hired through me?

Q. Well, I will have to show you a letter you wrote to Mr. Burns. You would not let them go to work unless they came through your office, until registered.—A. I do not understand the question.

Q. The roadmaster heard of the same and made a complaint, stating that these men came through your office?—A. Yes.

Q. And they were refused work because of that fact?—A. I don't know that they were refused.

Q. They came back, were registered in your office and got work?—A. I do not remember. Every day there are men coming to my office.

Adjourned until 10 a.m., on July 23, 1904.

MONTREAL, July 23, 1904.

THE COURT HOUSE, 10 A.M.,

The Commission resumes.

PRESENT :

HIS HONOUR, JUDGE WINCHESTER, *Commissioner*.

H. M. MOWAT, Esq., *Counsel for the Dominion Government*.

Mr. HORMISDAS LAPORTE, being sworn.

By Mr. Mowat :

Q. Are you mayor of Montreal for this year?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When did you become aware of the presence in Montreal of a large number of Italian labourers, in the month of May, I think?—A. Yes, in the month of May a large number of Italian labourers in our streets, in going through the district.

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Q. Your daily walks happened up there?—A. I live up town and have to come down Windsor and James streets about six times a day.

Q. Any representations made to you by anybody that it might become a matter of embarrassment?—A. I think at the end of May, I cannot remember the date, about the 28th or 29th, Mr. Catelli called at the city hall.

Q. Was he acting in an official capacity?—A. Yes, he came as a representative of the Italian Benevolent Association, to which the city had subscribed a couple of hundred dollars at my request in last December.

Q. Did he say they had no more money, what was the reason he came?—A. He came on a Monday afternoon during a meeting of council, and told me that he wished to notify the civic authorities that the association had spent all their money, more than the money subscribed for such purposes as it was money sent by the Italian government to furnish a building on Windsor street to be used as a refuge, and that they were at the end of their resources, and he thought it his duty to notify the civic authorities that the association would not be responsible for what might take place in future. These people were very peaceable and they never had any trouble with them and he said it seemed to him that the city must provide for them as they needed bread to keep them from starving. I then inquired of him what was the number of people that were without resources, and he said about 1,200, I think that a few of them will find help from their relatives and friends and will find lodgings with friends, but the others have no money, no friends and no resources and depend entirely on public help.

Q. After getting this report from Mr. Catelli, did it appear to you as head of the municipality there was something to be done?—A. Surely.

Q. What did you do, ask for a police report?—A. I invited Mr. Catelli to call on me next morning at my office between 11 and 12. At the same time I called Mr. Lane, who was secretary of the charity organizations of Montreal, and on whom I depend greatly to get first information on any people who ask for help, and then Mr. Catelli and Mr. Lane and other gentlemen came to my office. We discussed the situation, and after having Mr. Catelli's statement corroborated more or less by some other people there, I wrote to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and we advised Mr. Lane to give notice through the newspapers that he would receive subscriptions from the public, and that he would take the responsibility of distributing money to those immigrants who had no means to the best of his judgment.

Q. I understand it was on May 31 that you wrote to the premier, you have not got the letter?—A. I have just given instructions to get a copy of it, which will be here in a few minutes, it was on May 31.

Q. Was there any further correspondence with the government?—A. Well, I received an acknowledgment from Sir Wilfrid Laurier saying he had referred the matter to the Minister of the Interior, and a couple of days after, two or three days, I received a telephone from Mr. Lane informing me that 100 more immigrants had arrived on the same day and I received the confirmation of that telephone by other authorities. I had learned that accommodation had been secured by 500 immigrants who were to come by Hudson river and Albany at the rate of 100 daily.

Q. Coming from New York?—A. I was told that there were 500 to come by the same road as the 100 who came by the Hudson River and Albany and then by railroad to Montreal. Then the situation promised to become worse. Then many of our citizens who had knowledge of the city affairs asked me to interfere and get the Minister to write immediately, as we were afraid of trouble if this immigration was not stopped.

Q. I think you afterwards got some reports from the police, one of which I see here?—A. Yes, on June 3.

Q. I have a letter addressed to you by Mr. Charpentier, chief detective; it reads:—

CITY HALL, MONTREAL, June 3, 1904.

'H. LAPORTE, Esq.,

'Mayor, City.

'SIR,—With reference to my letter of this date, I have the honour to submit the following additional report: I interviewed Mr. Charles Honoré Catelli, Chairman de

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la Société de Secours d'Immigration Italienne, who stated that there were between 1,500 and 2,000 Italians out of work in the city now, about 500 of whom are in need of assistance. About 500 more Italians are expected to arrive this week from the United States. The Société distributed this morning 130 one and one-half pound loaves of bread, and Mr. Catelli states that their funds are now exhausted, and they cannot do anything more. Mr. Catelli suggested that it would be well if the railroad companies applied to the immigration agencies direct for labourers instead of to the employment agencies, because then those who have no money would have an equal chance of securing employment with those who have funds. The Immigration Society have already tried to have this plan followed, but without success.

'I inclose herewith copy of report from Detective Riopel, who was detailed to interview the Italian consul.

'I have the honour to be, sir,

'Your obedient servant,

JOSEPH CHARPENTIER,

'Sergeant Detective.'

This is the inclosure mentioned :—

'June 3, 1904.

'As per instructions from Sergeant Detective Charpentier, I proceeded to 107 Mackay street, where I interviewed Count Mazza, Italian Consul. He stated that to-day there are a number of Italians in Montreal who have been brought here by some 'ads.' in different papers. He would not tell me the number, but said that there are not many more this year than previous years; but that this year the big companies, like the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific, who used to take thousands, only take hundreds. He also stated that some of these men informed him that they were told they would get work as soon as they got off the ship on this side. He further said that just now some one is bringing more of these people from the United States. He said that the Italian Society knows how many of these men are here now. He informed me that on April 20 and May 10 last he cabled to Italy to stop these men from coming here, but he is informed that more are coming. He thinks that the government should take some means to send them back to Italy or find some work for them, because he claims they have no money and no means whatever to support themselves. He stated that the Italian Society's funds are exhausted and they are not able to support them any longer.

'(Signed), ALFRED RIOPEL.'

Q. Have you formed any opinion, Mr. Mayor, as to the work done by certain employment agencies, whether there is any action taken by them or whether there is any trouble likely to arise from the indiscriminate bringing in of labourers?—A. Well, I would not like to express an opinion on the subject; you see the documents just read. I suppose evidence can be secured from the men which will assist the court to form its judgment without any expression of opinion from me.

*By the Commissioner :*

Q. Did you make inquiry as to where these men came from?—A. In the case of 600, yes; they told me they came from New York.

Q. Did they arrive from Italy in New York, or live in New York?—A. I understood they had just arrived from Italy. They were unloaded at New York and shipped from there.

Q. These were really destitute?—A. Well, I cannot say that the whole were destitute.

Q. One would imagine that it was those that came from Italy that were destitute rather than those from the states?—A. That is what I thought. That is why I took so much trouble to try and stop them. I understood that those unloaded in New York

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and shipped here were not the most desirable immigrants, and that the Americans did not want them.

Q. Did you ascertain what induced them to come here?—A. By some personal investigation I made.

Q. You made a personal investigation?—A. Yes; they came to my office four or five a day for money. A large number of people took an interest in these troubles, citizens of Montreal and gentlemen connected with the Italians, and I understood that these troubles were caused principally by certain agencies preferring to give work to those who had made deposits first and leave the others without work.

Q. Do you know who were interested in bringing them out?—A. Well, I had the names of a few agents; Mr. Cordasco, who, I understand, claimed that he had large contracts from railway companies which he must fill, and he brought out a certain number of men.

Q. Do you remember how many?—A. He never mentioned the exact number to me.

Q. Did he mention about how many he would require on the railway?—A. He mentioned last year about 10,000 men would find employment.

Q. That he wanted 10,000?—A. He expected that number would be required this year.

Q. When was this he said that?—A. It was on the 1st or 2nd of June, a couple of days after Mr. Catelli had made his declaration to me. Mr. Cordasco came to my office, and in the presence of some gentlemen, among whom was Alderman Gallery, he tried to show that he was discriminating, and that all of the men had money, and had shown some, and were spending it very freely in saloons. As this did not correspond with my information, I contested the statement, but it was corroborated by a couple of other agencies.

Q. You then thought the statement incorrect from your personal investigation?—A. From the information I had through the Italians and gentlemen connected with the Italian colony, who had always taken a great interest in their welfare, like Mr. Catelli, I found it was not correct.

Q. Do you remember seeing any of these men intoxicated on the streets?—A. Never. I do not remember seeing any.

Q. What means were taken to secure employment for these men?—A. I had applied to the newspapers to publish at such a place in the paper a statement to the effect that we had a large number of workmen desirous of work who would be willing to accept work in any part of the country. This had been done by the newspapers very freely, and a number of letters came from Manitoba and the North-west Territories, and I passed these letters to Mr. Candori's office, and they shipped a certain number.

Q. How many were shipped in that way?—A. I cannot tell you.

Q. About how many?—A. 100 or 200. I know Mr. Catelli informed me he had shipped 50 to one man, and 10 or more to others.

Q. What was the expenditure to the city in consequence of the influx?—A. The city did not contribute any money as a city; the citizens gave. I cannot tell how much money was subscribed. I started myself with a few dollars.

Q. By private subscriptions?—A. Yes.

Q. I understand that the city subscribed something to the Italian Immigration Aid Society?—A. Yes.

Q. How much?—A. Just \$200.

Q. That was paid over?—A. Well, I am not sure whether all the money was paid. It was to be paid by \$50 every three months. Besides that, I do not know but we subscribed \$500 to send back the people.

Q. Did you ascertain what was the effect of this large immigration on the labour market, as to wages?—A. Well, no. As far as the city is concerned, we have a standard scale of wages, and our departments are not allowed to pay less than \$1.50 per day for labour. This immigration had no effect on civic labourers.

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Q. Did the city employ any of these immigrants?—A. I do not know. I think the city did, as they have since a few years some good Italian citizens in Montreal.

Q. Is \$1.50 per day the minimum scale?—A. The minimum scale for labourers, established three years ago.

Q. Of course contractors are not bound by these figures?—A. Well, contractors who contract for the city are bound.

Q. Did you ascertain whether the provincial government had any agents or persons who were inducing Italians to come?—A. I never heard of that.

Q. Nor the Dominion government?—A. I have never heard of it.

Q. Did any of these Italians complain of any one inducing them to come to this country?—A. Not to me personally. I have seen friends connected with Italian immigration, and when started this benevolent association I understood it was to have lodgings for those who arrived destitute, and at the same time they interest themselves in getting work for them.

Mr. MOWAT.—This is the letter to Sir Wilfrid Laurier of May 31 last of which you spoke :—

(Translation.)

'MONTREAL, May 31, 1904.

'The Honourable Sir Wilfrid Laurier,

'Premier of Canada,

'Ottawa.

'Sir,—I hope you will pardon me if I take up a moment of your time to call your attention to the large number of indigent Italians who are walking the streets of Montreal since a few weeks.

'Persons in authority inform me that at the present time there are at least 1,200 of these immigrants in the midst of our population, whereof at least 600 are absolutely destitute, the other half having to depend on the kindness of friends and parents for their living.

'It is true that the Italian Society has supported these unfortunates since some time, but I learn this society is now at the end of its resources.

'A sentiment of fear pervades our citizens that these people who have been enticed to Montreal, may commit some excesses, because we have not sufficient employment at present to give them work.

'I have just been informed that over 100 more have arrived this morning, and that the Canadian Government agents in the ports of Boston, Halifax and St. John allow them entry into the country with too great facility.

'We are of the opinion that a serious investigation should be made in order to shoulder the responsibility for such a state of things upon those at fault, and our citizens will esteem it a boon if you will kindly consent to take the initiative in stopping this influx of unemployed and in repatriating those already here.

'It is needless to say that the municipal authorities will heartily concur and will place themselves at your disposal in every way possible.

'Please accept, sir, my best regards.

'The Mayor of Montreal.

H. LAPORTE.

Mr. CORDASCO re-called.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. You were to make out a statement last night as to the number of men who registered with you this year?—A. My bookkeeper has got it I think.

Q. From the statement that you produce, Mr. Cordasco, there appears to be 63 foremen?—A. Well, yes.

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Q. I want you to swear to it?—A. Yes, if in my books; of course, if one does not know anything about it.

Q. I want you to know something. Well, have these men all paid?—A. Three have not paid.

Q. If all had paid it would be \$630. What is this, only \$465 you received; is that correct?—A. I received \$10, unless for three men. This would be \$600.

Q. Did you receive \$600 from the foremen?—A. I received \$10 from each foreman, besides \$3.

Q. Then I see 3,916 men?—A. Mr Ganna brought the name of all the men I registered.

Q. Is that right?—A. It is right.

Q. You received from these \$5,656?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know what rate they paid?—A. Some \$1 and some \$3.

Q. Do you know how much you received from the Canadian Pacific Railway for these men?—A. Not one cent.

Q. For any of them?—A. I supplied all men free to the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Q. How much did you charge the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. I did not receive anything. I did not care.

Q. You are not so liberal as all that. You charged five dollars a day when you were sending them out before this arrangement?—A. Yes, if I did a full day's work.

Q. Is that a statement of the charge of \$5 during last year, up to the end of December, 1903?—A. Yes.

Q. So you received from the Canadian Pacific Railway \$1,456 up to the end of last year. How much this year?—A. Only a few dollars for January, February and March. I cannot say whether it is \$400 or more.

Q. Let me see your accounts?—A. I gave my bill to the Canadian Pacific Railway, probably they have my receipts. You have got all my papers.

Q. I have not got all your papers; I do not want them all?—A. January and February I was most of the time sick.

Q. This year?—A. Yes, I did not work.

Q. This is your receipt for January, \$185, is that correct?—A. For January, yes, that is wages.

Q. How much wages?—A. \$60 I guess, it is marked on this bill.

Q. On this bill; I do not see \$60 salary?—A. It is all there.

Q. \$87.50, is that correct?—A. I think it is.

Q. Previous to this \$51.49 paid a man named Mosco helping to meet trains?—A. Placed some of them in boarding house and other services.

Q. You paid him \$46.50 and they paid for that?—A. Yes, I had an arrangement.

Q. You received a profit of \$87.50 for that. You charge there for provisions bought for Chinese going to the coast?—A. Yes.

Q. At whose request did you supply these provisions?—A. At Mr. Burns' request.

Q. Who supplied these provisions for you?—A. J. C. Spenard.

Q. Of 329 St. James, which is three or four doors from you; they are retail grocers?—A. Yes.

Q. And he supplied all the provisions requested?—A. Yes.

Q. He delivered them to the train?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you forward his account to the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. No.

Q. Why?—A. I did not consider they had anything to do with the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Q. But you charged the Canadian Pacific Railway certain profits?—A. Not now, before, long ago.

Q. Did you ever have any complaints by Mr. Burns against you for this?—A. No.

Q. Did they inquire into the value of these goods?—A. I don't know if they did it or not.

Q. Not from you?—A. No.

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Q. What profit was it you asked and charged for these provisions?—A. Well, according to the rise in bread or beans or other items, I had some profit because I had to have three or four extra men, and had to get men at the station, check baggage and put them safe in the cars. There was some cost, I paid men extra.

Q. Masco met the trains?—A. My brother Jack and others.

Q. The Canadian Pacific Railway had an agent to inspect?—A. Sometimes they had a man.

Q. Mr. Burns said that they had to see that the provisions were proper, and made Spenard bring them in his wagon?—A. Yes.

Q. So that you had not very much trouble about that?—A. I had to be there myself.

Q. And got \$5 a day for being there last year, did you not?—A. Yes.

Q. Mr. Burns ran over the accounts made by Spenard and yours. You charged about 60 per cent, sometimes 62 per cent and sometimes more profit?—A. Probably on the sardines.

Q. The sardines were 150 per cent. Strange how sardines go up?—A. Well, I am not very well posted on the fluctuations of sardines.

Q. You charged about 60 per cent; that is a fair profit?—A. May be, that much.

Q. More?—A. I do not know, Your Honour.

Q. Mr. Burns went through Spenard's accounts against you?—A. He did not say anything.

Q. I don't see the Spenard accounts here?—A. Yes.

Q. Did he know you were making a profit last year?—A. I gave in my bills, so much for bread, so much for beans, &c. They were passed right along. If they found I was wrong they should have said so.

Q. Last year you made over \$3,800 out of these provisions?—A. Probably I did.

Q. You got paid by the Canadian Pacific Railway for all these provisions?—A. Yes, but nothing from April.

Q. You have not settled your accounts for April?—A. There was no money paid to me from April.

Q. You charged the same profit since April?—A. Yes.

Q. Why have you not settled since April?—A. I have asked for the same.

Q. More than once?—A. Yes.

Q. And you have not yet settled with the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. No, sir.

Q. What is the reason?—A. I don't know.

Q. Does not Mr. Burns?—A. Want to see if I have right to charge \$1.

Q. You know what the agreement is?—A. There is no agreement.

Q. You charged \$41 to the Canadian Pacific Railway for 41 men at \$1 per head, that is according to your new agreement?—A. Yes.

Q. How did you come to telegraph to Foley Bros. and Larson?—A. Because I had my own foremen and my own Italian labourers. I went to Mr. Burns and asked where I could place some. He told me, 'I am waiting for orders from the superintendents.' This year, of course, was altogether different from last year; last year we began in March, this year the winter was very hard, and we were waiting for orders for a large number of men.

Q. So you telegraphed all around?—A. Well, I went to Mr. Burns.

Q. Why did you go to Mr. Burns?—A. Because he had to have first chance.

Q. That had nothing to do with Foley Bros. and Larson?—A. He is better posted than I am.

Q. Was he desirous that you should give Foley Bros. and Larson a chance?—A. Yes.

Q. And he paid for your telegram?—A. I don't think so.

Q. Why?—A. I cannot tell.

Q. He was interested in your sending these men out?—A. I cannot say, Your Honour. I was ready myself to pay.

Q. You were, but you did not?—A. He said he would stand for the telegram; I said all right.

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Q. Had he any interest in getting these men to pay for going out?—A. Not a cent.

Q. Now, did you state in your office between November and April that you wanted 10,000 men?—A. Not direct. People asked me how is work going to be, and I may have stated there will be a lot of work.

Q. Did you say that you wanted 10,000 men?—A. Not direct, I might mention.

Q. Did you say that?—A. I may.

Q. Did you or did you not?—A. Probably I did.

Q. Did you. I want to know whether you did or not?—A. I do not remember.

Q. Did you or did you not?—A. If I say—

Q. Will you say yes or no?—A. I say yes.

Q. Did you?—A. Probably I did.

Q. You cannot get rid of the probably?—A. You see, one day in conversation I may have said.

Q. Did you?—A. I do not remember.

Q. When did you begin to say you wanted 10,000?—A. I did not say it direct.

Q. What did you say?—A. I said next year probably there will be considerable work.

Q. You know what you said?—A. I may have said that about 10,000 will be wanted for work between November of last year and April of this year. I don't know; probably I said that.

Q. That you wanted 10,000 men?—A. That there would be work for that number. I did not say I wanted them myself.

Q. You did not want anybody for yourself; you wanted them for the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. I may have said next year there will be work for probably 10,000 men.

Q. Did you state to Mr. Stabile that you wanted 10,000 men?—A. I did not see him personally.

Q. Not this year? Was he not in Montreal?—A. I saw his clerk here.

Q. When?—A. Two or three months ago.

Q. When did you first see him this year?—A. I am not sure; March or April.

Q. And before that when did you see Stabile?—A. I did not see Stabile last year.

Q. Did you see his clerk?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you tell him you wanted 10,000 men?—A. I do not remember.

Q. What are you beating about the bush for; answer straight. You know what I am asking you, and if I have got to stay here a month I will get an answer. Did you tell him you wanted 10,000 this year?—A. Never in my life.

Q. Be careful; did you or did you not?—A. I don't remember ever telling him that.

Q. Well, I want to refresh your memory. Do you remember Mr. Aiello?—A. Yes.

Q. When was he here?—A. I think in April.

Q. He is your agent in New York?—A. Yes, when I want men.

Q. Did you tell him you wanted 10,000 men?—A. I don't remember.

Q. That is as far as you can go; you may have said it?—A. If ever I told him I do not remember. I said there will be a lot of work; we will want a lot of men.

Q. Look out for a lot of men?—A. I don't remember.

Q. What did you tell him?—A. Nothing at all. When I will want men I will let him know.

Q. You told him you might require a large number. How many would you want? Did you mention 10,000?—A. I said a lot of men.

Q. What number did you say, 10,000?—A. I do not remember.

Q. Went you go further?—A. I cannot say now.

Q. Is it possible that you may have said that?—A. Possibly, but I do not remember at all.

Q. Would you contradict a witness that would say you did?—A. Well, I would contradict him, because I never said that.



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Q. Did you not tell him you would want 10,000 in the spring?—A. No.

Q. Will you contradict a witness who heard you say it?—A. I will tell what I know.

Q. And Stabile; did you ever tell him you wanted 10,000 men?—A. I do not remember.

Q. Has your counsel, your lawyer, told you to say, I don't remember when you are?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You ought to be very careful. I do not want anything but the truth: I do not want to have trouble with you?—A. My God, I am telling nothing but the truth.

Q. Your lawyer told you not to remember when you were asked some unpleasant questions?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many agents have you over in the United States besides Stabile and Aiello?—A. No agents at all.

Q. How many did you send over?—A. Send over?

Q. To the States last year?—A. May be four, five or six.

Q. Five or six?—A. Yes.

Q. To drum up Italians?—A. Yes.

Q. You know Mr. Marcucci?—A. I never saw him.

Q. Don't you know him?—A. No.

Q. When did Mr. Marcucci go over to Italy?—A. Marcucci? I don't know anything about him.

Q. Just think before you answer?—A. I don't know.

Q. I think you are wrong?—A. I don't know Marcucci.

Q. He was sent over from Canada to bring men out to this country?—A. I never sent him there.

Q. Did you ever hear of that before?—A. I never heard of this man went from Canada to Italy for men.

Q. You know Boconcelli?—A. Yes.

Q. Was Marcucci only employed?—A. I have heard him mentioned, but I do not know this man.

Q. We will find it out, by degrees, by bringing both together we may get you to remember?—A. Perhaps.

Q. Then Marcucci did go from Canada?—A. I do not know, I think Boconcelli sent him.

Q. What did he send Marcucci for?—A. I don't know.

Q. Just think again, because we have to get it?—A. I do not remember.

Q. How many tickets did Boconcelli get from you to bring men out?—A. About 13 or 14 men, the books show it. (To Ganna). How many Ganna?

Q. Never mind Ganna. You were blaming him all day yesterday?—A. He is responsible, he is my foreman.

Q. How much did Boconcelli pay for the tickets?—A. \$30.65 from Naples to Montreal.

Q. What did he pay?—A. How much he paid who?

Q. Boconcelli?—A. He paid \$30.65.

Q. To bring them to Montreal?—A. \$30 from Naples to New York; \$6.65 from New York to Montreal.

Q. Did he buy tickets direct from Naples to Montreal?—A. Yes.

Q. Now what is your profit on each ticket that you sell?—A. In this company, I think \$7.

Q. For the \$30 ticket?—A. Well, I don't know two tickets or one.

Q. Look at your account for every \$30 ticket you get \$7?—A. I can give you an answer.

Q. Look at the \$30 ticket and tell me what commission you made?—A. \$7 commission on a whole ticket.

Q. How many tickets have you issued?—A. 14 tickets to Boconcelli.

- Q. But you sold a great many to others than Boconcelli?—A. He cabled me.
- Q. Who directed him to do all that work, you?—A. Yes.
- Q. You instructed him?—A. For this work, yes.
- Q. Then on a \$30 ticket you got \$7?—A. Yes, with this company.
- Q. Boconcelli was a great friend of yours?—A. No friend of mine, no relation.
- Q. Never mind the relations, you lent him money?—A. Yes.
- Q. How much?—A. About \$380.
- Q. So he was a friend of yours?—A. I knew the man, he was no friend.
- Q. Now you sent Marcucci over to Italy for these tickets?—A. I know nothing about that. I heard he sent him.
- Q. Heard of it after he bought the tickets. Marcucci came back again?—A. I never heard of it.
- Q. You heard about it?—A. Boconcelli told me, that's all I know.
- Q. How much did he charge these men?—A. I do not know.
- Q. You heard?—A. I did not.
- Q. What is the use of saying that, you told me you did, they charged those unfortunate men \$60 for every \$30 ticket sold. Boconcelli said it?—A. He probably did, I do not know whether he got \$60, \$65 or \$70.
- Q. You are swearing to it. How much did he charge these men?—A. I think Boconcelli he said he was going to charge \$60.
- Q. Now you have given money to Boconcelli, gave him \$100, took a \$125 note for it on demand?—A. That is all business. He asked me \$100, \$20.
- Q. You sent him out as foreman?—A. I did that.
- Q. One of the first men?—A. On July 16.
- Q. He brought those Italians with him?—A. I don't know, I gave him \$35.
- Q. He gave you a list of his men?—A. Yes.
- Q. How was Boconcelli to get this \$60 from these men?—A. I don't know.
- Q. Yes, you talked the matter over with him, you were to get money from him?—
- A. I lent him money to accommodate.
- Q. It was to come out of his wages?—A. Yes, whenever he got them.
- Q. That was understood?—A. Yes.
- Q. These men were to pay their money out of their wages?—A. I had nothing to do with him.
- Q. You loaned Boconcelli the money because he brought men out, sold tickets and got it out of their wages?—A. I only loaned him money.
- Q. Is that correct?—A. No, every man he brought out for him.
- Q. You know that he was getting plenty of money, because he was getting it out of these men?—A. I don't know.
- Q. But you told me that?—A. My God, I never said that; I loaned money to Boconcelli, he needed money to settle; I don't remember stating.
- Q. Please answer direct?—A. Well, I gave you—
- Q. Don't say any more than what is necessary. Mr. Boconcelli got money?—A. \$380.
- Q. The first note you took was for \$125, you paid \$100?—A. Probably.
- Q. The second note was for \$65, how much did you pay him?—A. I don't remember.
- Q. The third note was for \$100; how much did you pay him, \$140?—A. Probably.
- Q. These moneys, you said, were to be recouped as soon as he got his wages from the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. Whenever he earns it.
- Q. He was also to receive money from these men brought out from Italy?—A. I don't know. He told me that they owed him an amount of money.
- Q. And he was to get their wages to pay it?—A. I don't know.
- Q. He told you?—A. He was looking to the men to pay the money.
- Q. Because he was to get their wages, every man of them, was not that the case? He was to get their wages?—A. That is what he said.
- Q. Now, Adolph Milo, how much money did you lend him?—A. I think \$400, something like that; I gave you a copy of the notes.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

Q. Some small discount of 25 per cent?—A. Oh, yes, Your Honour.

Q. And there were several others you sent out as foremen; Del Vecchio \$107; he owed you \$107. In order to get a good position they had to owe you money. They had to come to you?—A. I am not obliged to lend money to anybody.

Q. These men borrowed money from you and went away?—A. When I find honest men I lend them money.

Q. I have no idea that you would lend it to anybody other than an honest man?—A. Nobody else.

Q. Gaillardi \$70?—A. He is out.

Q. Anybody else?—A. I have no recollection.

Q. Memme?—A. Not a cent.

Q. Endorsed a note for you?—A. For Boconcelli.

Q. He is out too?—A. Yes.

Q. Any one else?—A. I don't remember. If you have them it is all right; I gave you my notes, you have them in your pocket.

Q. No, I have not. Anybody else gave you notes for the purpose of getting money and got it—Mighella?—A. He did not get it because his turn has not arrived. He got \$10, \$20 cash; yes, I gave him cash.

Q. You heard what he stated?—A. I do not care what he says.

Q. Has he gone out yet?—A. No, because of his law suit against me.

Q. That is the reason why there is trouble about the \$40?—A. He is trying to get the whole amount.

Q. Did you ever get orders on the Canadian Pacific Railway for wages?—A. Nono for any man.

Q. Do you ever collect wages from the Canadian Pacific Railway for the men?—A. I do not remember.

Q. Will you swear that you do not?—A. I do not know.

Q. That is what you swear to; be careful, because I have writing to this effect?—A. I do not remember.

Q. You have collected money for the men from the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. I never collected a cent from the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Q. You never got an order from the men to get wages?—A. Not that I remember, but if you say so—

Q. You swear that you did not?—A. Yes, that is all I remember.

Q. You say, then, you have not under any circumstances collected money from the Canadian Pacific Railway for wages for the men?—A. Not for wages.

Q. Now, besides these foremen that you have mentioned, what others have you sent out?—A. (Ganna, give me the book.) I sent out on April 14 Vincenzo Cordasco, my brother; on April 23, Geo. Di Patrick; on May 13, I sent G. Aceto. I lent this man money.

Q. Where did he come from?—A. Montreal.

Q. Lives in Montreal?—A. Has got a wife here. Then I sent out on May 19 some men without a foreman. On June 2 I sent J. Campolongo; on June 3 I sent Emiliano Del Vecchio.

Q. How much did you pay him?—A. I did not give him a cent. On June 21 I sent L. Banichiro; I did not lend him anything. On June 23 I sent N. Maiorano, without giving him any money. June 29 V. Gagliardi. He went away and never paid me a cent. I lent him money because he had none.

Q. He got some money?—A. I gave him money and have not got any from him.

Q. How much did you lend him?—A. \$70 altogether.

Q. What is the amount of his note?—A. I think his note is \$70.

Q. You paid him?—A. I gave him \$2 or \$3 at a time; all cash.

Q. Did you charge him 25 per cent?—A. No, sir. On July 3, I sent Adolph Milo, and on July 5 Antonio Memme and some men without a foreman, seven on same day without interpreter, on July 8 without foreman and on July 10 men without foreman.

Q. Is that your signature, Mr. Cordasco?—A. Yes.

Q. What did you sign there for?—A. Some cheques, I think, some tickets; I believe it is to get a refund of money.

Q. Did you get that money for them?—A. I gave it to the men.

Q. That is a receipt from you dated December 10 to Mr. G. E. Burns for time checks. So you did collect checks?—A. It must have been so.

Q. Checks, not tickets?—A. Probably I did. You can bring anything. I admit that.

Q. You have to do it?—A. If I cannot remember I cannot say otherwise.

Q. Now, there are several checks besides those you received?—A. I do not remember.

Q. Do you not recollect getting money for the men?—A. I do not. Sometimes Mr. Skinner, sometimes Mr. Burns, gave me checks; they would forward me a check or two.

Q. I have some letters showing you liked to ask for money for the men?—A. Only put in a claim.

Q. You remember writing to them for money for wages?—A. Yes.

Q. And they paid you?—A. Sometimes I got check.

Q. For wages that these men were claiming as foremen?—A. Yes.

Q. Now, you made it appear there would be a large number of Italians wanted in connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway when you wrote these letters to the States I read yesterday?—A. I never authorized my book-keeper to say that I needed 10,000.

Q. Do you think you mentioned that so that he would understand what he was writing about?—A. No, sir. I just said I understood a lot of men, but no such number as 10,000.

Q. You got Mr. Ganna to do that?—A. Mr. Ganna did that by himself.

Q. You got Mr. Ganna to write these letters?—A. Not every one.

Q. Did you get Mr. Ganna to write them?—A. I got him to do my work.

Q. You instructed him to do that?—A. To write letters?

Q. Telling him what to put in letter?—A. Yes.

Q. You think he has put anything else in letters?—A. He did it.

Q. How can you prove he did it?—A. Because I know I never instructed that man for 10,000.

Q. You wrote yourself to Mr. Ludwig that you wanted many hundreds?—A. I did not last year.

Q. Not last year; last fall for this season of 1904. Hundreds of men wanted; you wrote that yourself?—A. Yes, it may be right.

Q. And you mentioned 10,000 to Mr. Aiello?—A. I don't think so.

Q. And Stabile. Did you mention to any of the Italians in your office that you wanted 10,000 men?—A. In conversation I may have said many would be wanted.

Q. Did you ever mention to the men that you wanted 10,000 men for the Canadian Pacific Railway this year?—A. No, sir. I never mentioned 10,000 to any one.

Q. You swear that positively?—A. Yes.

Q. All these ten letters are mythical—never came from you at all?—A. The letters came from these people, and I never answered them. They were told not to come to Canada unless I sent for them. In any case to send the \$1 and \$10 for foremen, and foremen to have 50 men.

Q. Now, as to that statement you put in this morning. How many of these men paid \$4 to you?—A. I don't remember.

Q. Look at your statement and see?—A. That is Ganna's.

Q. Never mind Ganna. He carries out your instructions does he not?—A. In some ways.

Q. He carries out your instructions?—A. Everything, unless the 10,000.

## SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

Q. How many paid?—A. There were registered 110 from New York. These gentlemen came to me and said I want to be registered. I said we cannot register any more, my books are full. They said never mind, we will wait our turn no matter. They came and paid me \$3 each man.

Q. Possibly \$1 already paid?—A. Yes.

Q. That made \$4?—A. Yes.

Q. How many men?—A. About 110.

Q. \$440?—A. No, no, your honour.

Q. I asked you how many men paid \$4, and you said 110?—A. The number registered was about 91.

Q. How many paid \$3?—A. About 200, perhaps more.

Q. I want to find out the true number?—A. I did not make the statement out.

Q. Mr. Ganna says here, Mr. Cordasco, that in November you registered 153, December 453, January 527, February 614, March 1,211, April 353, May 244, June 27, July 9; total 3,916. I will have to go over this statement, he knows of these. Have you not registered more than 9 in July?—A. I do not know.

Q. You got money also from men who paid at your house. Are their names in this?—A. Not unless they came to register.

Q. You got money from the men?—A. I did and I passed a paper to them.

Q. Will you show me that entry of men since the 1st July?—A. You have got that book in which that entry is.

Q. Do you not remember what money you received?—A. I do not know, Mr. Ganna has the book.

Q. Where is the book you made that entry in?—A. I have not got it, Mr. Ganna has.

Q. I want these small books?—A. You know some are entered here, some there. If they are entered in the book you can find them.

Q. You advertise in the *Corriere del Canada*?—A. Yes. they have one of my advertisements calling for men.

Q. Two or three advertisements in that paper?—A. Yes.

Q. How long have you been advertising in that paper?—A. Since about November.

Q. How long have you been advertising in this paper?—A. All the time since I gave money.

Q. You own it?—A. I do not.

Q. Do you not own the greater portion?—A. I paid up some money.

Q. Do you not own the greater portion of that paper?—A. Yes.

Q. And you object to be called proprietor?—A. Yes.

Q. You got paid for the advertising in that paper?—A. Yes, most of the people had to pay.

Q. You got that money?—A. Yes.

Q. You sent this paper to the men and the foremen?—A. I sent the paper to any men giving their advertisements.

Q. Will you give me a list of these men you sent it to?—A. Antonio Ganna has got the list. Let him show the list.

Q. There you go again, all on the shoulders of poor Mr. Ganna. How many did you send to Italy?—A. I do not know how many. Not many, except to my native town.

Q. What is the name of your town?—A. San Donato.

Q. How many did you send to your town?—A. About 25 or 30.

Q. A hundred?—A. Never.

Q. How long have you been sending them to your town?—A. Since I got a share in this paper.

Q. Since when?—A. Since November last year, 1903.

Q. The first you had anything to do with it?—A. Some time in November.

Q. How many did you send to other parts of Italy besides your own town cannot say, Your Honour.

Q. About how many?—A. I don't know.

Q. How many did you get printed?—A. Sometimes 450.

Q. Did you send half to Italy?—A. Well, not quite, I suppose.

Q. About half?—A. 60.

Q. More than 60 to your own little village?—A. In my village I have natives.

Q. How many other villages did you send to?—A. 60 altogether besides.

Q. And you sent them every week?—A. Weekly, yes.

Q. You got people to write articles in this paper for you?—A. Yes articles sometimes.

Q. Scarrone wrote articles for you?—A. Yes.

Q. You asked him to do so?—A. No, sir, never.

Q. Never?—A. No, sir. Nobile wrote to this man.

Q. You suggested that he should use your name in connection with Pacific Railway work?—A. I do not know.

Q. You remember his writing an article for you?—A. Yes, I did not ask do it.

Q. The *Corriere del Canada* has a long labour article?—A. The paper is filled with something.

Q. What is the date of that (showing him paper)?—A. February 27, 1904.

Q. 'Italian labourers,' that is the heading. It reads:

'The working season is approaching under a very promising aspect. The principal companies have in the past few winter months estimated for a large amount of work, and will give employment to a more considerable number of men than in years. The greatest and most sincere friend of the Italian labourers, Mr. Cordasco, of Montreal, the sole Italian agent for the most important railway company in the world, the Canadian Pacific Railway, proposes himself to give, in the coming season, work to as many labourers as may apply to him. What he proposes to do for himself cannot but be realized owing to the enormous amount of work the Canadian Pacific Railway will do this year.

'This company, which, both for the extension of its lines and for its capital, is the first among railway companies, and it is considered also as the most important proprietor of land, owning 14,000,000 acres. It has always employed a larger number of labourers than any other company and with higher wages. Mr. Cordasco, the agent of the company, never betrayed the confidence that was put in him, nor in fulfilling his duty as an agent, but assisting and protecting Italian labourers, and for the good reputation he enjoys among the different companies and contractors is the guarantee for the labourers employed through him.

'But the most splendid proof of that has been given by two thousand labourers who in orderly parade, demonstrated a few days ago in Montreal that they do not forget what was done for them, and even if there were no other proof, this would be sufficient to show the philanthropic work of Antonio Cordasco.

'The spontaneous demonstration by two thousand men in a town where Italian labourers are not counted by hundreds of thousands, was most flattering for the person honoured, and we cordially congratulate Mr. Antonio Cordasco.

'What we say is not flattery: for we very well know that Mr. Cordasco, as a business man, does not care for that. It is only to sympathise with him for what he does for the Italian labourers who come here ready to fight against any kind of adversity and who find in Cordasco a father, a friend, who not only helps and protects them but puts them in a position to provide for their families and their aged parents.

But as if all that was not enough, he has instituted a solid bank, through which anybody can send money to any part of Italy within a few days.

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'We trust that the benevolent action of A. Cordasco will last for years and years, for the welfare of our labourers, and we cannot help to let his name be known to everybody, so that our compatriots will know when landing here that they will find a friend waiting for them.'

—A. I never ordered that.

Q. Be careful?—A. I never ordered this man to put in one line of that kind.

Q. I want you to be careful. If you are going too far I am going to stop you.—  
A. You can get this man here; I never ordered this.

Q. Turn up the letter to Mr. Scarrone?—A. I never ordered him to send such an article.

Q. You read it in the paper?—A. Yes, when it came here.

Q. I suppose you approved of that article?—A. I laughed about it, that's all.

Q. Did he not send that article to you to be printed?—A. He sent it to be printed.

Q. And you saw it before it was printed?—A. Yes.

Q. You had it printed?—A. Yes.

Q. You sent that paper all over Italy?—A. Sixty in Italy besides my town.

Q. You wrote him on February 9?—A. That was the very day when I was in bed.

Q. You say :

'MONTREAL, February 9, 1904.

'Sig. L. P. SCARRONE,

55 Edward street, Toronto, Ont.

'I have received yours of the 7th inst., and I thank you very much for the kind words you wrote in your correspondence, of which I am proud. But I am sorry that I cannot publish this correspondence, as I do not wish the readers to know that I am the capitalist and administrator of the *Corriere del Canada*.

'If I should place this before the readers they will say that I sing my own praises, or that I order others to praise me; so you can (and I thank you for that) send articles on the work and solidity of the Canadian Pacific Railway, but do not tell the readers that I belong to this newspaper.

'You may say this privately to your advertisers and subscribers. I like the principle of your correspondence, which is well written, but you understand that it is no use to let the people know that I have a share in the newspaper for the above reason.

'If you send for Monday a good article on the work of the Canadian Pacific Railway, I shall publish it with the greatest of pleasure. I take the opportunity to thank you for the kind reception you gave to my traveller, Mr. Ianuzzi.

'Please tell me if you received the newspapers. I will be glad if you will confirm that you accept to represent the *Corriere del Canada* on the condition proposed.

'Please send me your cut, for I wish to introduce you to the readers by publishing it.

'Wishing you good business and hoping to receive on Monday an article to publish as correspondence from Toronto.

'Yours truly,

'ANTONIO CORDASCO.'

Q. You also wrote over to New York and got articles written there for you, did you not?—A. Yes.

Q. Who was the agent you wrote to in New York?—A. Mr. Aiello, or if in Italian, to be transplanted, and there is another fellow there, Loperari.

Q. Then you sent to New York to have the articles printed specially?—A. Yes, Your Honour. This was for these people who bring people from Italy. I sent the copy to all the business people of Canada.

Q. Is this the supplement you directed to be printed in New York?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You sent to New York to have this done?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You are censuring the Italian Immigration Aid Society pretty bad here?—A. Well, whatever Ganna put on I sent to New York.

Q. You read it before it went?—A. I read it once.

- Q. You knew what was being put in?—A. Yes.
- Q. What did you do with this supplement? Did you send it to Italy?—A. not say if Ganna sent it.
- Q. You had it printed in Italian?—A. Yes.
- Q. Published as a supplement of the *Corriere del Canada*?—A. Yes.
- Q. Forwarded to your subscribers?—A. Yes.
- Q. And to Italy as well?—A. Not to Italy.
- Q. This is the only copy of it?—A. Yes.
- Q. Why did you do that do you know, was the Immigration Aid Society interfering with you?—A. Yes, everybody is interfering every day, ever since I began or three a day. Everybody has an eye on my business.
- Q. Who wrote this for you?—A. Ganna sent a copy of this to Mr. Aiello, York. He made this.
- Q. And translated it into English for you?—A. Yes.
- Q. Printed in New York or Montreal?—A. In New York.
- Q. In Italian?—A. Did not want to send a copy there.
- Q. You printed it in Italian in Montreal?—A. Yes.
- Q. What is where it arose?—A. Yes.
- Q. I will not read it; it is too long and too severe in its language. Those want a copy can get it now?—A. I do not think there are any left now.
- Q. How many copies did you have printed?—A. 200.
- Q. You were to produce some of these accounts to-day; have you done so?—A. There is one left, and I gave it to Ganna. It is produced here, Your Honour.
- Q. I see two or three before the first?—A. Any one you desire you can have. I think that is all you asked for March 17. I do not know whether there are any left.
- Q. Will you get the one for 1903?—A. Well, I will ask for it.
- Q. You advertised in 'La Patria Italiana'?—A. Yes, about a month or two a couple of months ago.
- Q. Did you put in advertisements for some time?—A. Yes.
- Q. Some friends put one in?—A. Yes.
- Q. When was that?—A. In the fall.
- Q. Was that the one about the 10,000 men?—A. Yes, I remember he put in advertisement asking for men.
- Q. How many?—A. I do not know whether 1,000, 2,000 or 3,000.
- Q. Go a little higher?—A. I do not remember.
- Q. Who paid for this advertisement?—A. The Canadian Pacific Railway.
- Q. Are you paying for these advertisements at all?—A. Every one at present.
- Q. Yes?—A. Yes.
- Q. Who pays for the advertisements in the *Corriere del Canada*?—A. I do not know anything.
- Q. You run it yourself?—A. They put them in the paper without charging anything.
- Q. You still have that paper for advertising?—A. Yes.
- Q. Scarroni gets advertisements in Toronto?—A. He was to.
- Q. And pay you the money?—A. I never got a cent.
- Q. He took it out in writing articles for you?—A. He sent some articles.
- Q. Wrote the articles and kept the money?—A. I never told him.
- Q. That is the way?—A. I don't know.
- Q. He never sent any money?—A. He may have sent cheque.
- Q. There was an arrangement with Scarroni?—A. No arrangement at all.
- Q. He was to get advertisements?—A. He promised that he would.
- Q. He never did?—A. I never saw any.
- Q. No Italian advertisements?—A. I do not know.
- Q. You read the paper?—A. He did not pay for it.
- Q. And you pay him for the articles?—A. I never got a cent.



SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

- Q. He gets money for his work?—A. Yes.
- Q. People do not write for papers for nothing?—A. I don't know.
- Q. People do not write without getting paid for it?—A. I should say not.
- Q. Now, you had a good time in February and in April?—A. I had a very good time in bed with rheumatism, and people got together and said Cordasco our father to-day.
- Q. They wanted to get up a presentation; who got it up?—A. I never knew who did it.
- Q. Who got it up?—A. I heard it was the Italian foremen.
- Q. Foremen on the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. Yes, sir.
- Q. When was that presentation to you?—A. In the month of January.
- Q. How many people were in the party?—A. I did not count; may have been 2,000 or 3,000.
- Q. You read over a list to your friends?—A. Probably I did.
- Q. Now, what did they do with it?—A. Well, I don't know. They took it away for signature, because I had been sick, but I got up.
- Q. You got up to get your crown?—A. Yes.
- Q. That is right?—A. Yes.
- Q. You keep it in a glass case?—A. That is right.
- Q. Who presented it to you?—A. Two Italian foremen.
- Q. Which?—A. Mollo and Pellegrino.
- Q. Pellegrino wanted to come here, I told him to come but he says he is afraid of you?—A. No danger, Your Honour.
- Q. Well, now you printed all about that in your paper?—A. I did not do it myself, other people did.
- Q. You got other people to do it?—A. May have
- Q. You arranged that these foremen should have their pictures put in a supplement?—A. Ganna suggested that.
- Q. Ganna again, he has enough to answer for without this last straw. You had the supplement printed, how many foremen's pictures were on it?—A. I do not remember, I think about 21 or 22.
- Q. Well, who is the centre figure?—A. I suppose it is Cordasco.
- Q. Well, look there?—A. That is myself, sure.
- Q. Cordasco, the acclaimed king of the workingmen?—A. That is what is stated.
- Q. Where is your crown there?—A. I suppose it is on the back.
- Q. The crown with the bouquet of flowers, where is the bouquet?—A. I did not ask.
- Q. No room for the basket?—A. No room for the basket.
- Q. This is yourself on the other side, there you are again in your royal robes?—A. Yes.
- Q. What is that under your picture?—A. 'Mr. Cordasco, proclaimed king of the workers.'
- Q. Whose names are all these?—A. I suppose some of the men who were there.
- Q. How many?—A. I don't know how many.
- Q. How many copies of this did you run off?—A. 400.
- Q. Where did you send them to?—A. I did not send them, I was sick at the time.
- Q. How many were sent off?—A. About 100 in the office.
- Q. How many went to Italy?—A. Not one.
- Q. Sure?—A. I cannot say. Why is Ganna not here?
- Q. Ganna is not concerned?—A. Ganna got four.
- Q. These are all foremen on the first page?—A. Yes, Your Honour.
- Q. Did you send one of these with each of your weekly papers to Italy?—A. I do not remember, I was in bed, I did not send any.
- Q. You did not send some of these to your little village?—A. I may have done it, I was very sick, troubled with rheumatism.

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Q. That was in your foot?—A. Yes, very bad, Your Honour.

Q. When was this advertisement in 'La Patria Italiana' calling for 10,000 men published?—A. I did not put in 10,000.

Q. You did not state that the C.P.R. wanted that number?—A. No, 2,000 or 3,000.

Q. What time was it?—A. I do not know, August or September.

Q. You remember Dini's advertisement in 'La Patria Italiana'?—A. I remember that.

Q. There were two advertisements?—A. Whatever you say.

Q. Calling for a lot of labour, had lot of work, etc. Is that one, you can tell?—A. There are three here, Your Honour.

Q. What was about the number?—A. Mr. Dini stated he wanted 10,000 for next spring, he must have Italian labourers, he was representing some important construction companies.

Q. Do you remember this. (Showing him paper)?—A. Yes, I do remember that was done, my bookkeeper told me he would write that for me.

Q. This is how it reads :—

*'IMPORTANT NOTICE.'*

*'To the army of the pick and shovel :*

*'Italian labourers, bosses and under bosses do not show a double face (do not be false) but only one (be true) have a soldier's courage. Apply to the elegant and solid Italian Bank of Antonio Cordasco if you do not want to weep over your misfortunes in the spring when the shipments of men will begin.*

*'Do not believe that with your dollar or dollars you will be able to get work like your comrades who have been faithful. No, we will inspect our books and money orders and our passage ticket books, and those who will not have their names entered in them in their despair tear out their hair and will call Mr. Cordasco, lordship, Don Antonio (Don before anybody's name is a special mark of respect), let me go to work. No, never, will be answered to them, go to those through whom you sent your money away and so on.*

*'A forewarned is a forearmed man.*

*'By order.'*

Q. A forewarned man can be saved by your agency?—A. Yes, that is it.

Q. Who ordered that?—A. Ganna did it; he is the one to answer to it. He showed that to me, and I said to go ahead.

Q. You can read that?—A. In Italian.

Q. You knew of that?—A. Yes.

Q. You had that in your paper?—A. Yes.

Q. On February 20 last?—A. He came to see me last February.

Q. That was put in your paper on February 20 last?—A. Yes.

Q. You do not allow everything in your paper?—A. No.

Q. And you do not let everything go in your paper if not in your writing? And this is your writing?—A. I think so.

Q. Now, here is another advertisement. Is that your advertisement?—A. I think that was in 'La Patria Italiana.'

Q. I will read it for you:—

'Tel. Main 2720.

'A. CORDASCO

*'Sole Italian Agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and other Companies,  
'375 St. James Street, Montreal.*

*'NOTICE.*

*'If you want to work on railways, canals, water works and other kinds of work of long duration and guaranteed—payment sure—at the price of \$1.25 and \$2.*

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'If you want to be respected and protected either on the work or in case of accident or other annoyance, which may be easily met,

'Apply personally, or address letters or telegrams to

'ANTONIO CORDASCO,

'441 St. James St., Montreal.

'Sole agent, who may find with every security and guaranteed employment for labourers and foremen who know how to do their duty. He is fully trusted by all the greatest companies and contractors, who continually request his services.

'Whoever has claims against any company, Mr. Cordasco is the only man who can succeed to have the said claims settled promptly and profitably.'

Q. When was that published?—A. A year ago.

Q. Who paid for that advertisement?—A. Cordasco paid.

Q. Which advertisement did the Canadian Pacific Railway pay for?—A. I do not know; just paid for one advertisement for some time.

Q. Which one was that?—A. That was last year, when short of men.

Q. Now, there were some ten men that came across from Italy in the spring who signed a declaration that they were given your cards by an agent in Italy. Do you remember that?—A. I do not know anything about that.

Q. You heard about it?—A. I did not hear it.

Q. Ten Italians?—A. I did not hear it. Read the declaration. I have not read it yet.

Q. Probably not. Your Mr. Ganna states he wrote one?—A. Did he?

Q. Yes; the cards were handed to them before getting on the boat?—A. I do not remember quite what was said. I do not know who signed it, nor do I know where they got the card.

Q. Do you know the Donor Immigration Company? They had an office here; there were two brothers named Schenker?—A. Yes.

Q. Are they in Montreal now?—A. I have not seen them for some time.

Q. How long ago?—A. I did not meet any of them for two months probably.

Q. Were they conducting business this spring?—A. I do not personally know.

Q. Did you hear they were?—A. I did not hear anything.

Q. They have left the city?—A. I cannot say. Your Honour. They may be here or away; I do not know.

Q. What kind of a business did they conduct?—A. They came and began business, but did not remain long.

Q. How long ago was that?—A. Some years ago.

Q. Have they gone out of business?—A. I think they are stopped altogether.

Q. Had to give up business?—A. Yes.

Q. Why?—A. They opened a nice bank, but did not continue.

Q. They were committing frauds on people?—A. I do not know.

Q. What reason?—A. I have no reason to give.

Q. Don't you think that was the reason; it was pretty well known?—A. I don't know.

Q. You know what others are doing?—A. I do not know why they gave up.

Q. You will find out and let me know this afternoon. You can come back at 2.30.

Mr. BURNS re-examined.

By the Commissioner :

Q. Do you remember whether Cordasco received moneys for labourers at any time from the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. Yes.

Q. From time to time?—A. Yes, for labourers he had engaged during 1901.

Q. Has he lately?—A. Not since 1902.

- Q. Do you know whether he has or not?—A. From the Canadian Pacific Railway.
- Q. Yes.—A. He has received none whatever.
- Q. Can you tell the amount?—A. Yes.
- Q. How are moneys paid?—A. By cash or cheque. Through these vouchers. large amount by cheque, a small amount by cash.
- Q. You do not deal with moneys at all?—A. No, sir.
- Q. Do you receive any moneys yourself from the Canadian Pacific Railway?
- A. I do.
- Q. For what purpose?—A. I have received money from the Canadian Pacific Railway for secret work.
- Q. What do you do with the money?—A. I give account of it.
- Q. You deposit it?—A. I do not, I draw only sums I require.
- Q. You do not deposit with any bank?—A. I have a small bank account.
- Q. How many banks do you deposit in?—A. One, the Sovereign Bank.
- Q. For how long?—A. Well, I have only opened one account about a month ago but the other account was in the name of my wife for domestic purposes.
- Q. How long ago?—A. First date a year ago.
- Q. You make deposits?—A. She makes deposits.
- Q. You give her the money?—A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Besides the money for secret purposes, do you receive any money?—A. I have my salary.
- Q. Paid by cheque?—A. Yes.
- Q. Altogether?—A. Yes.
- Q. No other moneys?—A. Well, I have my regular expense account.
- Q. That is paid by cheque?—A. Yes, as a rule.
- Q. Any other moneys?—A. No, that is all.
- Q. These are deposited in your bank account?—A. No.
- Q. The cheques are not?—A. The reason I opened a bank account was to keep track.
- Q. Formerly they were deposited to your wife's bank account?—A. Not through her account, her account contains money necessary for our domestic arrangements.
- Q. Will you kindly bring your bank accounts this afternoon if you can get them?
- A. All right.

Mr. HONORE GERVAIS, M.P., being sworn.

*By the Commissioner :*

- Q. We thought possibly you would have been able to come on Thursday morning?—A. Well, I was detained in Ottawa attending to my parliamentary duties, but as soon as possible I came back to Montreal. I just reached here this morning by five o'clock train, and I was notified that you wished to examine me in connection with this Italian labour inquiry.

*By Mr. Mowat :*

- Q. You are a member of the Dominion House of Commons, Mr. Gervais?—A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Representing one of the divisions in Montreal?—A. M.P., representing the Division of St. James, of Montreal.
- Q. Did it come to your notice that there was a large influx of Italian labourers in May last?—A. Yes, sir; this was brought to my attention by some people who were interesting themselves for the Italian labourers.
- Q. Some prominent Italians?—A. Mr. Catelli, a large manufacturer of Montreal.
- Q. He is a son of the former Consul General?—A. Yes, Chevalier Catelli.

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Q. Did you feel that the situation was an embarrassing one?—A. It was very very embarrassing, both for the poor labourers who had been brought here as well as for the labourers of Montreal.

Q. From the public standpoint?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you take any steps to have the matter remedied?—A. As soon as the matter was brought to my attention by Mr. Catelli, my personal observations and the newspaper articles, I went to Ottawa and I spoke about this influx of Italian labourers coming without a moment's notice to our shores. I had some interviews with the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Sir William Mulock, Mr. Sifton and Mr. Smart, the Deputy Minister of the Interior, and asked these gentlemen if something could not be done to help us along. Well, there was no money at the disposal of the government at the time to help these labourers.

Q. No money for such a purpose?—A. It had not been voted by parliament, but they said we will try to help as much as possible, and if some public work can be found for them we will be glad to give them work. In the meantime I saw in the newspapers of Montreal that the Italian society had taken the matter in hand and were helping their fellow countrymen.

Q. Have you in the course of your public life had to consider the question of wages paid to labourers in this city?—A. Yes.

Q. What, in your opinion, would be the result on resident labourers in Montreal of the bringing in of such a large number of labourers?—A. I would say that it would be most detrimental to the interests of the resident labourers, because having to accept fixed salaries they have to make a scale that would cover the cost of living, and by the coming of these foreign labourers in such large numbers, without a moment's warning to our shores, the scale of wages is destroyed because there are too many men willing to work at reduced rates, and thus our resident labourers are bound to suffer. Accordingly, on account of the sudden fall or decrease in wages generally, it is most detrimental to the workmen of Canada, to the workmen of Montreal, that at any moment some 10,000 men shall be thrown on our shores and come in competition with our workmen resident in Montreal. That I say should be stopped by an amendment to our immigration laws or otherwise.

Q. So that no greater number should be brought in here than the demand requires?—A. Yes; and the Labour Department of Canada or the Immigration Department should be given the necessary authority to check such a sudden influx of foreign labourers.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. Do you know what agencies were at work bringing in this large number of Italians during the present spring, Mr. Gervais?—A. Well, I would not like to hazard an opinion about the names of persons who are instrumental in causing such an influx of foreign labour, but I may say that the whole job was engineered by some speculators who wanted to bring to Canada any amount of men for the sake of reaping so much by the payment of commissions from some of the interested companies.

Q. I think the evidence fully bears you out?—A. It is the general opinion in Montreal that many foreign labourers are brought here for the sake of earning commission moneys and profit for individuals who are well known.

Q. Does the Provincial Government bring out immigrants from Italy?—A. No.

Q. Does the Dominion Government?—A. No. The class of immigrants that Canada wants to be brought here are picked up by the proper officials of the Dominion Government, by the proper agent of our government and I do not recognize the right of any private individual to speak in the name of Canada to the foreign labourers and induce them to come here. We have our proper officials who will not deceive the foreign labourer, and, consequently, I would say that these private enterprises bringing poor men to Canada should be checked. Special legislation should be incorporated defining those who shall have the right to represent Canada abroad, because the good name of Canada and the credit of Canada may be imperilled.

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*By Mr. Mowat:*

Q. Have you given this subject enough attention to say definitely what in your opinion such amendments to the law should be?—A. Well, yes. We should have some clauses inserted in our immigration laws, for example, empowering our quarantine officials to examine what is the standing of the immigrants coming to Canada, and before they have been brought to Canada and rejecting those who are unfitted and at the same time making it necessary for the speculators who have been deceiving these people to send them back.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. The immigration acts should be amended?—A. That is what I think.

Adjourned until 2:30.

MONTREAL, QUE., July 23, 1904.

COURT HOUSE, 2.30 P.M.

The Commission resumes.

COUNT FRANCESCO MAZZA, being sworn.

*By Mr. Mowat:*

Q. What is your first name Count?—A. Francesco.

Q. Are you Consul General in Canada for His Majesty the King of Italy?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you been in that position?—A. I took my position the 9th August, 1901.

Q. Have you had previous experience in the consular service?—A. Yes, I have held very important positions.

Q. Is it part of your duty to attend to the welfare of Italians?—A. It is my duty.

Q. Were you aware of the sudden influx of Italian labourers in May last?—A. Yes.

Q. Was it reported to you or did you learn how many were without employment here at one time, in round numbers?—A. I think 400 or 500 without food here.

Q. Have you anything to do with the bringing of these people into the country?—A. Myself.

Q. Yes?—A. I have in my power to regulate the immigration of Italians here and my duty is to prevent as much as possible the bringing in of more than necessary.

Q. Not more than necessary?—A. Yes, then my duty is to protect the immigrants and not permit immigrants to come if there is no work for them.

Q. Where you in a position to ascertain what was the reason for this excessive immigration?—A. It seems that persons interested in having immigrants come to Canada so as to employ them have written to Italy and sent advertisements in order to have people come here.

Q. That is not with your approval or with the approval of the Italian Government?—A. On the contrary, it is in opposition to the wishes of the Italian Government and the wish of the Consulate.

Q. Do you yourself take any steps to bring over immigrants?—A. Yes; I take steps in writing the government telling them not to allow people to come here in very great numbers, and after, when I saw that people were coming here in great numbers, I was obliged to wire to my government in order to give instructions to forbid immigration into Canada, and I wired twice.

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Q. You cabled twice to your government to do what they could to prevent this immigration?—A. Yes, to give advice not to come into Canada to prevent by all means the coming to Canada of these people.

Q. Did you go to see the mayor of Montreal to confer with him, Mayor Laporte?—A. Personally I have not conferred with the mayor, but our Italian society that was instituted here, and was subsidized by the Italian government, has taken steps. Its president has taken steps to see the mayor of Montreal, in order to make provisions for all our immigrants here without food and without means of living, because the Italian Immigration Society had spent too much money without authorization.

Q. Had spent too much money?—A. Too much money. We had money for establishing an immigrant house of refuge.

Q. In Windsor street?—A. Yes.

Q. Is the work of the Italian Immigration Aid Society carried on with your approval? Do you approve of it?—A. Certainly.

Q. What means do you suggest to the Commissioner to prevent this abuse that has arisen. What is your suggestion, what do you say is necessary so that this thing cannot occur again?—A. I think it will stop if all these agencies are prevented from making a business of bringing Italian immigrants here. Their work should be stopped. That is my opinion.

Q. Have you made representations to that effect to the Italian government?—A. I have.

Q. Do you know whether the Dominion government has agencies in Italy to encourage immigrants to come?—A. I do not know. They certainly send many advertisements. I do not know if the Canadian agents have sent out these, but I know very well interested people here have sent advertisements and letters.

Q. These private agencies?—A. Yes.

Q. Then it is your opinion that there should be some system to prevent indiscriminate immigration?—A. I told you my idea is not to allow these private individuals to make a business of that, and to prohibit such action.

Q. Is it your idea that it should only be done through an incorporated society?—A. Certainly my opinion is that.

Q. Was the class of these people that arrived here such as to require protection, or were they able to look out for themselves?—A. They were able to look out for themselves, take care of themselves, but they have very limited means of living, having been here so long without lodgings and food.

Q. Are they people who look to the government to act as a class or act individually?—A. I cannot perfectly understand your question.

Q. Are they people that act as a class altogether or act as individuals, are they accustomed to take responsibility for themselves without coaching?—A. I cannot answer your question.

*By Mr. Internoscia:*

Q. The Court does not understand the purpose of the question: Are you familiar with the work of Signor Candori, was he brought from Italy for this purpose?—A. No, he was here and the society under which Candori is employed, the Italian Immigration Aid Society, has been incorporated in Canada.

Q. Are you satisfied with his conduct of the office?—A. I am satisfied, and I think all the committee, or the great part of the committee of the Italian Immigration Society is very well satisfied with his services.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. As consul you report to the home government on the condition of the immigrants from time to time?—A. Yes, certainly.

Q. What is the nature of your report to your government on the condition of the immigrants?—A. I report the conditions of the immigrants from my observation and what their status is.

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Q. Do you report on the advisability of sending out immigrants to this country?  
A. Certainly. I reported that two years ago that Canada was a country where well regulated immigration could be directed.

Q. Have you reported that there should be a large immigration into Canada in 1904?  
A. Not at all, I reported in 1903 that if the Grand Trunk Pacific was to be constructed it would mean the employment of a great number of Italians in Canada, but when I saw that the Grand Trunk Pacific was not to be constructed, I advised that it would not be possible to employ a large number of people here.

Q. When did you make that report again?  
A. I think the commencement of this year, and I advised the government to make provision to prevent people coming here in winter, because in the winter time they commenced to come here.

Q. How long does it take to come over from Italy to Montreal?  
A. To Montreal, I think one month or less.

Q. Are your reports published?  
A. No, I do not think exactly in print, but information is taken there for immigrants and the *Bulletino d'Immigrazione* published several advertisements telling people not to come because there were too many Italians in Canada already.

Q. When was that published?  
A. In April or May.

Q. Of this or last year?  
A. This year.

Q. Had your report to the government anything to do with the bringing out of the large number of immigrants this year?  
A. Yes, I have asked the government to make inquiry into the cause. We had a complaint from several Italians here who were brought here by letter of Mr. Cordasco.

Q. You complained to the home government about that letter?  
A. I complained and I requested my government to make inquiries in order to assure me if that letter existed. We had a complaint here, the immigration society here had received a complaint, and I transmitted it to my government.

Q. What I asked was this: Would you think your reports to the Italian government brought out any men?  
A. On the contrary.

Q. What efforts did you make to find employment for these men when they came here?  
A. I sent several times to the C.P.R., and saw Sir Thomas Shaughnessy and Mr. McNicol, not only for the men here, but also for a great number of men at Michel, Alberta, B.C.

Q. What success?  
A. I succeeded in obtaining employment of almost all the people who were in this place.

Q. When?  
A. I think in May.

Q. All these here?  
A. Yes.

Q. Who employed them?  
A. The C.P.R.

Q. Through whom did they employ them?  
A. I do not know the contractor. I do not exactly know, through the president of the Winnipeg or Pembroke Western Railway, I do not know.

Q. Were they compelled to register with Mr. Cordasco, in his office, before going out?  
A. I do not know, these people were at Michel.

Q. Do you remember receiving a letter of which this is a copy?  
A. Yes, I received it, and I received other letters from that direction, but after having inquired I found that these people were all employed.

Q. This letter is dated May 6, 1904, and is addressed to yourself as Italian Consul General. It reads:—

‘COUNT MAZZA,

Italian Consul General, Montreal.

‘MONTREAL, May 6, 1904.

‘DEAR SIR,—Our Vice-President has requested me to communicate to you the following telegram, which has been received from W. Whyte, Second Vice-President at Winnipeg, dated May 6.



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'Italians Crow's Nest Pass have been offered work at \$1.50 per day, our regular rate, which they do not care to accept. We cannot wait for them and in the meantime filling orders with Galicians from north.

'I might add that I have telephoned the contents of this telegram to Mr. Can-dori, of the Italian Immigration Society.

'Yours truly,

'GEO. E. BURNS.'

A. Yes, I received that.

Q. What was the result of that telegram?—A. The result was that I demanded explanations from some one there and understood by letter that these people had gone to work.

Q. All went to work?—A. Yes.

Q. No further complaints about them?—A. No.

Q. Who superintends the emigration from Italy in Italy?—A. We have inspectors of emigration, Italians, who see that the new law for immigrants is carried out. We have an agent at Rome, the Minister at the Foreign Office, and there is another agent at Genoa, one at Palermo and one at Naples. These are inspectors of emigration who regulate the emigration going out of Italy.

Q. Are there any places where the inspectors cannot prevent them from going?—A. Yes, when they are not admissible they go to some other port.

Q. You remember a place called Chiasso?—A. Yes.

Q. A number have come from there?—A. Yes, that is clandestine emigration.

Q. There are no inspectors there?—A. No. They take the train for Switzerland and for Germany and pass by this place.

Q. You know what steamship lines run there?—A. Not from there, they take the steamships from Antwerp, from Liverpool or other northern ports of Europe.

Q. They go through Chiasso to America?—A. Yes.

Q. And come through England to Canada?—A. Yes.

Q. The government cannot control them?—A. No. Because they get their passport to go to Switzerland and once they get to Chiasso they are beyond the control of the Italian government.

Q. Is Chiasso on the borders between Switzerland and Italy?—A. Yes. It is in Switzerland.

Q. How near to Italy?—A. Very near over the St. Gothard tunnel.

Q. There is a bulletin issued by the Italian Immigration Aid Society of Montreal?—A. Yes.

Q. It sets forth the attitude of the Italian Government towards emigration to Canada; do you remember that Count?—A. I do not remember exactly.

Q. That is what the report says, that is correct. (Shows bulletin to Count)?—A. Yes, it says that Canada was a country good for Italian immigration.

Q. I will read from the first annual report as published in that bulletin: 'The Italian Government, in fact the whole of Italy, has seen, within the last few years, that Canada is the only country in the world that promises much to labourious immigrants; it is the only country that, on account of its being very extensive and not thickly populated, will, for many years, be able to receive a great number of Europeans who may find themselves obliged to emigrate; it is the only country that, while it enjoys the advantages of the strength of a powerful empire, it engages its men only in the development of trade, commerce and agriculture. Having seen that Canada is, in other words, the Eldorado of the present day, the Italian Government wanted to see also in what way the Italian emigration to Canada could be better encouraged, and, to be sure of seeing it, they had to send in the person of Chev. E. Rossi, one who was competent not only to see but to judge.

'Chev. E. Rossi and Count Mazza, the Royal Italian Consul General, have immediately perceived that in order to encourage Italian immigration to Canada it was

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necessary to protect it, and to protect it it was necessary to interest, in such a protection, not a private person but a corporation composed of men who already feel themselves above personal interests. This society was thus formed, and while it is formed according to the laws of Canada it also enjoys the benefit of the Italian law of emigration, inasmuch as this society is liberally subsidized by the Italian Government.'

Q. That sets forth correctly the attitude of the Italian Government towards Canada?—A. Yes; to encourage people to come at the proper time when there is work, not to come here in too great numbers.

Q. Now, is there anything else you would like to state?—A. No I have not anything else.

The COMMISSIONER.—I thank you very much for your attendance.

Mr. BURNS re-called.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. Did you bring in your bank account, Mr. Burns?—A. Yes. (Hands to Commissioner.)

Q. I will not examine you just now. I will look through it.

Mr. CORDASCO re-examined.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. In your evidence this morning you stated that there were only nine men registered in July?—A. I stated that is all besides the two books you asked for.

Q. Only nine registered in July?—A. I know about the books.

Q. You want to know what you are swearing to, that is all. Will you give me the names of the nine registered in July?—A. I don't know the names.

Q. We will find them out (showing him book). Which are the names?—A. There were more than nine.

Q. More like 300; here are some registered by you?—A. He gave me nine registered in July. Will you please have Ganna show. Here is Gaetano Ramondelli, Gaetano Caramagno, Sebastiano Caramagno, Gaetano Bramato, Giustino Ramondelli, Concezio De Lucia.

Q. That is only six?—A. Guiseppe De Lucia, Angelo Bollistri, Rosario Sigari.

Q. That is nine. Read more that have registered since; give me all that have registered since then?—A. All in this book.

Q. Q. What is the number in that book?—A. 34.

Q. And you know perfectly well that you have registered more than nine in this month? Why did you say nine?—A. You did not understand my words.

Q. I asked you in July. I find that up to the 7th you registered 68; on the 7th July alone you registered 64?—A. Whatever Your Honour says.

Q. Why give a statement that there were only nine in July when there were near 300?—A. I did not understand that at all; I knew there were a great many more.

Q. You want to be careful, there is no use denying the facts?—A. I know it is a mistake.

Q. I will find you out if it takes a month. I want you to tell me how many registered in July?—A. Some registered twice; paid \$3 one time and \$1 before.

Q. How many paying \$4 have you?—A. About 110 or 115.

Q. You will have to go higher?—A. There is Mr. Ganna.

Q. Never mind Mr. Ganna, you are swearing to it. You will have to go higher than that?—A. I must go according to my bookkeeper. Let me see, 186.

Q. Go higher still?—A. What is the last number?

Q. You have another book besides this?—A. There are four more. There are 200 here and 64 in that book.

Q. You are getting nearer now?—A. It is not my fault; my friend here is in fault.

Q. Now you see there are over 204 who have paid \$4, have been registered twice. Have they got work yet?—A. No.

Q. You got their \$4?—A. Yes; I am ready to give them back.

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Q. You got \$3 from each of these between the 5th and 12th of July. You got over \$600 from these men?—A. If they want the money back I will give it to them to-night.

Q. You never give anything back?—A. I am willing to reimburse any man who may ask for it.

Q. Mr. Cordasco, how much money have you received from all those you have employed?—A. Ganna has got the figures; he has done my work and I will take what he says.

Q. He does not know everything, because you remember on the 1st July you had some thousand dollars that you never accounted for?—A. I gave an account. Where is that little book, Ganna, in which I made that entry?

Q. You got a lot of money you never told Ganna about at all?—A. I swear.

Q. Don't say that; I know better. On the 1st you were paid for registering 17 men, each man paid two dollars in advance?—A. I don't know.

Q. Now you know you never told Mr. Ganna about receiving \$34 until I told him?—A. I told Mr. Ganna the next day, I forgot to register.

Q. That is your excuse and it is no excuse at all. Now, Mr. Ganna did not know this?—A. I forgot to tell him.

Q. You got money at your office?—A. And put names in book.

Q. You told me then and Mr. Ganna for the first time, so that there would be no misunderstanding?—A. That is all right.

Q. Not very much all right you know. Now there is your cheque account to produce?—A. The check notes between Boconcelli and Mello; I have them ready for you.

Q. How many notes have you there; have you one to—A. I got all the pack.

Q. To Graminique who had charge of a party?—A. That man was ill; I loaned him money to get better.

Q. How much?—A. \$50 only; the note for \$50 is there.

Q. How much money did you get from him?—A. \$50 I did not charge that man one cent; I have known him for 17 years.

Q. Envelopes printed especially to send to Italy?—A. Not to send over to Italy, but to give to Italian labourers.

Q. To go over to Italy?—A. They are sent to Italy.

Q. Why did you put the Italian crest upon them without authority?—A. I did not do it myself; Ganna did it.

Q. Poor Ganna. You have that crest on all your letter paper and envelopes, even upon that banquet invitation?—A. All through Ganna; I was sending nobody.

Q. You were not sick in bed that time?—A. I was all right that time.

Q. Who printed that?—A. The Canadian Printing Company.

Q. Why did you have different colours?—A. No meaning.

Q. Some went to one province some to another?—A. Just the same change of paper merely.

Q. You got no authority to allow you to print the coat of arms on your envelopes?—A. I am ready to take it off, if Your Honour wishes.

Q. Was not that done for the purpose of making these poor immigrants think that you were connected with the Italian Government and that you were really the king of labour?—A. I will cut them off. Of course I asked Ganna; he is not responsible, it is not a full crown.

Q. How much do you give Ganna for all this work?—A. Just his salary, \$40 per month. When I was here before I told you he was being paid too little.

Q. Now there is the Rev. Father D. A. Rocca?—A. Yes, that is a priest, a friend of mine in Boston.

Q. You wrote him on the 22nd March, 1904?—A. I think I wrote him.

Q. In that letter you say: 'But I will tell you in short that Messrs. Stabile & Co., of Boston, are bankers of unlimited reputation and you ought to know these gentlemen

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who supply me with men with the utmost punctuality and never heard any complaint. Fifteen days ago Mr. Pistorino was here to fix for the shipment of the men.

Q. Who is Pistorino?—A. He is Mr. Stabile's bookkeeper.

Q. You arranged with him fifteen days before the 22nd March, that is the 7th March, for the shipment of men?—A. I told him; he came to make arrangements.

Q. Yes; do you deny that this man came?—A. I misunderstood.

Q. How many men did you tell him to ship; how many did you order?—A. I did not give an order for one.

Q. You told him you wanted men. You said: 'Fifteen days ago Mr. Pistorino was here to fix for the shipment of the men.' How many men?—A. I did not give an order for any men.

Q. How many men?—A. I spoke of the men from Canada, and anything I could do for them I will.

Q. You did not tell him how many?—A. No, sir.

Q. 10,000?—A. I do not remember if I stated that.

Q. That does not bring anything back to your recollection?—A. I do not remember whether I mentioned 1,000, 2,000 or 10,000.

Q. Who is your dear friend Raffaele?—A. I have lots of such names.

Q. You have so many of them?—A. Raffaele?

Q. Look at your letter and you can tell?—A. (Looking at letter.) I do not remember Raffaele; I do not know this man.

Q. If you will read the letter?—A. Yes. (Reads letter.) I think this letter was sent to Italy; this is my brother-in-law.

Q. What did you tell him there?—A. I told him I had another child.

Q. That is interesting?—A. And that Italians made a big demonstration.

Q. What did you tell him about that?—A. That a big demonstration was made and that a card was printed to state that I was one of the good men to look after the Italians.

Q. You stated that?—A. I said the Italians stated that. They cried in the streets: 'Viva Antonio Cordasco benefattore degli Italiani.'

Q. Is that what the people said to you?—A. Also I told him they were so nice to me; gave me crown and nice bouquet of flowers.

Q. How many thousand did you tell him there were there?—A. I told him there were 2,000 or more in the street.

Q. Everyone in the street?—A. These men.

Q. At the time of that demonstration, their names were in your books?—A. I mentioned they were in the street with me in that demonstration.

Q. You say in your letter: 'I have nearly two thousand men entered in my book and any time you like to come I will send you the ticket.'

Q. You got your friend to send men over the sea?—A. Not one.

Q. Send him your card?—A. Yes, one or two.

Q. More than one or two?—A. I don't think so.

Q. What were you sending them over for?—A. To show my card.

Q. To whom?—A. To my brother-in-law.

Q. For immigrants?—A. He is an Italian. No connection with an agency or anything of that kind.

Q. You say that you did not draw the men's wages?—A. I do not know whether it was wages, but everything was given to the people.

Q. Can you read that, Mr. Cordasco?

'MONTREAL, November 4, 1903.

'We the undersigned, signed with a cross mark as we cannot write or read, of us, we authorize Mr. A. Cordasco to draw our wages for work done in the month of October last, 1903, and we both authorize the Canadian Pacific Railway Company to pay over our wages to Mr. Cordasco of 375 St. James street.'

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

'Attached you will find our No. 13 & 13 in red thick paper and this money will be shipped by Mr. A. Cordasco to our address, Aiello, Calabria Province, Cosonza. In faith as above we both signed with cross.

'ANTONIO FERRESI FU SALVATORE,  
'VICENZO MARELLO FU LORONZO.

Witnesses, A. GANNA,  
LUIGI PATRONE.'

A. I never received any money on this.

Q. This was given to you on November 4, 1903, by men not able to read nor write?—A. I did not get any money.

Q. They authorized you Antonio Cordasco to draw their wages?—A. Yes.

Q. You know how much the wages amounted to?—A. I do not think, I did not see any.

Q. But they attached their wages tickets?—A. There were some tickets.

Q. Where are the tickets?—A. Can I ask Mr. Ganna. There was a piece of paper then with two tickets.

Q. You remember where these tickets are?—A. We did not get money for this. They can be found any time.

Q. Where?—A. With the paymaster of the C.P.R.

Q. Did they go to Italy?—A. Yes.

Q. Have they returned?—A. No.

Q. How much money was claimed?—A. I do not remember.

Q. Did you not call to collect?—A. I sent Ganna once or twice to paymaster. There was no money, no use for me to go.

Q. I would like to see these tickets?—A. Yes, Your Honour with pleasure.

Q. How much do you get for selling C.P.R. tickets to men?—A. \$2.

Q. What tickets do you sell to the men?—A. Just for the Atlantic service, the steamships of the Atlantic service.

Q. Between what points?—A. I suppose Liverpool and St. John, London and other points.

Q. Do you know Sabatino Sgamurra, he came over here?—A. I never saw him.

Q. Is he not one of your foremen?—A. He sent some people.

Q. Did he come over with 100?—A. I don't think so Your Honour.

Q. On February 8, 1904, you wrote him to Portland, Maine?—A. I may have written him all right.

Q. He sent a money order for \$50, which you entered at once in your books?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you say: 'you and the men should not take any trouble about the time of the shipment, when your turn comes I will notify you by letter.'

'For the moment I will not make any change for the Filovori's list, but at the time of shipment you may call and bring with you as many men as you want and if you like, I may authorize you to bring even 100 of them.'

Q. Did he do the work for you, you wanted him to bring 100?—A. I don't think so.

Q. Did he not send 100 names over?—A. No, 40.

Q. That is he paid \$40 for the labourers and \$10 for himself?—A. Yes.

Q. That is all I want to ask you, Mr. Cordasco, until Monday morning, when I get this statement.

Mr. CANDORI re-examined.

By Mr. Internoscia:

Q. This is the agreement that you have prepared for the society?—A. I have not prepared it myself, it was prepared by the proper officer of the society.

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Q. What is this petition that I have heard about from the society to the Governor General in Council, of May 19?—A. It was to solicit some help from the Federal government in the event of illiterate people coming here in the condition of which we have spoken.

Q. Was it acknowledged?—A. Yes, receipt was acknowledged, that is all.

Q. Are the facts in it correct?—A. Yes, because I prepared it myself.

Q. All the facts stated are correct?—A. Exactly.

'To His Excellency the Governor General in Council,  
'Ottawa.

'The petition of "The Immigration Aid Society No. 1 of the Immigration District of Montreal," also known as the "Italian Immigration Aid Society" for Canada in Montreal, respectfully, represents :—

'1. That your petitioners have been incorporated, on the 10th of November, 1902, according to chapter 66 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1886 (35 Victoria, c. 29) ;

'2. That the purposes of the society so incorporated are the following, to wit :

'(a) Assisting Italian immigrants to reach Canada ;

'(b) Assisting Italian immigrants to obtain employment ;

'(c) Assisting Italian immigrants to obtain land for settlement from the Canadian government or the different provinces ;

'(d) Assisting Italian immigrants in every possible way ;

'(e) Enabling persons in Canada in want of labourers, artisans or servants to get from Italy desirable citizens.

'3. That your petitioners—in order to do, for the welfare of the Italian immigrants, all the above—have opened not only an office but also a house of refuge, for which they will have to spend annually not less than four thousand dollars ;

'4. That the Italian government has already given to your petitioners the sum of \$2,891.75, and will grant further subsidies of about two thousand dollars per year ;

'5. That there are at present in the whole Dominion of Canada, about 40,000 Italians, and of these there are now not less than 12,000 without employment, over 1,000 being without any means of livelihood whatever, so that an aid society, like that formed by your petitioners, is not only desirable but also necessary, because it looks after the interests of such foreigners and helps them in time of need, as in the present instance, when hundreds of them receive food and lodging from our society ;

'6. That, unless some material help is given by the Canadian government your petitioners will not be able to proceed with their work, in and amongst the Italian immigrants to Canada ;—

'Wherefore, your petitioners pray that it may please Your Excellency in Council to grant them some annual subsidy to make them proceed with their work as intended by the formation of said Immigration Aid Society.

'And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

'OTTAWA, May 19, 1904.

Q. Have you had any communication with Mr. Burns respecting the charges made by Mr. Cordasco?—A. Yes.

Q. When?—A. At the beginning of last year. As soon as people came to complain to the office that they were compelled to pay commissions to get work. I thought then it was my duty to go right away and make a complaint about that, but Mr. Burns said that he did not know anything particularly about that, and that he did not care, as long as the work was going on all right, and that it was not his business to know whether he charged \$1 or \$2.

Q. Was it not part of your business to make inquiries?—A. Yes.

Q. When did you next see him about it?—A. After that we wrote two letters of which Your Honour has copies, and addressed to the General Manager of the C.P.R.

## SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

Q. Do you remember the date?—A. March 16 and 26.

Q. Do you remember what the contents were?—A. The answer to the first letter that we sent was signed by Mr. Burns, and in the second letter we stated our surprise to see that what was stated by the special agent was just the opposite to what was promised to us by the higher officers of the company to whom some of the members of our board of management had applied. We explained the aims of our society, that we did not wish to interfere with the company's system, but that we did it without any idea of speculation or private interest and only to help the men and protect them from those people which took advantage of their ignorance to make money out of them.

Q. Did you tell Mr. Burns how much Mr. Cordasco was charging the men?—A. Yes, I did.

Q. Do you remember the amount?—A. \$3.

Q. For foremen?—A. I did not know how much it was for foremen, but later on, I think about last fall, some foreman, I cannot quite recollect whom, somebody, came to say he was compelled to pay \$25 to get a place as foreman.

Q. Do you remember the man?—A. No, somebody told me incidentally, I have not got the proof, and I only spoke to Mr. Burns without stating anything about it. About November, I think, last year, I was one day in Mr. Cordasco's office, just complaining about a man who was sent back without work, and I saw somebody getting the ticket, the free ticket to which they were entitled for their passage to Boston, and they paid \$1, and I asked why this man paid \$1. Cordasco said it was just for his trouble. As no body complained about that I did not say a word, but a few days ago the Consul General called my attention to the fact because some one complained at the Consulate that they had to pay for passes that were given free by the company. Another man came to my office complaining that he had paid \$1 for a pass, so I went down to Mr. Cordasco's to inquire into the matter. He got very excited, even very rough to me, but I do not know how they managed it, they gave him 50 cents and he did not say anything. There was no need of evidence with the other case, because I saw it myself. I saw positively a person once pay \$1 for a free passage ticket to Boston. Lately, about two months ago after Mr. McNicoll's private secretary and Mr. Lindsay told me that no money was to be paid here by Italian labourers, a man came to my office and told me that he had been compelled to pay \$3, and I took the man and went to see Mr. Burns right away. Mr. Burns made an investigation and although it was stated by this man that he had really paid the money Mr. Cordasco's books did not contain his name, and there was lots of looking about without any result.

Mr. ANTONIO GANNA, being sworn—

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. You are clerk in Mr. Cordasco's office?—A. Yes.

Q. Since how long?—A. Nine months.

Q. When did you come there first?—A. About October 12 of last year.

Q. What are your duties?—A. Shipping money to Italy, selling tickets, correspondence and everything in the office line.

Q. You are kept pretty busy?—A. Sometimes.

Q. You receive how much?—A. \$45 a month.

Q. Who conducts the correspondence?—A. The correspondence I write myself but sometimes take instructions from Mr. Cordasco.

Q. Do you take instructions from Cordasco?—A. Sometimes.

Q. You remember receiving a postal card from Mr. Parretti?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. When was that received?—A. I think in February.

Q. February last?—A. I think about that time.

Q. Did Mr. Cordasco see it then?—A. No, he was sick at that time.

Q. Did you read it to him?—A. Oh, yes, he opened the correspondence himself.

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Q. You bring it to him every morning, you read everything to him every morning?—A. I bring the correspondence he opens it.

Q. Does he instruct you how to answer?—A. Some letters.

Q. You remember the letter written to Parretti?—A. I do not remember that.

Q. You wrote it?—A. I wrote that letter.

Q. Did he instruct you to do so?—A. I am sure I do not know.

Q. Why did you write it?—A. Myself I wrote it but I did not have any instructions for that letter from Cordasco.

Q. Why did you say 10,000 men were wanted?—A. Well, I think, this year we would want them for railway work.

Q. Did Mr. Cordasco tell you that?—A. I cannot swear.

Q. Did Mr. Cordasco mention 10,000 men in the office sometimes?—A. Yes.

Q. How often did he mention it?—A. Some labourers in the office asked for work and sometimes he said this will be a good year for work, every contractor will want plenty, about 10,000 men in all.

Q. Did he ask or instruct you to write that letter to Parretti?—A. I cannot swear for that.

Q. Will you look at that letter and see if that came out of your head?—A. I know that very well.

Q. Did that come out of your own head, that is a pretty long letter, a pretty important letter?—A. This letter is an answer to foreign postal card sent by Mr. Parretti.

Q. That card you showed to Mr. Cordasco?—A. I remember that card he asked for some pamphlets for railways and he acknowledged receipt of them and I sent him newspapers to Italy.

Q. How did you come to send them to Parretti?—A. I saw his name in some place.

Q. When sending to Parretti, where did you find his name?—A. In some advertisement of steamship companies in some book.

Q. Who told you to send them to Parretti?—A. No one.

Q. Who told you to send newspapers away?—A. Nobody told me.

Q. You conduct the advertising department?—A. No, Your Honour, I take an interest for my boss in this case and send newspapers.

Q. Did you show Mr. Cordasco the letter that you wrote to Mr. Parretti, yes or no?—A. I do not think so.

Q. It was open to him in this letter book?—A. Oh, yes.

Q. It was copied in the letter book in the usual course?—A. Yes.

Q. You did copy that letter in the letter book?—A. Yes.

Q. How did you sign it?—A. Cordasco per A. Ganna.

Q. You stamped it?—A. Yes, with his steel stamp.

Q. Did Mr. Cordasco instruct you to stamp all letters with the stamp?—A. Yes.

Q. So you were carrying out your instructions in stamping that letter?—A. Yes, any letter, every letter.

Q. He was sick at that time?—A. Yes, only beginning to come down to the office.

Q. Did you tell him you had written to Mr. Parretti?—A. This I cannot remember. Some days I have from 10 to 20 letters, and I do not know whether he knew I had written to Mr. Parretti.

Q. You wrote to others stating that you wanted 10,000 men?—A. Well, perhaps, I do not remember seeing letters.

Q. Did you not hear them read yesterday?—A. Not to Parretti.

Q. Not to Parretti, all the others besides Parretti's. (Hands him letter)?—A. That is all right, I will take the responsibility for that.

Q. The 6th of January, he was not sick on January 6? Did he instruct you to write that letter?—A. I suppose I was not instructed, I wrote that letter and put it into his basket and he could see it. The basket was between our two desks.

Q. You say in that letter:



SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

'MONTREAL, January 6, 1904.

'Messrs. LUCAS CAMMAROTA & Co.,  
'13 Burns St., Fall River, Mass.

'I promptly answer your letter. I do not make shipments to Nova Scotia. I send men to work for the C.P.R. and other great companies and contractors, and this year I shall be in need of 10,000 men.

'The first shipment will be sure in the spring according to the weather, and the first to start are those marked in my books.

'If you want more particulars write to me and I shall give them to you.

'Yours truly.'

Q. That is what Mr. Cordasco told you, that he would be in need of 10,000 men?—  
A. He instructed me only one time and for all times.

Q. That instruction was that he needed 10,000?—A. He did not tell me 10,000, only about 10,000.

Q. How did you come to state 10,000 instead of saying about 10,000? Here is another letter of January 26, 10,000 men, and another on February 9, 10,000 men again. That is what your instructions were, that is what you were told to write?—A. I think so.

Q. Do you remember Mr. Stabile's clerk being here?—A. His clerk Pistorino?

Q. Yes, why did he tell him that you wanted 10,000 men?—A. Me?

Q. No, Mr. Cordasco?—A. Well, this I cannot tell you, because I was not there.

Mr. Cordasco sent me out on duty. He stayed in the office about one hour.

Q. Did Mr. Cordasco mention to Mr. Pistorino that he would want 10,000 men?  
A. Not in the office, no.

Q. At any other place?—A. No, I closed the office at twelve.

Q. What numebr of men did you mention to Aiello?—A. Plenty men, no number. I told him this year was going to be a good season for work.

Q. 10,000 men?—A. Not 10,000.

Q. What time was this?—A. He came every morning. He came into the office on the 14th and I think he stayed in Montreal eight or ten days.

Q. Do you know how many men Cordasco told him?—A. He sent him a telegram to prepare for men, but did not say how many.

Q. How much did Mr. Cordasco charge foremen?—A. \$10.

Q. No more than that?—A. At present?

Q. No more in your time?—A. I only worked for Cordasco since last October.

Q. You did not know that he charged some \$15, \$25, even as high as \$40?—A. Not last year, I cannot tell.

Q. Sometimes the men paid as high as \$4?—A. Yes.

Q. How many paid \$4?—A. About 180.

Q. You gave me a list of 204. Now do you not remember this lot that had paid \$1 before and \$3 afterwards?—A. Yes, 204 you will remember they registered twice.

Q. How many of these received work?—A. Very few.

Q. Have they asked to be repaid their money?—A. Some people.

Q. Quite a number?—A. Exactly, three or four a week, this week about ten.

Q. There were more than ten in one day while I was there, asking to get their money back?—A. In one day, yes I remember.

Q. Do you remember when I was in the office looking over the papers a young fellow who wanted to get to Boston, had paid \$3, brought his agreement and asked for his money?—A. Yes, and he was told to come next day.

Q. He did not get his money?—A. I do not remember.

Q. He appeared to be very sick?—A. Yes.

Q. Dying of consumption?—A. Yes.

Q. And could not get his money back?—A. Yes.

Q. I told Cordasco to pay the money?—A. I remember that.

Q. And he would not pay it?—A. No, he told him to come the next morning.

Q. Do you know how much Cordasco makes in a year out of these people?—A. I cannot tell you because I have not been with him a year. For about six months I can say about \$7,000.

Q. Out of the men for six months?—A. No out of the men altogether. Out of the men registered now, you have that list, the amount is \$6,121.

Q. And there are some monies received by Mr. Cordasco not mentioned in your statement?—A. No.

Q. He did not give you a statement of that \$34 when I was there on June 29, you remember that?—A. I remember now.

Q. He did not give you that statement before that?—A. No.

Q. I told him he had forgotten to give that. You remember, I stated that there were other names of young men who had come and said they had paid him money?—A. I don't know because one morning he came down and told me there were three or four men for registration and I registered the names and—

Q. No money?—A. No money.

Q. Now you cannot swear as a matter of fact occurrence that this is the only sum he received from the men, \$6,121 for the last few months beginning with November, December, January, February, March, April and May?—A. Yes, for that statement.

Q. As far as you know?—A. Yes, and the nine men in July and 27 in June.

Q. How much from the Canadian Pacific Railway during the same months?—A. That changes every month. Sometimes \$270, sometimes \$300, I think in July about \$600, because 300 have left for work, and they had some provisions.

Q. How much would that be in addition to the \$6,121?—A. The Canadian Pacific Railway has nothing to do with this work.

Q. How much would he make out of the Canadian Pacific Railway for attending to this work?—A. \$1 for each man.

Q. And that would be up to the present time, \$331 this month alone?—A. Yes.

Q. How many for six months this year?—A. Of this year \$727.

Q. Does that include the \$300?—A. Yes.

Q. Before that he got \$5 per day until the end of April?—A. He had \$5 per day until November of last year, and in December he got some translations to do.

Q. Did he get anything for looking after the men in December, January, February? Now, you gave me a statement of \$153 in November and \$400 in December?—A. That is men who have registered in the office.

Q. You have sent in your accounts, they will show what you have received from the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. In December I have a few dollars, I think, about \$100.

Q. How much commission does he make out of the men for travelling expenses, tickets?—A. Mr. Cordasco? nothing at all, he does not charge commission.

Q. But he charges a commission from the Canadian Pacific Railway and from the steamship lines in connection with these men?—A. Well, he gets \$2 from the Canadian Pacific Railway, but I have not sold any.

Q. Not this year?—A. Not this nor last year.

Q. How many steamship tickets from Italy for these men?—A. I think about 125 from Italy and gets \$7.

Q. That is only one company. How much from every company?—A. About 105 or \$735.

Q. In connection with these men he therefore makes pretty nearly \$10,000 a year on them?—A. In one year? I know only these months.

Q. Taking from June to June?—A. I went to him in October.

Q. Well, then, from October to October?—A. I suppose so.

Q. That is all until Monday; you will get this statement prepared for me.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

LUIGI GIACCI, being sworn. (Through interpreter.)

*By Mr. Mowat :*

- Q. How long have you been in Canada?—A. Fourteen months.  
 Q. Are you a foreman?—A. Not last time, only this summer.  
 Q. Did you go to Mr. Cordasco to have your name registered?—A. Yes.  
 Q. What did you pay him?—A. \$10.  
 Q. Did you get a foreman's job?—A. Yes.  
 Q. What time?—A. About January 1, I do not remember the time exactly.  
 Q. Did you make up a gang?—A. Yes.  
 Q. How many?—A. Forty-four.  
 Q. Did you pay for them, or did they pay themselves?—A. My brother gave money to Mr. Cordasco.  
 Q. How much, \$1 a piece?—A. First time \$1 a piece, second \$2.  
 Q. When was the last demand made?—A. I do not remember.  
 Q. About when?—A. About a month ago.  
 Q. They never have got work?—A. No.  
 Q. Did they ask for their money back?—A. They asked lots of times for to get money back.  
 Q. Did not get it?—A. No.  
 Q. Is that all you wish to say?—A. That is all I can say.

GIUSEPPE MIGNELLA, recalled.

States : In December last Mr. Cordasco told me to make up a gang, 100 if I liked, because he needed 10,000 men to go to British Columbia for the Canadian Pacific Railway.

*By Mr. Mowat :*

- Q. When was that?—A. In December last I paid \$42 to Mr. Ganna and Mr. Cordasco said that at that time that he needed 10,000 for the Canadian Pacific Railway. He said supply what men you like, the more the better.  
 Q. How often did he mention 10,000 men?—A. Every time when I used to go to the office.  
 Q. You went to the office?—A. Yes, very often when I had the name of two or three or five men I used to bring the money and he used to say it.  
 Q. When for the last time?—A. Two weeks ago I went there for a job.  
 Q. What did he say then?—A. He put me out of the office like a dog.  
 Q. Is there anything else?—A. Yes, for two boxes of sardines and pork and beans he charges \$2.85 for me and my son to go to White River.

GIUSEPPE SANTARELLA, being sworn. (Through interpreter.)

*By the Commissioner :*

- Q. How long have you been in America?—A. Going on three years.  
 Q. When did you apply to Cordasco for work?—A. In December last.  
 Q. What position did you apply for?—A. A job on the C.P.R.  
 Q. Did you pay anything?—A. I gave \$3 to my foreman and the foreman said I would get work immediately, to-morrow.  
 Q. What was the name of the foreman?—A. Salvatore Mollo.  
 Q. Did you get your money back?—A. No.  
 Q. Did you ask for the return of the money?—A. I asked my foreman, because I gave the money to him.  
 Q. He did not get it back?—A. No, sir.  
 Q. You have no work yet?—A. No.

FRANK GEOFFRIE being sworn.

*By the Commissioner:*

- Q. How old are you Frank?—A. 14 years.  
 Q. Were you employed in Cordasco's office?—A. Yes.  
 Q. When?—A. In December last.  
 Q. Until when?—A. Until the last of April.  
 Q. How much did you get from him for working?—A. \$3.25 per week.  
 Q. Why did you leave him?—A. Because my mother would not allow me to go there any more.  
 Q. What did you do in the office?—A. I was message boy, did all work in the office.  
 Q. Did you do any typewriting?—A. Yes, when Mr. Cordasco gave me some to do.  
 Q. Did you see Mr. Stabile's representative there?—A. Well, I don't know Mr. Stabile, one of his secretaries.  
 Q. His clerk?—A. Yes.  
 Q. When was he there?—A. I cannot tell.  
 Q. While you were there?—A. Yes.  
 Q. What number of men did Mr. Cordasco say was wanted for this year?—A. The first time I was working over there he told some men he wanted 10,000 men.  
 Q. How often?—A. Two or three times I think.  
 Q. To different men?—A. Yes, Your Honour.  
 Q. Did he tell that to Mr. Stabile's secretary?—A. I cannot tell you for sure.  
 Q. You remember Mr. Aiello?—A. Yes.  
 Q. Did he speak to Mr. Aiello about the number of men?—A. I cannot say.  
 Q. Was it about that time that he was speaking about 10,000?—A. No, Your Honour.  
 Q. After that?—A. Before that.  
 Q. Do you remember his writing to Mr. Burns about wanting 10,000 men?—A. Yes, Your Honour.  
 Q. You do not remember that?—A. No.  
 Q. What do you remember about his writing to Mr. Burns?—A. Well, he wrote him almost every day.  
 Q. Anything about the number of men?—A. I do not remember.  
 Q. Anything about the amount charged the men?—A. One time he said ten thousand men, each one thousand dollars, but I do not know if he gives that to anybody.  
 Q. You don't know if he divides up with anybody?—A. No.  
 Q. That is what was written to Mr. Burns?—A. Yes, Your Honour.  
 Q. Two thousand men, one thousand dollars each. You remember when that was written?—A. No, Your Honour.  
 Q. Who was to get that money?—A. I don't know.  
 Q. Was that the men's money Mr. Cordasco was getting from Mr. Burns or from the C.P.R.?—A. Don't know.  
 Q. Do you remember Mr. Mollo?—A. Well, you see, I don't remember, there were lots of men over there.  
 Q. You see Mollo is one you would always remember?—A. I know Mollo all right.  
 Q. Do you remember him giving \$10 to Cordasco?—A. I cannot tell.  
 Q. There were so many giving?—A. Yes.

The Commission adjourned until Monday, July 25, 1904,  
 10 o'clock in the forenoon, court house.

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MONTREAL, QUE., Monday, July 25, 1904.  
THE COURT HOUSE, 10 A.M.

The Commission resumed.

PRESENT:

His Honour JUDGE WINCHESTER, Commissioner.

H. M. MOWAT, Esq., K.C., Counsel for the Dominion Government.

ALFREDO DI ROSA being sworn: (Through interpreter).

By Mr. Mowat:

Q. You are editor of *La Patria Italiana*?—A. Yes, chief editor.

Q. How long have you been in that position and what date did your employment stop?—A. From last December to last week of May.

Q. Mr. Alberto Dini, is he the owner or a shareholder in that paper?—A. No.

Q. Do you remember Mr. Alberto Dini asking you to write out an advertisement calling for 10,000 labourers?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What time was that?—A. I do not remember, between January and February.

Q. This advertisement was published on January 14 and 21 last: 'For the coming spring. Mr. Alberto Dini announces that there will be a very large demand for perhaps 10,000 labourers for the coming spring. Italian workmen know that Mr. Dini is the representative of very many construction companies and also are aware of the proverbial integrity with which he has in the past proven during the many years he has resided in Montreal. Those who desire to obtain work at good wages from spring until winter would do well to register their names at Dini's bank, 2026 St. Catherine street.'

Q. Did Mr. Dini ask you to write that?—A. Yes, the first time.

Q. And it was repeated in other editions?—A. Yes, many times.

Q. What is the circulation of your paper?—A. From 1,200 to 1,300.

Q. How many of these were sent to Italy?—A. I don't know. Any man can buy the paper and send it.

Q. Were any sent from the office?—A. No.

Q. Do you know how many Dini got of these?—A. No they only get one from the office.

Q. Dini said here the other day that he knew nothing about this advertisement, but saw it only afterwards?—A. He came himself to my office and asked me to write the advertisement.

By the Commissioner:

Q. How much did he pay for the advertisement?—A. Nothing to me.

Q. Can you find out date or anything else?—A. I don't know, his friend Villani might know.

Q. Does Villani keep the books?—A. I think he does, there is no other man there.

Q. Can you produce the original advertisement left by Mr. Dini?—A. I am not there any more.

Q. Who would give it?—A. Villani himself, I do not know where he is.

Q. Is he in town, could we get him to-night?—A. I do not think so, to-morrow perhaps, or next day. He was in town Friday last.

Q. Was the advertisement left in the usual way other advertisements come in?

A. Handed in by Mr. Dini in the usual way.

Q. Where did you write the article?—A. In my office.

Q. Where?—A. At 33<sup>5</sup> St. James St.

Q. Not in Dini's office?—A. No.

Q. Where did Dini tell you to write it, at what place?—A. In the newspaper office.

Q. Did Dini produce any advertisement of Cordasco's?—A. No, never spoke about Cordasco.

C. H. CATTELL, being sworn.

*B. Mr. Mowat:*

Q. What is your name in full?—A. Charles Honoré Catelli.

Q. Have you been a long time a resident of Montreal?—A. 38 years.

Q. You have taken an interest in the immigration of Italians that have come to Montreal from time to time?—A. Well, generally they come down to us when they want help.

Q. You have assisted them for years?—A. Yes, in a small way.

Q. Are you a member of a society called the Italian Immigration Aid Society No. 1?—A. Yes, the president.

Q. What was the purpose of the founders of that society?—A. It was to try and prevent Italians coming here without any work to try and systematize as much as possible the work of the Italians in Montreal.

Q. I infer from that you supplied the essentials to exist?—A. That is what we tried to do.

Q. That was the aim of the society?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you remember the influx of Italian labourers here in May last?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you calculate how many? Your work would probably enable you to obtain the number?—A. There was, I think, 5,000, of course that is only my own opinion.

Q. Were you able to form any personal opinion as to the amount of means these people had, whether they were destitute or not?—A. Those who applied to the immigration society complained they had no money.

Q. Have you any idea as to their truthfulness?—A. When a man is satisfied to eat hard bread and drink water I think there is not much money in his pocket.

Q. Were you one of those who interested yourself in going to the municipality to see the mayor and aldermen with a view of having something done?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you remember conversing with Mr. Laporte?—A. Yes, perfectly well.

Q. Were you one of those who sanctioned the expenditure of some of the Italian Government's money for a temporary supply of food?—A. Yes, with the permission of the Consul.

Q. That is Count Mazza?—A. Yes, sir, Count Mazza.

Q. Have you formed any opinion as to the chief cause of this excessive immigration, will you give it to us?—A. Some Italians came to see me, when I asked them why they came here, they said they had been sent by Mr. Parretti of Udine.

Q. How many were there?—A. There were five or six, they went back.

Q. Did they show you any cards?—A. They had a book of addresses and a set of cards given at Parretti's office.

Q. What was on the cards?—A. I did not notice. These people were told by Mr. Parretti, that Signor Cordasco was a large contractor in Montreal, and wanted 8,000 or 10,000 men.

Q. They were told that in Italy?—A. Yes.

Q. That induced them to come to this country?—A. Yes.

Q. They have now gone back to Italy?—A. I was told they had gone back.

Q. This is a statement signed by these men:

'We, the undersigned, declare as follows: That at the moment of leaving Italy for Canada, Mr. Antoni Parretti has read and shown us a letter signed by Antonio

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Cordasco, in which he asks for 8,000 or 10,000 labourers from the Province of Venete, and in which he promises immediate work as soon as we get to destination. Besides this we saw circulars and newspapers coming from Montreal, with the photograph of Cordasco circulated in our province, encouraging the labourers to emigrate to Canada. Besides that Parretti distributed the address of Cordasco as above.

'Signed by ten Italians.

'MONTREAL, April 22, 1904.'

Q. Is that a correct translation?—A. Yes, sir, that is about what they told me.

Q. Do you remember receiving a letter of complaint from some Italians at North Bay?—A. Yes.

Q. Have you got the letter?—A. I gave it to Mr. MacKenzie King.

Q. Is this a proper translation of it?

'States that the men were pretty nearly starving up at North Bay; they had got some help from another man who came from Montreal. If it had not been for him they would have died, some of them. Now would be the time to ask Mr. Cordasco where is that work which he had when he said he would employ 8,000 or 10,000 labourers, in the letter he wrote to Antonio Parretti, agent of the 'Le Veloce' Udine. About 20 of us at Venete can prove this. Mr. Parretti read to us a great many times the letter of Mr. Cordasco. You must pardon my speaking about Mr. Cordasco, but my conscience compels me to. I am only doing it with a view to stop this fraud, and they have had to mortgage everything to come to this country, with the hope that they would find a fortune; in exchange they are suffering hardships and misery.

'The day that I signed the declaration there were over twenty with me. Italians all over Canada tell you the same.

'To certify the truth of what I am saying I will sign with two of my friends.

(Signed)

'ANTONIO COSANI,

'DEMURZA GIOVANNI,

'VITTORIO VENTARUTTI.'

A. Yes, that is about the tenor of the letter.

Q. Which you received from North Bay?—A. Yes.

Q. You say that you have paid attention to the assistance of Italians for this number of years, have you formed an opinion as to the best means of preventing such trouble as we had here?—A. Well, I think for my part that the Italian Government tried to prevent them as much as possible from coming and if the Government here could get the Government of the United States to prevent a man from landing unless he had sufficient means, at least for a couple of months, that is what I suggested to the Hon. Mr. Sifton.

Q. Would you go so far as to say that private agencies should be prohibited?—A. Well, my idea would have been that the employment of labourers should be in the hands of an incorporated, disinterested society.

Q. A disinterested society?—A. Yes, such as the Immigration Society.

Q. Without private interest?—A. Yes.

Q. You think that the cause of this excessive immigration was that if a man is interested in making money he can be trusted to make as much as he can, business is business you would say?—A. Yes, sir.

Mr. CORDASCO re-examined.

By the Commissioner:

Q. You are still under oath, Mr. Cordasco?—A. Yes, Your Honour.

Q. Can you tell me the number of Italians that came from the States and registered with you this year?—A. A little over 200.

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Q. How many over 300?—A. If Your Honour will give permission, Mr. Ganna will give you statement?

Q. Yes?—A. (Looks at statement.) 341 came to Montreal that we did not ask to come and 536 came at my request, making a total of 877.

Q. All these registered with you?—A. These 877 registered.

Q. Registered and paid their fees whether they came or not?—A. They sent to me \$1 each from their place.

Q. Besides \$10 for foremen?—A. For some interpreters.

Q. When was the last money you received from interpreters from the United States?—A. Well, that is quite a while—

Q. See your letter book?—A. Mr. Ganna, bring the letter book here.

Q. Turn up letter from Franco, Mr. Ganna?—Mr. Ganna.—A. Yes, I have it. Mr. Cordasco: That is not very long ago, he promised me but never sent in any list.

Q. (To witness.) Look at the letter book, page 225. I will read you a translation of the letter:

MONTREAL, June 24, 1904.

‘VINCENZO FRANCO,  
Post Office,  
Boston, Mass.

‘I am in receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant enclosing a money order for \$20, and I thank you. I have noted its contents. I cannot but confirm what I have already stated in my letter of the 16th instant. The conditions of labour have not much changed because from the 16th to date I have sent out only two small parties.

‘Do not be discouraged, because I will be able to call upon you shortly, as already mentioned in my preceding letter. You can write me again after the first of July and if the situation has changed, I will be able to say what I will be able to do, but to-day I do not promise you anything. I cannot make any preference to others; I have some whose names are registered prior to yours.

‘With best respects,

‘A. CORDASCO.’

Q. So you received \$20 from Mr. Franco?—A. Yes.

Q. You still have that \$20?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he ask you to return it to him?—A. I got a letter this morning that I saw myself.

Q. How long since it was received?—A. I saw one this morning.

Q. When did it come here?—A. The letter?

Q. Yes.—A. Just this morning, one letter.

Q. When did you receive another letter before this morning?—A. I do not remember.

Q. Try and find out, Mr. Ganna—July 14. (Mr. Ganna finds letter and hands book to witness.)

Q. What does it say?—A. ‘I have received your letter, but now I cannot send your order, because I am sending very few men to the Canadian Pacific Railway, but keep quiet, and when I can I will send you.’

Q. Was he asking for the return of his \$20?—A. He asked this morning; well, I only received it this morning.

Q. This is a translation of your letter of July 14, 1904:—

‘MONTREAL, July 14, 1904.

‘Sig. Vincenzo Franco,  
Post Office,  
Boston, Mass.

‘Your favour of the 2nd instant has come to hand. I must inform you that had you written in February, even though you had not done so regularly before I could have



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registered your name, basing myself on the promises contained in your letters I would have trusted to your honesty to pay the registration tax.

'Admitting the manner in which you write, it is very difficult to employ foremen or interpreters, for you must know that foremen or interpreters who are registered in my books can only be employed in the order in which they are registered.

'I am not an individual who would sell himself for \$10 or \$1,000, honesty before all, and my letter of June 16 speaks clearly on this point.

'With much esteem,

'ANTONIO CORDASCO.'

Q. Why did you not return the money?—A. I was waiting for a chance for him.

Q. You wanted his money the first thing?—A. He never asked for his money.

Q. Why did you say you had already returned it?—A. I just said we had that business letter I received this morning; I am ready to send the money to-night.

Q. I know you are willing, but you do not do it?—A. If you want to call Ganna he will prepare my cheque for the amount.

Q. You had better fill up a large one if you give back their money to all who ask for it?—A. I will give what is due to them. I am ready to refund the money to any man who calls for it; I want to get finished with this thing.

Q. So do I, because it has been hard work to get you to say you owed them any. How much money have you charged as having paid Mosco?—A. I paid Mosco in different ways.

Q. What was the sum you charged that was paid by the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. Two or three months or four or five months.

Q. How much did you charge the Canadian Pacific Railway account; I read it Saturday?—A. \$15.

Q. When was that paid?—A. This was last fall.

Q. What was that for?—A. Because he worked with me, helped me to handle a lot of men, met train.

Q. How many days did he work for you?—A. I think he worked a couple of months or more.

Q. Do you know how much you charged for him?—A. \$1.50 a day.

Q. Did you pay him \$1.50?—A. In different times, yes; not for that work.

Q. That work you charged the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. Yes.

Q. Are you certain that you did not pay him more?—A. Not more than \$1.50.

Q. Did you pay him the \$1.50 charged to the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. I did.

Q. Are you swearing to that?—A. Yes.

Q. Deliberately?—A. Yes.

Q. How much did you pay to Memme? Who is he?—A. An Italian foreman who lives at Sherbrooke.

Q. You charged as having paid him \$30?—A. Yes, Your Honour.

Q. Have you got your book showing payment to Mosco?—A. I have not got any.

Q. How many steamship lines do you represent, Mr. Cordasco?—A. About 12 or 13.

Q. How long have you represented them?—A. I began some time last October, 1903.

Q. How many inward or outward tickets have you sold for all the steamers?—A. I think about 140 to 145.

Q. You remember those brought into Canada?—A. I sold tickets here from my office, 375 St. James.

Q. Do you know Angelo de Santis, 118 Canal Street, Buffalo?—A. Possibly I had a letter; I don't know him personally.

Q. Do you remember sending him this letter:—

'MONTREAL, Feb. 10, 1904.

'Mr. ANGELO DE SANTIS,  
'118 Canal Street,  
Buffalo, N.Y.

'I took note of the contents of your last letter and I enclose herewith a copy of the rules which have to be followed by those who, by their own free will, enter the name for the first shipments.

'But I do not take any responsibility to engage men as masons or stone cutters. I need this year nearly 10,000 men, but all of them must be able to work with pick and shovel.

'If you like you may engage men for the first shipments, but I do not take any responsibility, only take those men who give their name by their own free will, and send me the list of the names very clearly written with a mark that shows they have paid \$1 each for office and inscription fees.

'Please enclose with the list the money order and I will enter their names progressively, and when their turn will come I will ask for them.

'Remember that I do not force anybody to give their names.

'The railway fare from Buffalo to Montreal has to be paid by the men, a fare to pass from Buffalo being given in July and August only, but then the season is short and the earnings little.

'Yours truly.

A: I think I saw this letter.

Q. Was this letter sent according to your instructions?—A. I think so.

Q. You will not go back on that?—A. Well, of course I cannot quite remember the whole letter.

Q. You say you remember the letter?—A. I remember something about it.

Q. Then it is your letter?—A. I did not write it myself.

Q. No, you only wrote to foreigners, those outside of the country. You always got your clerk to write what you wanted?—A. I was in bed for two months and my clerk showed me the mail that came in the morning and I told him to answer. Sometimes he answered one thing for another.

Q. When he went to your house he always brought you the letters?—A. The letters which came from Montreal, and I told him to answer these, but to look out for anything that might be important.

Q. You told him how to answer?—A. How to answer letters not to put me in trouble.

Q. Did you expect trouble?—A. Well, he might write one thing for another.

Q. What kind of trouble were you expecting?—A. I do not know; he might write everything, saying send 10,000.

Q. Did you think he was doing this?—A. I do not know.

Q. You did not think he was a dangerous sort of man?—A. I wanted to be sure to protect myself.

Q. You remember this letter at any rate?—A. I heard this.

Q. At the time it was written?—A. I do not know if I was any better.

Q. You say: 'I took notice of the contents of your last letter and I enclose herewith a copy of the rules which have to be followed by those who, by their own free will, enter their names for the first shipments.'

Q. You remember that?—A. Not quite. I want to look at the letter. (Looks at the letter.) 19th February, I was just at that time in bed and did not write the letter. I think I just said to Mr. Ganna, this is the spirit of the letters you write them.

Q. And he brought all the letters he had received before for you?—A. All letters addressed to Cordasco he brought to me, to my bed.

Q. And he read them to you?—A. I did not do that myself.

Q. Yes, you did?—A. Yes.

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Q. Told him to answer ?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you remember that letter from Angelo de Santis, 118 Canal street, Buffalo ?—A. I do not know, I might remember if I could see what is wanted.

Q. 'If you like you may engage men for the first shipments, but I do not take any responsibility, only take those men who give their names by their own free will, and send me the list of the names very clearly written with a mark that shows they have paid one dollar each for office and inscription fees.'

Q. You remember that letter ?—A. I remember every letter.

Q. That is what you told him to write ?—A. As far as that.

Q. You think that is right ?—A. So far as that is it is right.

Q. 'Please enclose list and money order and I will enter their names progressively and when their turn will come I will ask for them.'

Q. Is that right ?—A. Yes.

Q. 'Remember that I do not force anybody to give their names' ?—A. That is what I told Ganna.

Q. 'The railway fare from Buffalo to Montreal is to be paid by the men free, free passes being only given in July and August, but then the season is short and the earnings little' ?—A. So far as that goes it is correct.

Q. Will you go any further ?—A. Your Honour has got the letter you can see what is in it.

Q. You think this is correct; is that the way you instructed him ?—A. Well, a man reads letter first.

Q. You think he wrote that letter according to your instructions ?—A. I never told him to say 'I need this year nearly ten thousand men.'

Q. All the letter is right but that ?—A. I never authorized him to ask anybody for 10,000.

Q. 'But I do not take any responsibility; only take those men who give their names by their own free will.'

Q. That is right ?—A. Yes.

Q. 'I need this year nearly 10,000 men, but all of them must be able to work with pick and shovel' ?—A. I never instructed Ganna to ask for 10,000 or 5,000 or 15,000 men.

Q. Everything but that is right ?—A. I never authorized 10,000 men.

Q. This letter appears to have been sent dated January 26, 1904, to Luigi Searcella as follows:—

MONTREAL, January 26, 1904.

Mr. Luigi Searcella,  
243 Rideau Street,  
Ottawa, Ont.

Sir,—I reply to your letter of the 23rd inst., of which content I took note, but in this moment I do not know where I can find work for you.

Next season I shall be in need of 10,000 men, whose work will be a heavy one, and as I understand in your letter you do not like to work with the shovel.

In the beginning of March please to write again and I will see if I can do anything for you, but I cannot promise anything.

Yours truly.

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Also a similar letter dated Feb. 9, 1904, and addressed to

'Mr. Aristide Guerrieri.

P. O. Box 11, Mapleton Dep., Pa.

Your letter (without any date) I am sorry to say that I shall not be able to find any work that may suit you. I find work for thousands of men and this year I shall

be in need of 10,000 of them, but I need only men that can work with shovels and pick.

Yours truly,'

—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Now here are eighty-nine letters to people in the United States and one in Canada, written in January, February, March and April, in which you ask them to send the money and you will send them out according to the order in which their names are registered?—A. I never asked money.

Q. Never?—A. I never wrote letter telling them to send \$10 or any dollars. The men write to me first, and I told them if you want to be registered in my book you will have to pay \$1 for each man and an interpreter \$10, and then I will call you over your turn comes, and do not come to Montreal until I send for you.

Q. Will you look at this and see if these names are correct. They are the names of men to whom you addressed letters for the purpose of having them send money?—A. I think I counted. These are the names of persons to whom similar letters were sent in January, February, March and April; 89 I find altogether?—A. Well, Your Honour is right.

Q. You think I am right?—A. These letters I received I never asked for money.

Q. You did not refuse registration without money?—A. They wrote to have me register them and I said if you want to be registered it will cost you \$1 for my trouble.

Q. Will you read this letter and to whom it is addressed; read it out aloud so that we may all hear it.

MONTREAL, January 27, 1900.

Mr. GIUSEPPE DI SCHIANI,

'151 Acorn St., Providence, R.I.

'I send you back your letter, which I cannot take into consideration, for I do not enter your name in my books only on the same conditions as everybody else. On the same conditions I explained to you clearly in my previous letter.

Yours truly.'

Q. You would not register this man without money?—A. No use working for nothing.

Q. The dollar was the object in view. He wanted to enter his name in my book without money?—A. He did.

Q. And you would not do it?—A. No.

Q. There are several letters of that nature?—A. Probably, Your Honour.

Q. You would not enter without money?—A. Because I pay money myself. The people have got to pay me.

Q. A number of foremen registered in November and December of last year?—A. Yes.

Q. For this year's work?—A. Yes.

Q. They have not gone out yet?—A. That was not my fault.

Q. Some men registered in March and April this year?—A. Yes.

Q. Foremen with gangs?—A. Yes.

Q. They have gone out?—A. One or two.

Q. Why did they go out before the other men who had registered in November and December?—A. They had better gangs, and could supply better men than the others. That is my reason.

Q. Can you tell me which gangs were better than the others?—A. Yes, I can tell Your Honour.

Q. Tell me then, look at your book, I want to see?—A. I know the foremen and I know what kind of men they have.

Q. Tell me the foremen who did not have good labourers?—A. Get the book. Ganna.

(This testimony was here interrupted for a few minutes in order to hear a few of other witnesses who had to leave.)

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Mr. JOSEPH ALPHONSE RODIER, being sworn.

*By Mr. Mowat :*

Q. Are you a member of the Trades and Labour Council?—A. I would like better to have the questions put in French. I cannot perhaps make myself very intelligible in English.

Q. We can get along very well; it will take a little longer. Are you a member of the Trades and Labour Council? I shall have no difficulty in understanding you, in speaking about your evidence, and think you may give it in that way?—A. I cannot do that; it is too serious.

*By the Commissioner :*

Q. What is the matter, Mr. Mowat?

Mr. MOWAT.—He does not want to give his evidence in English.

*By the Commissioner :*

Q. I am perfectly sure we can get along; do your best, Mr. Rodier?—A. I beg pardon, Your Honour, I want to know perfectly well.

Q. If you do not understand what Mr. Mowat asks let me know what your difficulty is and I will explain to you what I can?—A. But I cannot answer in English. Will you put it in French.

Q. Are you a member of the Trades and Labour Council?—A. I am a member of the Trades and Labour Council.

Q. Answer all the questions you understand in English in that way?—A. I cannot do that.

Q. You will try please?—A. I will try, I am perfectly ready to try, but I know I cannot tell all.

*By Mr. Mowat :*

Q. Do you do editorial writing in the newspaper 'La Patrie'?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You have been for some years?—A. No, for about eight months.

Q. Have you given your attention as a member of the council, a labour writer and journalist to labour questions in Montreal?—A. Yes, for a long time.

Q. Have you formed any opinion as to the effect on the labour market by the sudden influx of a number of unemployed labourers?—A. Yes.

Q. What effect in your opinion would that have on the scale of wages?—A. To bring wages down, to diminish the salary.

Q. Is it your opinion that the labour market is sensitive to sudden changes?—A. Yes, I understand your question well.

Q. In the month of April there was a large number of Italians here who were ready to work and could not get it, what effect would that have on the scale of wages paid to residents of Montreal?—It is very hard to answer that question in English; I could give a better answer in French.

Q. It is all right, Mr. Rodier.

*By the Commissioner :*

Q. You have been doing nicely, Mr. Rodier, please do your best?—A. We have many organizations in Montreal, principally of labourers, who had the intention of asking more wages this spring, but when they found that we have so many strangers here they did not ask. I have heard many complaints that the Italians make low wages; they work for lower wages than our people. I do not know if you understand.

Q. We understand you perfectly. Now, Mr. Rodier, as a man taking an interest in labour questions, when did you first hear about this immigration of Italian labourers to Montreal?—A. I think, I am not quite sure, I think in April.

Q. From whom did you hear about it?—A. I cannot remember; I saw many people in the streets.

Q. But before they came did you hear anything about their coming?—A. ing at all.

Q. From no source whatever?—A. I do not remember.

Q. The matter was never talked over between yourself and others?—A.

Q. Never mentioned a scheme to bring a lot of Italians here?—A. I do member.

Q. Just think if that was not talked over in your hearing?—A. I do not so.

Q. That is not very certain?—A. Well, I do not remember; it is possible do not remember.

Q. It is possible?—A. Yes, because I speak every day about that question.

Q. That is the reason you are here giving evidence, because you know deal about that question. Can you tell me when you first heard that there was to be a large immigration of Italians into Montreal?—A. I do not remember ever heard before we saw some of them in Montreal.

Q. Not before then?—A. Not before that.

Q. Did you not talk with any one who desired to get a large number into Mo—A. Not at all.

Q. Not at all?—A. We talked in a general manner of immigration, not c Italians; before that we talked many times and we saw by the newspapers and b the Manufacturers' Association did and some circulars we received from Engla would have a big immigration this year.

Q. Where did you hear that first?—A. I heard that in the labour circles. talked of that in their meetings.

Q. Any public men who are not in labour circles suggested that a large n of immigrants should be brought over?—A. Public men, what do you mean?

Q. You understand what a public man means, a man who takes an inte publi affairs?—A. In a general manner.

Q. Well, by any one besides labourers?—A. No.

Q. You did not hear from any other than from your labour unions?—A. M

Q. The labour unions were not anxious to bring over a lot of men?—A. TH not want them.

Q. Who did want them?—A. The manufacturers, I suppose, and the grea panies.

Q. Do not suppose, I want to know from your own knowledge?—A. I don' only from what I have heard.

Q. That is what I want, from whom did you hear?—A. In newspapers.

Q. You understand, Mr. Rodier, this commission requires me to find out many immigrants came into this country at one time, and all the circumstance rounding their coming in. That is the reason I am asking you these questions, out how these men came in here, to see what was the source from whence spran intention to bring a large number into Montreal at one time?—A. I regret I understand English very well. I did not hear that by any manufacturers or any but it was the subject of general conversation, and when I saw that in the pap documents I have seen in the papers, by documents coming from England, we the advertising in the papers that we were going to have a large immigration to treal, that is what I know.

Q. That is the only source from which you knew that?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Not from conversations that you had with public men, manufacturers others?—A. No.

Q. Then, can you tell me the result of such a large influx at that time up labouring class in Montreal. What was the actual result?—A. They have onl wages down.

Q. Were wages reduced in consequence?—A. I do not know that wages reduced, but we are of the opinion generally that wages are lower here in Montr account of that immigration.

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Q. How much are labourers receiving to-day?—A. Labourers receive \$1.50.

Q. That is the usual pay?—A. Yes.

Q. What are Italians employed on the street railway getting?—A. I have not seen the books of the company, but many people told me that they receive only from \$1.15 to \$1.25.

Q. That is part of the duty of your committees to inquire into?—A. Yes, but I cannot go before the company to see their books. It is also very hard to get that from the labourers themselves when they are Canadians, because they do not want to tell us; they are afraid we are going to make a complaint against them.

Q. I agree with you there.—A. We tried many times to get information, but they have refused to speak.

Q. Or tell you what was the wage?—A. Exactly.

Q. That has been my own experience if a man gets \$1 a day and if you ask him he says \$1.50?—A. Yes.

Mr. ROBERT M. HANNAFORD, being sworn.

By Mr. Mowat:

Q. Are you an engineer?—A. Yes.

Q. Employed by whom?—A. By the Montreal Street Railway Company.

Q. How long have you been in that position?—A. I have been in that position for a year.

Q. Has the Montreal Street Railway Company been putting down new rails within the last six months?—A. Yes.

Q. Employing labour for that purpose?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. What is your scale of wages now—for track layers?—A. Goes all the way from \$1.25 to \$1.50, in some cases to \$1.60 to old employees.

Q. Has that scale of wages changed since March last?—A. No.

Q. Always been the same?—A. Yes.

Q. For how long?—A. Ever since I have been with the company for about two years.

Q. Are you in a position to speak with authority as to this?—A. Yes.

Q. Was not the scale reduced this spring when this large number of labourers came?—A. Not with us.

Q. Was it in other occupations?—A. That I cannot speak about.

Q. Not on any of the lines, near lines?—A. None of ours.

Q. Did you employ some of these Italians?—A. We may have; I do not know. We did not go to any agencies.

Q. Who would know that?—A. Well, it is the men themselves, because the men themselves come to us to be employed.

Q. Who would know whether your company employed some of the Italians who came here this spring in such large numbers?—A. Some of our Italian sub-foremen.

Q. Have you got some of them yet on the line?—A. We have.

Q. Do you know what they were paid?—A. Sub-foremen?

Q. No, labouringmen?—A. \$1.25.

Q. Not less?—A. No.

Q. No change made?—A. No.

By the Commissioner:

Q. How many hours a day do they work?—A. 10 hours, sometimes longer, overtime.

Q. Do they get paid for overtime?—A. Yes, the same as ordinary time.

Q. That is 12½ cents or 15 cents?—A. 12½ cents.

Q. Who get 12½ cents?—A. Ordinary labourers.

Q. How many Italians have you in your employment?—A. Well, roughly speaking, I would say we have about 300.

Q. And what do they receive?—A. Some of them get as high as \$1.37.

Q. Foremen?—A. Sub-foremen.

Q. And ordinary labourers get 12½ cents an hour?—A. Ordinary labourers get 12½ cents an hour, although some of them get 13 cents, a sliding scale.

Q. Can you tell me how many of these Italians coming from Italy or from the United States have been employed by you?—A. That I cannot say without going over the pay-rolls and taking out our old men.

Q. How many old men had you last year that remained this spring?—A. Must have had 80 anyway.

Q. And you have 300 men?—A. About 300 now.

Q. What is the rate of wages in Montreal to ordinary labour in other departments?—A. I believe it is \$1.50, that is paid by the city.

Q. But you can find plenty of men to work for \$1.25?—A. We do that because we give the men more permanent employment than the city.

Q. What do you mean?—A. We give them snow shovelling in winter, almost continually.

Q. How many will you have in October next?—A. In October we ought to have about 125.

Q. How many do you keep through the winter?—A. That is a sliding scale because Italians do not like to work in winter. Last winter they went out on strike.

Q. Do not like snow?—A. No.

Q. Do you know how this influx affected other trades where unskilled labour was required?—A. Not personally.

Q. You do not know personally?—A. No.

Q. You have no knowledge at all; have you made inquiries?—A. No.

Q. Well, you can get any number you wish at \$1.25 per day?—A. They come to us; we do not have to look for them.

Mr. JAMES B. MACK, being sworn.

*By Mr. Mowat :*

Q. I understand you are vice-president of the Dominion Trades and Labour Council?—A. I am.

Q. You for some years have given attention to labour matters?—A. For 20 years.

Q. I am told that you have a local council, and if I mistake not you are one of the founders?—A. Yes, one of the founders of the Montreal Trade and Labour Council.

Q. Will you state your opinion of the effect on the scale of wages in a city like Montreal, caused by the bringing in of large numbers of foreign labourers at one time?—A. The effect of bringing in large numbers of foreign labourers, in my opinion, would be a reduction in wages and probably prolonged hours of labour. When the labour market is flooded wages are not liable to increase, rather to decrease, and it is a benefit to capitalists or companies who employ large numbers of unskilled labourers to have a large immigration in order to have work performed at less cost.

Q. It is to the advantage of these companies to have a number of men available?—A. Certainly it is.

Q. What do you know of this large number of Italians who were brought here unable to get work in April last?—A. In my capacity of newspaper man, I saw large numbers going about the streets.

Q. You are a journalist as well?—A. I am labour editor of the 'Star.' In going about I am looking for information, and I met large numbers in our streets, parks



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crowds everywhere near the Windsor station, of men out of employment. I met Mr. Catelli one day in April. He said: 'Mr. Mack, we have a big lot of Italians in Montreal.' I told him I had seen them, and he asked 'what are we going to do with them, they are now in a starving condition?' I said: 'Mr. Catelli, you had better interview the mayor of the city. Our people will not have people starving in Montreal.' Mr. Catelli had an interview with the mayor, and held several meetings, and appeals to the public charity appeared in the papers every day, and after a time these people seemed to get employment and large numbers of them left the city. Italians came to the 'Star' in large numbers; they were anxious to get statements in the paper. They said they had been brought here by speculators, men who wanted to get from one to ten dollars for spring employment. They stated that they had been grossly deceived and they made these statements to us.

Q. You heard what Mr. Hannaford said here as to the scale of wages paid by the Montreal Street Railway Company; what is your opinion?—A. Well, I do not think that the Montreal Street Railway Company is not more generous than other employers of labour, and when they can get men for \$1.10 they are not going to pay \$1.25; that is not a business proposition. I do not know what the Montreal Street Railway pay people, but why should they pay the average man \$1.25 when they can get the same for \$1.15, that is not business.

Q. Can you tell the Commission of certain classes of labour wherein the wages did go down?—A. I have been told that in various classes wages have been reduced.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. Mr. Mack, whose names did those Italians who went to your office mention in connection with bringing them from Italy?—A. They mentioned Mr. Cordasco and several others. At that time I was not so much interested in it as now.

Q. Did they tell you the methods by which they were induced to come?—A. They had been induced by letters, circulars and some of them cards, some on their own responsibility. These had wished to come to see if there were any good positions in Canada, more wages; no need for any man to be out of employment in the Dominion of Canada.

Q. Did you hear before they came if there was a scheme to bring out immigrants to Montreal?—A. For some time I have known that efforts have been made to bring men to Montreal. I know that a Mr. Leopold, who has offices at Charing Cross, London, England, has been very active in inducing men to come here.

Q. Does he reach to Italy?—A. I guess he reaches everywhere; he does a large business.

Q. We have not heard his name in connection with this influx?—A. Well, I am just telling you.

Q. Have you heard anything from any of our public men in Montreal that a large influx was to be brought into Montreal this spring?—A. No, sir. I have not heard from business or public men. I have heard in labour circles that efforts were made to bring out large numbers of men to this country in the event of trouble on the docks and large works going to be constructed.

Q. Just so. What is the minimum wage paid labourers in Montreal to-day?—A. I should imagine about 90c. or \$1.

Q. You think that is the lowest?—A. I think so.

Q. And the maximum?—A. Of skilled labour?

Q. Unskilled labour?—A. Well, of course, there are three or four classes of unskilled labour; would you call dockmen unskilled labour?

Q. I think not, they have a trade. That requires special qualifications; could Italian labourers do that work?—A. No, they would be practically useless.

Q. They are good for the pick and shovel, such work as ditching, road-making, &c.?—A. I should imagine they would get all the way from 90c. to \$1.50 a day.

Q. Are there many Italians without work in Montreal?—A. I am told quite a large number.

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- Q. About how many?—A. Between 500 and 1,000.  
 Q. Unable to get employment?—A. Unable to get employment.  
 Q. How are they supported?—A. They are supported by the Italian charity organization, by the central charity organization of the city, and they probably get a little work.  
 Q. Occasionally, so as to help them on?—A. Yes, they have no permanent work.

Mr. CORDASCO, re-called.

*By the Commissioner :*

- Q. Do you know Signor Silvio of Portland, Maine?—A. I heard his name.  
 Q. Did you authorize this letter to be sent to that signor?—A. Yes.  
 Q. You authorized that letter to be sent?—A. Yes.  
 Q. You wrote:—

'Mr. FILAURIO SILVIO,  
 '101 Fore Street,  
 'Portland, Me.

'MONTREAL, Jan. 28, 1904.

'I received your letter in which you say that you want to pass your men in the list of Sabatino Sgamurra.

'I cannot do that for this Sgamurra is neither entered in my books nor has paid, as you and your men did, the office and inscription fees.

'If Mr. Sgamurra will send \$10 as interpreter and \$1 for each man, I shall enter his name in my books and I shall not have any difficulty in putting your lists together, for you have paid.

'The time when your turn will come I will call you.

'Yours truly.'

Q. You would not give another man the benefit of adding his list to a foreman who had already paid, and you demanded \$10 more?—A. I asked.

Q. You demanded that \$10 before allowing the lists to be put together. What paper do you advertise in in New York?—A. Well, I never advertised before, but about six months ago a party on a paper there wrote me a letter and asked me to give it an advertisement. I think it is named 'L'Operari.'

Q. Where is he? I think he is No. 4 Mulberry Street?—A. That is not the name, perhaps you have got another man.

Q. Capparelli?—A. That is the man.

Q. What is the name of his paper?—A. 'L'Operari.'

Q. When did you put your advertisement in that paper?—A. Five or six months ago.

Q. Have you got a copy?—A. No.

Q. Did he send you the paper?—A. Yes.

Q. Where is it?—A. I have not got it.

Q. What was the advertisement about?—A. Something about shipping money, same as advertisement in 'Corriere del Canada,' saying that I would place the men. I made that advertisement myself.

Q. On the 18th January, 1904, you wrote to Mr. V. Capparelli:—

'Mr. V. CAPPARELLI,  
 '4 Mulberry St., New York.

'MONTREAL, Jan. 28, 1904.

'I have received your letter and I beg to enclose herewith check for \$10 on said advertisement, &c., as per agreement. Please acknowledge receipt.

'Please make an article speaking about the negligence of this Consul and Italian Immigration Aid Society.

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'I am from San Donato Ninea, and Mr. Cordasco, the lawyer, is my uncle.  
'By the same mail I am sending you my cut.

'Yours truly.'

Q. Always put your picture in?—A. I expect them to; I do not try to deny this, but this work was done by notary.

Q. Will you give me a copy?—A. Will you let Mr. Ganna get this.

Q. For this afternoon?—A. If there is one he will get it.

Q. When was this arrangement in writing made between Mr. Burns and you?—

A. In writing, Your Honour; there was nothing in writing. When he was talking about taking \$1 for the men?

Q. Yes?—A. It took place some time in the month of April or May.

Q. What time in April?—A. I cannot remember the date.

Q. You cannot remember the date?—A. No.

Q. Look at your accounts and tell me the date?—A. Some time in April, I cannot say the date.

Q. Is that the date, April 13th (handing paper to witness)?—A. Yes.

Q. That was the date?—A. That was the time he spoke.

Q. Now, you wrote Mr. Burns on the 29th April, in which you say:

'As you know personally that I do not receive any salary from your company, only paid by the day or by the hour, if some fees come to me from Italian labourers this is an honest deal and no one was or will be forced if he does not wish to do so.'

Q. Was that true; were you paid at that date by the day or by the hour as you mention in your letter of the 29th April?—A. He began to pay me by the hour, by the half day, and if I did nothing he gave me nothing.

Q. You understood that on the 29th April; look at that letter?—A. Well, that was made in April some time.

Q. And here you have made a charge on the 18th April?—A. I was not agreeing with this agreement.

Q. So that there was really no agreement?—A. Just a verbal agreement.

Q. I do not know who to believe, Cordasco or Cordasco's letter?—A. I did not know the nature of it.

Q. Now you say one thing in your letter and another in the accounts, which is correct. So you were still paid by the day?—A. I was paid even before April.

Q. You were paid by the day?—A. By the full day.

Q. That is what you are charging now?—A. Not going to charge anything now by the day. This must be stated, because I understand Mr. Burns told me he would not agree to give it.

Q. Was this \$1 spoken of in order to give evidence to this Commission?—A. No.

Q. No trouble in your mind?—A. Nothing.

Q. Not to provide against trouble?—A. No.

Q. Mr. Burns has not paid you a single cent since. The reason why is because he had some trouble with that judgment and probably wanted to see how the judgment was going to work out, that is why?—A. He kept my money back anyway.

Q. So you were still charging up to the 29th April?—A. There is the letter there.

Q. And you say that letter is true?—A. Yes, I cannot pay expenses over \$100 per month in office besides my house.

Q. How much in all?—A. About \$300.

Q. \$300?—A. With my wages, clerks and my office and everything in office probably cost more than \$300 besides my house.

Q. Never mind the house. Did you not say that it was only \$40 for the rent of your office?—A. \$45 for Ganna, \$90 for Cordasco, then Mosco and paying women for scrubbing.

Q. How long have you been paying Mosco?—A. Maybe couple of months.

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- Q. How had you paid him before?—A. I gave him so much by the job.
- Q. How much?—A. Sometimes \$1, \$2 or \$3 I cannot say.
- Q. By the month?—A. It was not fixed by the month.
- Q. How long have you been paying Mosco \$6 per month?—A. Two or three months, I can give it to you.
- Q. Two or three months?—A. Yes.
- Q. And now you pay Mosco \$6 per month?—A. \$6 per week.
- Q. Since when have you been so paying him?—A. Two months ago. Before that by the job, when working for Canadian Pacific Railway.
- Q. Now do not say that?—A. I can prove it.
- Q. That is not correct?—A. I say this, I have something to prove that. Mosco will not swear to that.
- Q. Will you show me how much you paid Mosco in December?—A. There is nothing in the book, no entry.
- Q. You always kept that sort of thing out of the book? You have no book to show it?—A. Nothing at all.
- Q. You have some receipt attached to bill signed by him?—A. Before I had put them in.
- Q. You have told him to swear that you have paid him \$5, \$10, \$15, \$20 before that?—A. Yes.
- Q. Why did you tell him to swear that?—A. You can get Mosco at any time.
- Q. I do not think that is quite correct, Mr. Cordasco, so far as Mr. Mosco is concerned.
- Q. Mr. Skinner deducted some money from your wages or accounts for December last?—A. Yes.
- Q. You raised some trouble about that?—A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Is that the letter you wrote to Mr. Skinner?—A. Yes, I just got it. I am paid.
- Q. That is the letter you wrote to Mr. Burns?—A. Yes, Your Honour.
- Q. You complained about some \$26 there?—A. I got \$26.
- Q. Mr. Burns directed Mr. Skinner to pay you?—A. Because it was due for getting the office cleaned, and I got the money back.
- Q. But in so far as the other portion, he would not interfere?—A. Would not give me a dollar.
- Q. In that you say that the money that you earned was for going to meet No. 8 and No. 2?—A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Nothing more?—A. Looking after Italians, placing them in boarding houses.
- Q. Not when you were sick?—A. Had somebody else.
- Q. Did Francesco Cordasco work for the company?—A. No, Gagliardi.
- Q. You wrote to Mr. Burns on February 8 last:—
- ‘Dear Sir,—I have worked for you December, 1901, December, 1902, and I met only No. 2, and I was paid my five dollars without any trouble.’
- A. That is right.
- Q. Just met No. 2?—A. Looking after men.
- Q. You say: ‘I met only No. 2 and I was paid my five dollars without any trouble?’—A. I did.
- Q. ‘Now, this year I was cut off \$20 in October, \$20 in November, and \$66 in December, 13 days and Lancy puts all the blame on Skinner, so I can see that Skinner has went on like blind and crazy man. He went over my bill and cut off 13 days from one month, which I have worked the harder in the years.’—A. That is right.
- Q. Mr. Skinner would not allow that even if Mr. Burns said so?—A. I don’t know.
- Q. He did not allow it?—A. I don’t know how they fixed it up.
- Q. You say that in 1901 you always got your five dollars even when you only met No. 2?—A. Yes, and looking after the men.

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Q. Not much looking after men when meeting No. 2?—A. Have conducted men to boarding houses.

Q. Are these amounts for 1902 or 1903?—A. I think so.

Q. Five dollars for every day, Saturdays and Sundays, during six months?—A. Because I worked every day.

Q. Sunday and Saturday?—A. Met the men every day.

Q. Will you kindly let me know what you were doing during the months of, say, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November and December on any of these days?—A. I cannot tell you.

Q. Can you tell me what you were doing on any of these Sundays?—A. Met the trains.

Q. How long were you at train?—A. Sometimes they are on time and sometimes four or five hours late.

Q. Not on time in general?—A. I do not say that they are behind all the time; some days they are and we had to be there.

Q. How long would you be there?—A. To take men away from train?

Q. How long?—A. Take some time.

Q. How long?—A. Some weeks men come on every train.

Q. What men came on No. 2?—A. Sometimes none.

Q. A great many times none?—A. Yes. I went there and came home and reported no men.

Q. That is five dollars. That is how you work up accounts against the Canadian Pacific Railway. How would the Canadian Pacific Railway know if they were correct or incorrect?—A. I put in my bill.

Q. By whom were they certified?—A. I gave them to Mr. Burns.

Q. Mr. Burns certified them and that is how you made money easily during these years, getting five dollars a day for such work?—A. Probably there was translation.

Q. Now, is not translation an additional charge?—A. I get five dollars.

Q. Just for these days?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. And yet you made an agreement that you were to get paid according to the number of hours you were working. This was done in 1902, and Mr. Skinner was the first one to carry that agreement out, to make you carry it out?—A. My agreement was, I had supposed—

Q. Mr. Skinner was the first man to object?—A. Mr. Skinner was the first man who ever did the thing.

Q. This was in 1903, you were sending in your bills until Mr. Skinner cut some off?—A. I have worked every day and got paid for it.

Q. Although a great number of times there would not be an Italian coming to the city of Montreal?—A. Sometimes.

Q. A great number?—A. I said some.

Q. I want you to give me something definite?—A. If you want me to say, a few times.

Q. How many days?—A. I cannot state.

Q. How many times did you translate?—A. Very often.

Q. Who did this translation for you?—A. Cordasco did not do it. Ganna put it in better English than I could.

Q. Do you remember Gaetano Lopatria?—A. Yes.

Q. What was the trouble with him?—A. He shipped two or three gangs the first time and then did not come to me at all, tried to go alone.

Q. He was a good man when you shipped him?—A. I say he was.

Q. He was a good man, was he?—A. A nice fellow.

Q. A good worker, I mean?—A. Yes.

Q. How much did he give you the first year?—A. I do not remember, \$10 or \$20. This year he tried to get around me and not pay anything.

Q. He would not go to you, afterwards he went to the roadmaster direct?—A. Yes, went to roadmaster.

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Q. On April 23 you wrote to Mr. Burns about Mr. Lapatria?—A. I think so.  
Q. Is this your letter?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you write that?—A. I wrote most of it and got Ganna to help me.

Q. This is how it reads:—

April 23rd, 1904.

G. E. Burns, Esq.,  
Special Agent, G.T.R.,  
Room 15, Windsor Street.

(Di Patrick)

Dear Sir,—*Re* George Patrie, or right name is Gaetano Lapatria, as this Italian interpreter was in correspondence with Roadmaster Milloy, for some time and you as per orders came to my labour office, 375 St. James, and he brought 40 Italians he engaged to work on the Ontario Division, and he made believe that all this crowd of Italians each of them was working on the same division last summer. This is wrong, and I found it out that very few did work for such master last year, and none of these 40 are new men, but Patrie pretends they are the men who worked for me last year, and this is all lie.

Anyhow he forced me to take the 40 Italians and good many of these men worthless, and I could give him a good body of labourers if I was to deal with opinion myself. Some roadmasters are getting some fees from these young interpreters, and there is why call directly those Italians.

If the general manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway would witness all this work and see such people, Italian labourers that Mr. George Patrie takes with them and I am sure he would fire out roadmaster, foreman and someone else. This morning Patrie he tried his best and tried to force me to give a contract to a boy 16 years old and this application was refused, because he was not strong enough to handle road and other kind like. Patrie himself when he saw that I refused to give contract to the young man he promised him he would take him all same and guarantee full summer wages.

The information I give you and your company is only to do my duty and nothing else.

This crowd will go to-night to Sharbot lake.

Your Servant.

Q. They did not pay?—A. No, sir.

Q. Mr. Milloy hired them without their going through the books in your office?  
A. I don't know.

Q. You said so. You got instructions from Di Patrick to give a contract without you would not, because they could not employ anyone who did not come through your office?—A. I do not know.

Q. Then you wrote to Mr. Burns on April 29, 1904:

'Dear Sir,—Attached you will find a list of names which they been left in Montreal and each of them worked under Roadmaster Milloy and Italian Interpreter George Di Patrick. He hired green Italians and charged each of them from one dollar up to two.

'This is another proof which shows that every one is charging, and Di Patrick he made believe his roadmaster and your company that he only hired the same gang of last summer.

'Your servant, A. Cordasco.'

Q. Then on May 21, 1904, you wrote this letter to Mr. Burns; look at the letter.—A. I do Your Honour.

Q. You wrote this letter?—A. Yes.

Q. (Reading).

'Dear Sir:—

'What I can approach and think from Fred Tannents that most of the 27 Italians which they brought a law suit against Canadian Pacific Railway, are working

the new shop track yard and Peter Lepere, chief leader of Alberto Dini he can be blamed as he tells everyone around that work that none of my men will be taken and given work even the old English foreman, Mr. McCarthy, is against and if Pietro Lepere could be dismissed from such work of the new shop then Dini would have no more chance and any of the Italian goes with a piece of paper signed by A. Dini work ready for him.

'I would be glad to go over there with you and I would be able to point and show good many new things.

'Your servant,

'A. CORDASCO.'

Q. You wished the foreman dismissed because he was employing men through Dini?—A. No, it was because—

Q. That is what you wrote?—A. Yes.

Q. Why want him dismissed?—A. Because he writes my men.

Q. Peter Lepere?—A. Yes.

Q. Where is he working?—A. For the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Q. And he took men through Dini?—A. That is the report I got.

Q. And you asked Mr. Burns to have him dismissed?—A. I did.

Q. So as to prevent him engaging men?—A. I had men myself waiting on the Canadian Pacific Railway, why take other men.

Q. There is another letter you wrote to Mr. Burns on the 21st May, 1904, you said:—

'Dear Sir:—

'For your information, Mr. Paul Christopher, Italian foreman, left last night for Megantic to work on the Canadian Pacific Railway track line.

'He hired 25 Italians and brought them with him and none of them signed any contract and as far as I can find out this morning by a relation of Mr. Christopher that pass was sent to him directly from Farnham sure.

'Your servant,

'A. CORDASCO.'

'P.S.—Funny thing to hear and stranger that Mr. Williams, superintendent, said that no labour was needed on his division.'

Q. Mr. Williams' division?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You objected to these men being employed unless they came through your office?—A. No, for nothing at all.

Q. How many paid \$25?—A. I cannot say.

Q. About 100?—A. If you say 10,000 or 15,000 of these men that came from the other side.

Q. I only want to know how many paid \$25?—A. I cannot say.

Q. \$50?—A. No.

Q. \$25?—A. Maybe.

Q. You wrote this letter dated 10th May, 1904, to Mr. Burns:—

'Dear Sir:—

'Re Information.

'Arrived by way of Chiasso over 300 Italians and nearly 200 by New York. Sure will be a disgraceful for these poor emigrants with the old ones which they put up here all winter and Italian Consul with his Society are to be blamed and they should be crushed to peace.

'Your servant,

'A. CORDASCO.'

A. Yes, sir.

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Q. You also wrote Mr. Burns this long letter on the 21st March, 1904? (Letter produced.) —A. Yes, sir.

Q. It reads as follows:—

'MONTREAL, 21st March, 1904.

'G. E. BURNS, Esq.,  
'Special Agent,

'Room 15, Windsor St. Station, C. P. R.

'Dear Sir:—

'As the opening of work is very near to supply labourers on the railway constructions and track work then I take the liberty as to inform you the way I furnish Italian labourers and charging of fees to each of labourers and each Italian interpreter or foreman.

'1. I do charge Italian labourers some times \$3 some times \$2 some times \$1 some times nothing same thing for Italian interpreters according reason I charge each of them from nothing up to \$15 according to ability of them if are able to pay.

'2. Each of them must satisfy me if he can take such charge and if he is competent to understand track work building grade and so on.

'3. No interpreter or labourer shall be employed by me for matter of fees only but must satisfy me if they are able to carry their agreement.

'4. I can make thousand of dollars according number of men I do employ and foreman or interpreter too. If your company C. P. R. takes from 3 thousand to 5 thousand labourers and foremen too then between ten thousand or more can be made this amount will be my expense with clerks filling contract book helping to check their baggage for the destination point to help me put men aboard train helping to meet them at arrival of different train to load provisions to take them along to such point and lots other expenses which I allway pay out to people while working under my instruction and every shipment I make must never mist on my part everything must go same as a clock.

'5. As you well informed and you have witnesses the way I do handle my labourers then I let you and authorise you to deal with your chiefs to decide and make me my honest and hard work value.

'I agree to supply your Honorable Company from one man up to good many thousands Italian labourers according orders and have each of these Italian labourers and each of the interpreters to well understood and to explain each of them the contract which they may sign in their own way in Italian so as to avoid trouble unless some one may put in claim for no reason or he may be unting up from some sun fish which they have no business in their hent and working for trouble only.

'6. I have few thousands ready to go at any moment notice and your company will be supplied before anybody else first.

'Wishing to have my letter under your consideration and to be dealt accordingly.

'Your servant,'

'P.S.—If my letter will be considered I agree to put a sign on the window of my office saying no fees will be charged to the labourers going to work for the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.'

A. Yes.

Mr. JOHN LESLIE, being sworn.

By the Commissioner:

Q. Are you Auditor of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company?—A. Auditor of disbursements.

Q. As such what are your duties with reference to accounts that have been paid by the C.P.R.?—A. They all come under my supervision.



SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

Q. Before they are paid?—A. Yes.

Q. You certify them?—A. I audit them.

Q. What do you mean by auditing them?—A. Well, I see that they are approved by the proper officers of the company, and the extensions and additions, &c., are checked in my office.

Q. Now, for instance, for March, 1904, in Mr. Burns' department, that is just one out of a number of similar ones which have been produced by Mr. Burns, has that been paid?—A. Yes, it is receipted.

Q. Before payment what is done to see if it is correct?—A. Do you mean in my office?

Q. Yes?—A. These bills are totalled, are footed and extensions approved and signatures of the officers examined.

Q. That is all?—A. Yes.

Q. You do not go into the accounts yourself?—A. No, that would be utterly impossible; we have about 13,000 accounts a month.

Q. Oh yes, I understand that, but on whom would you rely for the correctness of these accounts?—A. I would rely on Mr. Burns.

Q. For all these accounts?—A. Yes.

Q. You do not go behind him?—A. No.

Q. What is Mr. Burns' salary?—A. His salary is at present \$200 per month.

Q. When was that commenced?—A. I think from the 1st of January.

Q. What was it before that?—A. \$175.

Q. Have you the papers?—A. Yes. (Hands them to the Commissioner, who says: You might just leave these with me, I will return them to you).

Adjourned to 2.30 p.m.

MONTREAL, September 26, 1904.

COURT HOUSE, 2.30 P.M.

The Commission resumes.

Mr. CORDASCO re-examined.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. You know Domenico Zappia?—A. I do not remember having seen him.

Q. Do you remember having received that letter from him dated January 27, 1904?

—A. I may have seen it at the time I was laid up.

Q. Where is that from?—A. Staiti.

Q. Where is that, not in Italy?—A. No, I don't know.

Q. Look and see whether he tells you or not. Don't you think that is in Italy?

A. I don't think so.

Q. Ganna gave you that information, I suppose?—A. He may have.

Q. Ask him if he can tell you?—A. I do not know whether it is from the States, is it Ganna?

Mr. GANNA.—It is from Italy.

The WITNESS.—It must have been a strange name to me.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. You can read that, I suppose?—A. If you give me the letter. (Reads):—

4-5 EDWARD VII., A.

'Mr. ANTONIO CORDASCO,

'STAITI, January 27, 1904.

'Railway Agent, Montreal Canada.

'Although I do not deserve to have the honour to be acquainted with your respectable person, I take the liberty of writing directly to you asking you a favour.

'As there are here about seventy men who wish to emigrate to that country I wish you would be kind enough to receive my countrymen passengers on their landing in that part, and tell me which will be the best spot where they can be visited.

'In obliging me with a favour answer, please tell me when the works under your control will be started. I was pushed to write this letter by the noble and good reputation your name enjoys in this country. Please let me know which will be the best landing port on account of the visit.

'If I shall be able to reciprocate such an obligation I offer you my services if you will please yourself and command me.

'Please accept my unlimited gratitude, &c.

'Yours,

'DOMENICO ZAPPALÀ.

'P.S.—I wish to know how much costs there, via New York or Boston.

'I beg you to answer me at once, otherwise I cannot make the men start. Please also let me know something about the age of the men, and if men over 60 years of age will be accepted; if they will be received by you and how they have to answer to your inquiries.'

Q. Do you remember receiving that?—A. I do not remember.

Q. What was your answer?—A. I do not know, I cannot say.

Q. See if it is in your letter book?—A. I have it here, March 2.

Q. You wrote him on March 2. Look at that letter and see where is Staiti. I was in Calabria, is it not?—A. I cannot say.

Q. Look at your letter, what is the man's address?—A. In Calabria.

Q. You issued a number of tickets for Calabria?—A. I cannot say.

Q. You issued a number of tickets to come from Calabria to Montreal?—A. I cannot say.

Q. Look at your letter book and see?—A. What are the tickets, Ganna? I was laid up on March 2; I was not very well.

Q. You were always pretty well able to talk. Now, read that letter of March 2. (Reads):—

'Mr. DOMENICO ZAPPALÀ,

'MONTREAL, March 2, 1904.

'Staiti, Prov. Reggio, Calabria.

'Your favour is before me, and in short I will let you know anything you require. You may send to me as many men as you like and I shall be able to find work for them at \$1.50 per day, board by themselves and the railway fare up and down free.

'Every man before he goes to work receives a contract that guarantees his pay, &c.

'You can make your men leave from March 20 or 25 via New York.

'If you will tell me exactly the day on which the men will leave Naples, with which company and steamer, I will send my agent to meet them in New York. He will put them on board the cars and send them to Montreal without any trouble and without falling into the hands of speculators. If they will land in Boston I will send my Boston agent to meet them.

'I am sending you a parcel of my business cards, which you will give to your men to be recognized at their landing in New York or Boston.

'Re the age of the immigrants, you must follow the Italian emigration laws that do not allow passports to people over 45 years old.

'Awaiting to hear from you,

'Yours truly,

'ANTONIO CORDASCO,

'Per A. GANNA.'

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—A. I never knew anything about it, never spoke to anybody about it, never saw such letter.

Q. There is no 10,000 in that?—A. No matter, Your Honour, I never received such a letter.

Q. I received that letter from you?—A. Yes, I suppose.

Q. At your office?—A. You took all my papers.

Q. I got this letter out of your own hands. I asked you for letters received from Italy and you handed this to me. Do you not remember handing this letter to me? A. I do not remember.

Q. You stated a moment ago that you did not see it. I asked you for it and you handed it to me because I saw a letter to him from you in your letter book?—A. But I do not know this letter.

Q. How dare you deny. Be careful now in your answer, do not attempt to deny?—A. I do, Your Honour, I do not remember having given you the letter.

Q. Now, do you know a man Tommaso Monteverse, Civitanova, Marche?—A. Never knew the man, never heard of place.

Q. What part of Italy is that in? Where is Marche?—A. I don't know.

Q. Well, ask Ganna; he knows?

WITNESS to GANNA.—What province is this in?—Mr. GANNA.—Province of Rome.

*By the Commissioner :*

Q. This letter reads :—

‘MONTREAL, March 3, 1904.

‘Mr. TOMMASO MONTEVERSE,

‘Civitanova, Marche

‘I have before me your favour of February 3, and I have recommended you to a good company, the Transatlantica de Barcelona.’

Q. That is the company you sold a number of tickets for?—A. Yes, one of them.

‘If, as you write, there are many men who wish to come here you may address them to me, and for that purpose, in a separate registered parcel I send you some envelopes and business cards, and you may give one of these cards to each of your passengers, so when they land in New York they will show it and they will be addressed to me.

‘In this season the works are enormous and every man will go to work with an agreement in Italian in which are explained the wages, how long the work will last, &c.

‘Every working man earns \$1.50 and more per day. He is at liberty to board himself and transportation free up and back. I am here to protect, defend and help the workingman.

‘Now, you know how matters stand, and in the event of your going to send me some passengers, send me a list of their names and the name of the steamer so that my agent in New York may go and meet them.

‘Yours truly,

‘ANTONIO CORDASCO.

‘Per A. GANNA.’

Q. Do you remember that letter?—A. I do not.

Q. That was taken out of your letter book?—A. I did not see that. Since your visit I never saw the letter book at all.

Q. Do you remember the last letter you received from Paretti?—A. I think I only showed you one.

Q. You were not sick then?—A. I do not remember.

Q. On May 8?—A. I do not think I was sick then.

Q. This letter you handed to me?—A. I told Antonio Ganna to stop all correspondence at that time.

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Q. It reads :—

'UDINE, (ITALIA), May 8, 1904.

'Mr. ANTONIO CORDASCO, Montreal.

'In prompt reply to your favour of April 26, which has called my attention and surprise to the facts you have mentioned and which is in full contradiction with the other of the 6th of the same month, in which you complained that I did not send passengers addressed to you with your business card. Now, I must tell you that it is not my system, after 22 years' experience in emigration, to advise or not the passengers who are at liberty to do what they like. This is my principle.

'All our emigrants addressed to Canada were booked for beyond Montreal, and we are sure of that, for our companies do not give railway tickets beyond your residence.

'I gave the address to nobody, only to those who read your newspapers, full of promises. I answered giving good references of your firm.

'You must have great experience, and you must know that everybody can come and what he likes, coming to you without a written line.

'Be sure that we are very careful, and we hope you will be too, and we quite understand when something happens that cannot be helped. This year everything has been against us, but we hope better days will come.

'Yours truly,

'PARETTI.'

—A. I never authorized anything with reference to this letter. I never authorized Antonio Ganna or any other man.

Q. Do you know Joseph Guertin?—A. I do, Your Honour.

Q. A great friend of yours?—A. A good friend of mine.

Q. And you reported to Mr. Burns about him?—A. Probably I did, Your Honour.

Q. Reported in favour of his discharge?—A. Well,—

Q. Did you?—A. Probably I did.

Q. Because he had been receiving 50c. or so from the men?—A. 50c. He got \$3. probably more than \$3.

Q. You say 50c. in your letter. You got him discharged from the service of the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. He told me 50c.

Q. On the 28th February last you wrote him and stated if he wished to go to Europe you could get him a pass?—A. Yes.

Q. On the 30th May you wrote to Mr. Burns charging him with having collected fees and suggesting his discharge?—A. I just informed him of the fees, as I had a report from Winnipeg from some Italians.

Q. From Franco Cordasco?—A. Franco was one of the witnesses, one of the causes of Guertin's trouble.

Q. Your trouble?—A. Not mine.

Q. Whose?—A. Joe Guertin's.

Q. Now I asked you before can you give me the names and times of applications for those who were first sent you, whether they were subsequent to those who first applied, can you give me names. Do you know Giacci?—A. Yes.

Q. When was he registered?—A. I think in March.

Q. He signed a note to you?—A. I think it is past due.

Q. It is not due. DelVecchio, do you remember him?—A. He has gone.

Q. Had he ever been foreman before this morning?—A. He told me he was for two years.

Q. He was, in Boston?—A. No, on the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Q. He was on the Canadian Pacific Railway two years as foreman?—A. As workman.

Q. You sent him as foreman?—A. Yes.

Q. Then he had never been foreman on the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. Not on the Canadian Pacific Railway; is he a Boston man?

## SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

Q. Yes. It was not because he did not send his name?—A. When did he send his name?

Q. Giacci sent his name some time in March, this man is registered some time in November?—A. What date?

Q. November, some time in November. There is Giacci on 4th February. How is this?—A. Giacci told me that he had nothing to do any more, neither his brother nor himself.

Q. Will you look at page 24 and see about DelVecchio. What date is he registered?—A. February 9th.

Q. You knew he registered his name in November?—A. I entered his name on the 9th February myself.

Q. Are these all men who paid \$3 marked \$2 and \$1?—A. Yes, some paid \$2.

Q. They have not gone?—A. They have all gone; I think there is not one here.

Q. Any of those marked only \$2 gone?—A. I think so.

Q. Well, make sure you have DelVecchio last. How many did he take away?—A. About 45 or 50.

Q. There is Mighnelli, when was he registered?—A. 16th December.

Q. He has not gone yet?—A. No.

Q. How many subsequent to his registration have gone?—A. 11 or 12.

Q. Subsequent to his?—A. Only two in this.

Q. Why did you not send him, because you could not, you had loaned this man money?—A. No matter.

Q. As a matter of fact you had; Boconcelli was one, he owes you \$330. Who is the other one?—A. Mello.

Q. Nearly \$400. So that they were sent out instead of the earlier men.

Q. This is the little constitution of Immigration Aid Society No. 1, which you wished to have read publicly as requested in your letter of the 11th July, 1904. Here is article 2:—

'Art. 2. The first object of the society is to assist and encourage Italian emigrants to come to Canada, the assistance to be given more especially as set forth in the following articles of this section.'

Then article 18:—

'Art. 18. Will provide a place of temporary shelter for such Italian emigrants who upon their arrival from Italy might be without friends or relatives, in Canada, to assist them as much as possible; or will advise them where they may find both board and lodging and such other aid, advice and attention as they may stand in immediate need of.'

Now article 51 says:—

'Art. 51. Count Francesco Mazza, Consul General of His Majesty the King of Italy for the Dominion of Canada, will be the Honourary President of the Society, for the time he will remain in Canada, to be succeeded by his successor in office.'

Q. That is what you wished me to read, that is all you asked here? (Showing witness letter.)—A. Yes, Your Honour.

Q. Have you paid Mr. Burns any money in connection with your employment?—A. Not one dollar.

Q. Not one dollar?—A. No, sir.

Q. Have you paid any moneys to any person else?—A. As far as I am aware, there are a few dollars given when Mr. Guertin was here.

Q. Given to whom?—A. Mr. Guertin. At times \$5; once \$27. He took it all right.

Q. Did you make a present to any lady in Montreal on account of business relations?—A. I do not remember.

Q. Will you swear that you have not?—A. I do not remember, I can swear that I do not remember. If you have anything to show, all right.

Q. Now, try and recollect about it?—A. I cannot remember.

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Q. Is that as far as you will go?—A. That is as far.

Q. If it is stated on oath that you have paid a lady in consequence of your relations with her husband in connection with the Italian immigration, will you deny it?—A. I never paid any money.

Q. To any lady?—A. Not that I remember.

Q. That is as far as you will go?—A. I do not remember having paid any money.

Q. Have you paid any money to a lady whose husband is an employee of the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. I do not remember if I never lent 50c.

Q. Fifty cents, we are not talking about 50c.?—A. I never remember giving money to anybody.

Q. Not a larger sum than 50c.?—A. One or two dollars to Italians, poor men.

Q. Employees of the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. No, sir.

Q. That is as far as you will go?—A. That is all I can tell.

Q. That is all I wish to ask you at present.

Mr. NICOLA MOSCO, being sworn. (Through interpreter.)

*By the Commissioner :*

Q. What is your occupation?—A. I am working for Mr. Cordasco.

Q. When did you commence to work for Cordasco?—A. From last year until the present time.

Q. By the month?—A. I am working now by the week.

Q. When did you commence by the week?—A. About two months ago.

Q. That would be the first of June to the first of May?—A. I forget, I think it is two months.

Q. Now, then, were you working for him before that?—A. Yes, was sent to Boston and New York.

Q. While you were in Montreal what were you doing for Cordasco?—A. Helping in any way, going to the station, helping every day, sometimes 15 days without work.

Q. Do you keep a boarding house besides working?—A. Yes.

Q. How many boarders have you?—A. Sometimes 30, 40, 60. That is what I make the most money out of, boarding; he charges \$2.50 a week.

Q. What were you doing last November?—A. Working for Mr. Cordasco, sent me to station.

Q. What was the rate of wages?—A. I think, \$1.50 per day.

Q. You think that?—A. Yes, \$1.50.

Q. Did you get paid \$1.50?—A. When I worked he paid me.

Q. How often did you work in November? Did you work every day in that month?—A. I do not remember.

Q. Do you remember how much money you got in November?—A. Sometimes I got \$5, sometimes \$10. I forget now exactly what he gave me.

Q. Did Mr. Cordasco tell you last night that you must come here and swear that you got \$45 in November?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did not Cordasco tell you that?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did you have a conversation with Cordasco this morning?—A. No, sir, I have not seen him at all.

Q. And how much money did you get for that receipt?—A. I gave the receipt for what I got.

Q. How many months did that receipt cover, \$45?—A. Yes, I gave my receipt, I think for one month.

Mr. BURNS re-called.

Q. You told me the other day that Mr. Cordasco got paid \$5 for every whole day and a certain proportion for a lesser number of hours?—A. Yes, sir.

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Q. Will you look at that account for May, 1903, and tell me exactly how many days he got paid for?—A. He got paid for the full month.

Q. Was he employed every day, full days, during that month. Look at the account :

1. Shipping 31 men, 2 bosses and foremen, hiring Italians for roadmaster at Toronto.

3. Filling up contract books and reports.

4. " " "

A. I may say that takes a long time.

Q. By whom?—A. I suppose it is done in his office.

Q. By whom, by Cordasco?—A. By some of his staff.

Q. What are contract books?—A. They are duplicates of that plan of contract I referred to you.

Q. When are they filled up, before or after?—A. After.

6. Getting Italian labour.

7. Filling up contract books.

8. " " "

9. " " "

10. " " "

11. Report *re* Italians.

12. Hunting up Italians for the west.

13. I do not know what that is for.

Q. You do not know?—A. I have forgotten.

14. Hunting Italians for west.

15. Getting Italians.

16. Hunting Italians.

17. Shipping 32 to Schreiber.

18. Brought in report *re* Italians

A. That was a special investigation.

19. Getting Italian labour ready for west.

20. " " "

21. " " "

22. " " "

24. " " "

25. " " "

27. Hunting for Vancouver shops.

28. Hunting for eight Italians work in Vancouver.

29. Hunting up two men, both having cases against C. P. R., by order of Mr.

Lancey.

30. Hunting up two men, for Mr. Laney.

31. Inquiring again for somebody to leave for Toronto to work upon a new building there.

A. I may state, Your Honour, that last year the work started a great deal earlier than this year and we were shipping larger numbers, and by this time last year we had started out over 2,000.

Q. And how many have you up to the present time?—A. About 700.

Q. His time was pretty well occupied Saturday and Sunday?—A. Yes.

Q. Does the account put in show the correct number of days he worked?—A. I presume so.

Q. And it was not until Mr. Skinner reduced the three months in 1903 that there was any difficulty about it?—A. There was an accurate check kept on Cordasco since Mr. Skinner has been put in the office; that is the reason he was put in.

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Q. Mr. Skinner knocked \$26 off his account for December, 1903?—A. Yes, I remember that.

Q. You thought that it was too late that he ought to be careful?—A. I thought Mr. Skinner made a mistake in not making a bargain before that.

Q. With Cordasco?—A. Yes.

Q. You wrote to Mr. Timmerman on the 18th May, I think you told me about that?—A. Yes, Your Honour.

Q. To discharge a man named Fonnero in your employ?—A. I asked to have him discharged a year ago last April.

Q. And you discharged him on April 15?—A. I asked to have him discharged.

Q. And on November 18, 1903, Mr. Guertin wrote you from Winnipeg :—

'As per my wire of yesterday, I have dispensed with the services of Albert Fonnero. Fonnero arrived here from the west on the 17th of last month, and as there were a great many Italians returning and we were having trouble daily around the station here, I thought it advisable to keep him here for a short time at least, and when not occupied with the Italians his time could be put in as watchman.

'He has done some excellent work here, and especially in that case at Portage la Prairie, and his assistance in Winnipeg has saved the company several hundreds of dollars. However, as per your request I have let him go.'

Q. What position did he occupy?—A. He was acting as agent for Mr. Guertin, my inspector at Winnipeg.

Q. The same as acting foreman?—A. Yes.

Q. And he was charging the men?—A. I had no direct evidence of that.

Q. You had Mr. Cordasco's evidence, and he reported?—A. That was not the reason he was discharged; there were other reasons besides that.

Q. Was not that the reason Mr. Guertin was dismissed, matters relating to this Italian business?—A. Mr. Guertin was discharged for other matters outside of that altogether.

Q. You wrote to Mr. Guertin on November 24, 1903. He and Cordasco had some unfortunate correspondence between them.

Q. About this Mr. Fonnero?—A. Yes, Your Honour.

Q. You wrote in that letter :—

'So far as the men coming from the States is concerned, Cordasco gets nothing out of them whatever, and he is paid by me here for handling them.'

—A. I wrote that.

'The foremen who went out from here (Montreal) certainly did pay Cordasco a fee, which, I believe, in most instances is ten dollars, although he has received from a few fifteen dollars.'

Q. That is on November 24 last?—A. Yes.

Q. You have here stated that he does receive fees in the States?—A. If I have stated so I guess it was correct.

Q. His book will show you that?—A. I have never seen his book.

Q. Did the men report to you that any had paid?—A. From the United States?

Q. From the United States?—A. No.

Q. None of them?—A. No, sir.

Q. Do you remember Francesco Di Franco?—A. I do not remember the correspondence with him.

Q. He applied for the purpose of supplying you with labour?—A. This was last April; I think he applied to the general manager.

Q. You remember he stated that he had paid money to Cordasco while he was in the United States?—A. No, Your Honour, I have no recollection of his making that statement. It is possible he may have in the correspondence. I do not recollect.

Q. You do not recollect that?—A. No, Your Honour.

Q. Are your bank accounts in these books, Mr. Burns?—A. In that one.



SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

Q. Have you any other bank account but that?—A. None whatever. None for five years.

Q. These are your wife's?—A. Yes.

Q. Both of them?—A. Yes.

Q. I think you mentioned where she got money from?—A. As soon as she wants any money.

Q. All these moneys are paid by you?—A. Yes.

Q. Every cent?—A. Yes.

Q. Out of your own bank account?—A. I have no bank account.

Q. Had you a bank account?—A. No.

Q. None at all?—A. No, sir. Never had one for five years.

Q. Have you any account of expenses, cash expenses?—A. Well, I have a general account entered every day to know how I stand with the company and with myself.

Q. Will you let me see that one as well as your cash account, it is not for publication at all?—A. What account?

Q. Where you enter your receipts?—A. I have no such account; all I have is a statement of the moneys advanced to me by the company, and as far as other accounts are concerned, I keep no track at all.

Q. You say all moneys in this account are Mrs. Burns'?—A. Yes.

Q. And paid by you to her?—A. Yes, Your Honour.

Q. That is all I wish to ask you.—A. May I make a statement in regard to the evidence of Mr. Candori yesterday, Your Honour, or would it be more convenient later on.

Q. I do not know, I have not got through with Mr. Cordasco yet.—A. It is simply in regard to the statement that he made in relation to notifying me that Cordasco was overcharging.

Q. I have no objection to your making that statement now.—A. I admit that on several occasions Mr. Candori has come to my office and in my remembrance on one occasion claimed that there had been an overcharge by Cordasco, and I also admit that, as he stated, he told me that Cordasco was charging \$1 for these tickets that were supposed to be given free by him for the return of Italians to the States, but I do state that in every case I made a thorough investigation, and that after the investigation was over I was not positive that the statements were correct and, in fact, I could have stated that every complaint ever lodged with me personally or with the people in my office in regard to the ill-treatment of Italians either by Mr. Candori or anybody else has always been looked into as thoroughly as possible, but Your Honour must know that in investigating these Italian cases there is great difficulty in getting at the truth.

Q. I have found that myself.—A. And I think if you will examine Mr. Skinner on that point you will find he will corroborate everything I say in that regard, that we took every precaution to ascertain whether these men had been overcharged. On one occasion I went straight to Cordasco and got a statement from him denying the charge and after warning him, as I always did, the matter dropped. Then as to Mr. Candori's statement that I said I did not care a damn what Cordasco charged as long as I did my duty to the Canadian Pacific Railway, I think Mr. Candori must have made a mistake; I think he must have said fees, regular fees under the old arrangement when I said I did not care what he charged. I wish also to make a few remarks in regard to the insinuations that have been made in regard to my being mixed up with these moneys.

Q. You stated that you heard that a year ago?—A. Well, I wish to offer some evidence which I think ought to convince any sane person conclusively that I had nothing whatever to do with this money.

Q. I have no objection to hear any evidence you wish, not the slightest objection?—A. When Mr. Mackenzie King, Deputy Minister of Labour, first came here to investigate the matter, he first came to my office, and I think it was Mr. Skinner who received him first, after which he went into Mr. Cordasco's office the following day. Cordasco asked me if this man had a right to come in there, and I replied saying that I did not

know whether he had a right or not, but he was the Deputy Minister of Labour, and if he had no right he could get the right, at any rate. You have nothing to conceal; it is an ordinary licensed labour office, and you had better give him every assistance in your power to help him out. So, acting on that advice, I think, Mr. Cordasco allowed Mr. King in his office, and Mr. King secured a good deal of the material on which Your Honour is conducting this inquiry.

Q. Do you think he got half of what was in that office?—A. Well, I do not know what he got, but at any rate he got something.

Q. Did you know that Cordasco would afterwards deny some of these documents?—A. I did not.

Q. He got Ganna to make a declaration that Mr. King had everything, got everything and Cordasco had nothing?—A. That is not exactly the point.

Q. That is what was there?—A. He would not have got anything unless Cordasco gave it to him. Well then in the next place you yourself came down here and if I had been interested and known that this state of affairs was going to be divulged and if I had access to Cordasco's books and been personally interested in the matter it is quite certain that Your Honour would not have these incriminating documents here to-day.

Q. Are they incriminating to you?—A. No.

Q. Then why refer to them?—A. I refer to them, if I was mixed up in this matter.

Q. It is for you to judge, but you are no longer giving evidence, you are only arguing to prove your own innocence. It is for me to judge from the facts of the case whether you are guilty or not?—A. I asked to make a statement.

Q. I have to get evidence?—A. I wish to get in evidence that if I had not given every assistance in my power to help this investigation along and as far as I am personally concerned there is nothing to conceal.

Q. Did you state you had a cash account?—A. No.

Q. You say you did not keep any books?—A. I keep a record of what I do. Moneys received and moneys paid out.

Q. I would like to see that. Will you please come up to my room this evening.

By Mr. INTERNOSCIA.—Mr. Candori wishes to say something and would like to go into the box.

The COMMISSIONER.—He can go into the box and give any evidence he wishes.

Mr. CANDORI.—‘I only want to say in answer to what Mr. Burns has just stated that he never said what I said in my last evidence. I may say that his statement was made to me one day when I applied to Mr. Burns’ office, and we went down to see Mr. Cordasco. It was raining and Mr. Cordasco was not in his office and we were standing on the corner of Little St. Antoine and St. James streets, and he said to me exactly this: “I don’t care a damn bit what Cordasco charges provided the business goes on thoroughly well.” This is what Mr. Burns said to me at the corner of Little St. Antoine and St. James streets, and if I don’t make a mistake it was on a Sunday that I made the complaint that Cordasco was charging \$1 to men for free passes.

Mr. TOMASO DI VENDETTI.

Mr. MOWAT.—This witness came to me offering some evidence as to certain doings in connection with the employees of the Dominion Coal Company in which Frank Cordasco was foreman. I do not know what connection Frank Cordasco in that matter has with this investigation, but it will show how Italians were treated.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. Is Frank Cordasco an agent of his brother Antonio?—A. Yes.

Q. If he is an agent, then that will answer the purpose.

## SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

*By Mr. Mowat to witness :*

Q. Were you employed in the coal company?—A. Yes.

Q. At the same time as Cordasco?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know that each pay day a certain amount was deducted out of your wages?—A. Yes.

Q. How much was taken?—A. If you were making over \$10 you had to pay \$1 per week to Frank Cordasco or some other agent.

Q. Where was this?—A. Down here on the wharf.

Q. You saw that, at what period?—A. Last year during the summer from May to November last.

Q. How many men?—A. About 60 or 70.

Q. You were foreman there?—A. Not in his gang. I had nothing to do with that.

Adjourned until 10 a.m., July 26, 1904.

MONTREAL, July 26, 1904,  
COURT HOUSE, 10 a.m.

The Commission resumes :

Mr. BURNS, re-called.

*By the Commissioner :*

Q. You handed me your bank books, Mr. Burns?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. You have not kept a personal bank account for some years until July of this year?—A. No, Your Honour.

Q. The only bank accounts were those of your wife?—A. Yes, Your Honour.

Q. And moneys paid by her are those paid her by you?—A. They were.

Q. Any other sums?—A. Not that I am aware of.

Q. Are you aware whether she has received other sums than those paid by you?—  
A. Not to my knowledge.

Q. You would know if she had?—A. Yes.

Q. Would you remember when she commenced to keep a bank account?—A. In the spring of 1903.

Q. I see from her bank account that the first deposit was made on April 18 of \$100?—A. I knew it was early in 1903 when the account was kept.

Q. That sum you paid her?—A. Yes.

Q. You received at that time \$175 per month?—A. I did, Your Honour.

Q. This sum was received by you in cash from the Canadian Pacific Railway?—

A. Yes.

Q. Then you did not deposit any cheque?—A. No.

Q. Then I find on May 8 she deposited \$140, and on May 27 \$100?—A. Yes.

Q. Where would these two sums come from; these two sums form a larger sum than your salary?—A. I did not draw my salary.

Q. You did not overdraw?—A. Well, sometimes.

Q. These two sums would amount to more than your salary?—A. It is possible, I cannot explain that, Your Honour. It is possible I may have had some funds on hand.

Q. Then on June 2 she deposited \$200?—A. June 2?

Q. 1903. That is a larger sum than your salary, too?—A. I have no recollection of that. It is possible I may have had some funds on hand from the previous month.

Q. Do you know why you made that payment?—A. I cannot tell at the present time.

Q. On July 10 \$100 deposited?—A. Yes, Your Honour.

Q. In August she also deposited \$100?—A. Yes, Your Honour.

Q. In September deposited \$160? In October \$70. I suppose you would be buying your coal about that time?—A. I do not know, I cannot remember these amounts.

Q. But these are amounts in the bank account?—A. I know when my wife wanted money she told me and I got the money. If she wanted \$10 or \$100 I tried to get it.

Q. Had you no other resources than your salary?—A. No, only I always had certain amounts of money on hand for railway expenses.

Q. Belonging to the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. Yes.

Q. Would not likely use that?—A. I hardly think so; I might have at periods a few dollars.

Q. That is the only way you can account for it?—A. The only way.

Q. November \$120, December \$160, January, 1904, \$225. This is again larger than your salary?—A. What dates in January?

Q. 7th, \$25; 30th, \$200?—A. That of 30th was my January salary.

Q. In December you gave her \$160, and in January \$225, and in February only \$40?—A. It was that I was short in January.

Q. In March, 1904, you gave her \$120, \$31 and \$90, that is \$241 in March of this year; in April you gave her only \$60; in May you gave her \$130, in June you gave her \$210, in July \$50, and you deposited \$150, that is again more than your salary for July?—A. Well Your Honour, I cannot say how much I gave her every month; have you the total amount.

Q. I cannot add that because you did not give her all your money?—A. No.

Q. I should imagine so?—A. I never kept track of it.

Q. You always had money yourself, after giving her some?—A. Yes.

Q. These are sums I have read out of the bank book?—A. I did not examine the bank book before I came here except the total referred to.

Q. Because you did not give all your salary?—A. No.

Q. So besides these sums you had something more?—A. I always had money in my pocket.

Q. And in July you deposited \$150; gave her \$50 and also deposited \$150?—A. In July?

Q. This month?—A. I have forgotten, she asked me for money and got it.

Q. But I mean your own deposit?—A. That \$150 is apparently made up of balance of fund belonging to the company and apparently another amount.

Q. You got a cheque for \$200 then?—A. That formed no part of the \$200.

Q. Did it not?—A. No.

Q. Did you not deposit that \$200 in your own account?—A. No.

Q. I don't know, it is deposited in your bank account on 5th July \$150, 4th July Mrs. Burns \$50?—A. Would not that be some other transaction?

Q. No, no, the same transaction?—A. A part of that \$150 was part of my salary. I do not know, and part was what I had left over in advances I got for certain reasons.

Q. 11th July \$7 and 18th \$20?—A. The \$7 was a balance and I think the \$20 was a loan paid back.

Q. These are the transactions between you and your wife?—A. Yes.

Q. I have just gone over your bank account and you state these are the sums you have paid to Mrs. Burns. Have you purchased any real estate lately, Mr. Burns?—A. No, sir.

Q. That is all I want from you; these are your bank books.

Q. Then as to your statement with reference to the number of people employed; would you just read that out.

The witness reads:—

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

## STATEMENT OF MEN EMPLOYED.

## By nationalities:

English.....	1,897
French.....	268
Italian.....	3,144
Swedes.....	262
Norwegians.....	162
Danes.....	91
Fins.....	138
Galatians and Doukabours.....	1,941
Germans.....	69
Hungarians.....	16
Austrians.....	24
Russians.....	26
Swiss.....	1
Greeks.....	55
Poles.....	19
Japanese.....	460
Jews.....	1
Unclassified.....	2

8,576

Q. Up to this time last year, Mr. Burns, how many Italians had you employed through Cordasco?—A. Well, I cannot give you the exact numbers, but approximately I can tell. I think we started to ship them in 1903 on the 17th March and by May we possibly had 2,000 men.

Q. As against how many this year?—A. 711.

Q. What was the reason for the difference?—A. The principal reason is that the spring was very late. Contract labourmen on the Canadian Pacific Railway could not start away to work until late in the season in any year, but owing to the severity of the winter of 1903-4 contractors were not shipping until late in the season and our first shipment this year took place early in April, whereas the big shipments of 1903 to British Columbia started on the 17th March.

In the second place, there was a large number of immigrants, chiefly Galicians, found their way into the North-west during the spring of this year, and I believe that upwards of 2,000 were employed locally at Winnipeg and distributed over the line. Most of these immigrants, as I said, were Galicians. In the previous year there was no immigration to any extent, and the result was that this year a good many Italians were not hired in the spring.

Q. Do you know how other railroads were affected with reference to Italian labour, were they employing any or as many?—A. I do not know how many they employed. I think there was a number shipped from Montreal.

Q. From reports, I think there were just a few hundreds as compared with last year?—A. I think they shipped out large numbers last year, especially the Grand Trunk, who were double tracking.

Q. You might just leave that statement here?—A. All right, Your Honour.

Mr. GANNA, being re-called.

By the Commissioner :

Q. You heard the evidence of Mr. Cordasco yesterday with reference to the letters written to the States, Mr. Ganna?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you write the letters that I produced?—A. No, I think the typewriter wrote them. They were written by Geoffré and addressed by him. I gave only one copy.

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Q. Who instructed you as to the tenor of these letters, as to the words that you wrote to these parties?—A. Oh, well, the instruction was only given by Mr. Cordasco the first time for one letter, and I then knew the others, because the letters were just the same.

Q. There were different letters, there were some letters saying that he would not accept names of applicants unless they were accompanied by the money?—A. He said he would not accept their names unless accompanied by the money. We acknowledged receipt of money in others and told them they would go out at first shipments according to our registers.

Q. Who instructed you to answer these?—A. Instructed by Mr. Cordasco.

Q. In every case?—A. Only in one case, that was enough for these letters.

Q. Do you remember writing a letter to Tomasso Monteverse on March 3?—A.

Yes.

Q. Who instructed you to write that letter?—A. I have given instructions for that letter, but Cordasco was in the office that day. I am not sure that he did come down on March 3.

Q. Did you show him the letters as you wrote them?—A. I never showed the letters, but they are put in a basket between my desk and Mr. Cordasco's and sometimes he saw the correspondence, but I do not know if he saw that letter.

Q. Do you remember writing a letter to Domenico Zappia, Calabria?—A. Oh, yes.

Q. By whose instructions did you write that letter?—A. He did not give instructions; I signed that because I knew what must be the answer to this. He had formerly given me instructions and I referred to them.

Q. And in consequence of that, I understand that you wrote all these letters?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember this letter from Domenico Zappia?—A. Yes, Your Honour.

Q. Who received that letter do you remember?—A. I never received the correspondence; Mr. Cordasco opened the correspondence, read it, and gave it to me.

Q. Did he tell you to write an answer?—A. Yes, in some cases he said say this, give this answer, or give just the same answer as to the others.

Q. That is what was done?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember writing this letter to Zappia?—A. Oh yes, I wrote it.

Q. Is this the English of that?—A. I cannot tell.

Q. You look at the Italian and I will read the English:—

'MONTREAL, March 2, 1904.

'MR. DOMENICO ZAPPIA,

'Staiti, Prov. Reggio, Calabria.

'Your favour is before me and in short I will let you know anything you require. You may send to me as many men as you like and I shall be able to find work for them at \$1.50 per day, board by themselves, and the railway fare up and down free.

'Every man before he goes to work receives a contract that guarantees his pay, &c.

'You can make your men leave from the 20th or 25th March via New York.

'If you will tell me exactly the day on which the men will leave Naples, with which company and steamers, I will send my agent to meet them in New York. He will put them on board the cars and send them to Montreal without any trouble and without falling into the hands of speculators. If they will land in Boston I will send my Boston agent to meet them.

'I am sending to you a parcel of my business cards which you will give to your men to be recognized on landing in New York or Boston.

'Re the age of the immigrants, you must follow the Italian emigration laws that do not allow passports to people over 45 years old.

'Waiting to hear from you.

'Yours truly,

'ANTONIO CORDASCO,

'Per A. GANNA.'

## SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

Q. Did you send Cordasco's cards with the letter?—A. I think so; I never told him when I sent cards in the letters.

Q. How many business cards?—A. 12 each.

Q. Who is the agent who would meet them in New York?—A. Send an agent to meet any people he supposes are coming.

Q. Who is Mr. Cordasco's agent in New York?—A. I do not know.

Q. Aiello?—He is agent sometimes, he goes to meet people brought to New York, Aiello or some other people.

Q. He writes to the agent of some steamship company to meet them and send them over here?—A. Yes, there is a man named Polynesia.

Q. Where is he?—A. In New York. He is a regular agent for steamship, general agent.

Q. You wrote, 'I will send my agent to meet them in New York'?—A. Some agent, you will understand the general steamship agent.

Q. Is he Cordasco's agent too?—A. Yes.

Q. Has Mr. Cordasco a special agent?—A. Nothing but the steamship agent.

Q. So it was necessary to know the company before notifying your agent?—A. You can ask the general steamship agent to meet the passengers.

Q. And who brought the men from New York to Montreal?—A. No one.

Q. Do you know any one who came over from New York to Montreal, brought here?—A. By Mr. Cordasco, no.

Q. By whom?—A. They came alone.

Q. How many came from Calabria here?—A. I think in Montreal direct from Italy, there did not come more than three or four from that province.

Q. From Calabria?—A. Yes.

Q. That is as far as you will go?—A. Yes.

Q. How many came here from Chiasso?—A. That is another question, from Chiasso there came about 18 or 20, having business cards printed by Mr. Cordasco.

Q. Printed by Dini?—A. None.

Q. Who do you think they were sent by, Ludwig, for Cordasco?—A. Yes, he sent his paper to about 20 young men coming to Montreal. Mr. Cordasco wrote the men last October, I do not recollect the date.

Q. Do you remember who wrote?—A. Well, I wrote.

Q. How many came from his district through Paretti?—A. I know of 12.

Q. How many came?—A. In the office direct from Paretti, 12.

Q. You have got the names of 10 and they all say they came in consequence of Cordasco's cards and circulars. These men stated that they signed a declaration to that effect, do you know that?—A. Well, perhaps, I do not understand what you say.

Q. These men signed a declaration stating that they came to this country in consequence of circulars and cards from Mr. Cordasco?—A. Because they were receiving newspaper sent by Mr. Cordasco?

Q. Yes.—A. They may have said that. I remember they said they had read in some newspapers some advertisements of Mr. Cordasco.

Q. Here is what ten Italians signed, Mr. Ganna, in Montreal on April 22 last:—

'We, the undersigned, declare as follows: That at the moment of leaving for Canada, Mr. Antonio Paretti has read and shown us a letter signed by Antonio Cordasco, in which he asks for 8,000 or 10,000 labourers from the province of Venete, and in which he promises immediate work as soon as we go to destination. Besides this, we saw circulars and newspapers coming from Montreal, while the photograph of Cordasco circulated in our province encouraging the labourers to emigrate to Canada. Besides that, Paretti distributed the address of Cordasco as above.

(Signed by ten Italians.)

'Montreal, April 22, 1904.'

—A. I remember that very well, because they came to the office and afterwards went to the immigration office, and told them; I remember that very well.

4-5 EDWARD VII., A. 1905

Q. Will you look at your letter book, page 60, Mr. Ganna, November 4, 1903?—  
A. Yes, Your Honour.

Q. Can you read that?—A. I cannot read; it is very bad copy.

Q. How many Italians does he say there?—A. 6,500.

Q. Is that the letter of November 4, 1903?—A. Yes.

Q. Cannot you read that; what does it say, about 7,000?—A. I cannot read it.

Q. This is the letter :—

‘MONTREAL, November 4, 1903.

‘GEO. A. RINGLAND, Esq.,

‘General Passenger Agent,

‘Canadian Pacific Steamship Line, Atlantic Service,  
6 St. Sacrament St., Montreal.

‘DEAR SIR,—I hereby beg to apply for an agency for second-class steamship tickets for your line.

‘I represent nine different lines, as per the attached list, and I think I could do considerable business with your company. I do not refer to business to Italy, but I have had a number of inquiries for tickets to Liverpool and London, and I think I could sell a good many for you.

‘For references as to financial standing, please refer to the Dominion Bank, or if you require a bond, I am willing to put it up. I will also refer you to Mr. G. E. Burns, chief of the labour department, for whom I have been supplying men for a number of years.

‘I also supply men for the Grand Trunk and a large number of contractors and railway companies in Canada, and in the course of the year get in touch with probably 6,000 or 7,000 Italians.

‘Will you kindly let me know what you can do for me in the above and oblige,

‘Yours respectfully,

‘A. CORDASCO.’

—A. I did not write that letter.

Q. Whose signature is that to that letter in the letter book?—A. That is Mr. Cordasco's own signature.

Q. That is on November 4, 1903?—A. Yes. I have a letter here written on November 14, 1903.

Q. What steamship line does he write to there?—A. This is a French line; I wrote this letter from a copy he gave me.

Q. You wrote that letter for him?—A. Yes.

Q. He wrote it first and you copied it for him?—A. I think so, I have copied this for him.

Q. This is the letter :

‘MONTREAL, November 14, 1903.

‘Compagnie Générale Transatlantique,

‘General Agency for Canada,

‘1672 Notre Dame Street, Montreal.

‘GENTLEMEN,—I hereby beg to apply for the third-class rate steamship tickets for your line. I represent nine different lines as per the attached list, and I think I could do business with your company.

‘I have a number of inquiries for tickets and I think I could sell a good many for you.

‘For reference as to financial standing, please refer to Dominion Bank or Hochelaga Bank, or Toronto Bank. I will also refer to Mr. G. E. Burns, chief of labour department of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, for whom I have been supplying men for a number of years.



## SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

'I also supply men for the Grand Trunk and a large number of contractors and railway companies, &c., in Canada, and in the course of the year I get in touch with probably 6,000 or 7,000 Italians.

'Will you kindly let me know what you can do for me in the above and oblige,

'Yours respectfully,

'ANTONIO CORDASCO, p. A. GANNA.'

Q. Do you remember whether he got the agencies for these companies?—A. Yes, a few days after, I think about 10 or 15 days.

Q. So this was before he wrote to the people in Italy for 10,000 men?—A. I do not remember the date of that letter.

Q. These were in November, 1903, and your letters were early in 1904? It was in March, I think, the last of February or beginning of March.

Q. Have you that letter to Franco in June?—A. Franco?

Q. In June, 1904, last letter I read yesterday?—A. Vincenzo Franco, Boston, page 223, it was in Italian.

Q. I would like to get a translation. You can give me this cheque sending money back to the same correspondent? He has not sent it yet?—A. Yes, he told me.

Q. You better show it to me before sending?—A. Yes, Your Honour.

Q. I would like to get a copy of that letter. (Showing letter)?—A. This afternoon.

Q. How soon?—A. Two o'clock. What time do you want it?

Q. As soon as you can make it?—A. All right.

Q. That \$20 referred to in Franco's letter was received from him because he wanted a position as foreman?—A. Yes.

Q. How high does Mr. Cordasco go in his demands for money for getting positions as foremen?—A. Nothing, he wrote himself and sent \$20 instead of \$10, because he hoped to get work before some others.

Q. Because he wanted to get work before others?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you remember the largest sum that was paid Mr. Cordasco?—A. This \$20.

Q. In your time?—A. In my time, yes.

Q. Then you wrote a letter also to Tomasso Monteverse?—A. Yes.

Q. On the 3rd of March, 1904; look at letter book?—A. I think so.

Q. You produced this as a letter you wrote, this was written according to Cordasco's instructions?—A. Same as the others.

Q. Who is Nicola Maroni?—A. I do not remember now, because there is one Maroni in Montreal.

Q. Do you remember Nicola Maroni?—A. He had seven or eight steamship offices in Montreal.

Q. Is he here now?—A. Not at present, in January or February.

Q. Who were the men he brought out?—A. This I cannot tell.

Q. You do not know?—A. No, he came to the office.

Q. Was he a foreman?—A. I do not think so, he is not registered in Mr. Cordasco's book as foreman.

Q. How did he come to send over so many men?—A. I remember he came twice.

Q. Did he come in the same ship as Boconcelli?—A. Perhaps, one time I think he came with Boconcelli, I am not sure. Yes he came about the same time.

Q. Came on same day, on the 11th January?—A. In January, yes.

Q. Do you know how many tickets he purchased?—A. I cannot tell you exactly.

Q. Boconcelli and Maroni, there are seven marked there?—A. Yes.

Q. Do you know how much he charged these men going out?—A. I do not know what Maroni charged.

Q. Probably the same as Boconcelli, they were together?—A. Some people have told me that Boconcelli charged \$60, but I do not think this is true.

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Q. From the men who came out?—A. No, because I had no occasion to ask this of Boconcelli.

Q. Mr. Boconcelli told that to Mr. Cordasco, that was what you heard?—A. Yes, perhaps.

Q. How many men are now in Montreal, how many Italians unemployed?—A. I do not know, very few.

Q. How many have come to your office asking for employment within the last two or three weeks?—A. Only about 300 men.

Q. Still unemployed?—A. Yes.

Q. You were asked to pay their money back?—A. Some asked for their money, others for work.

Q. You think 300?—A. No more.

Q. How many are you sending out this morning?—A. They leave to-morrow morning.

Q. How many?—A. 118 and I think to-morrow night about 75 and day after to-morrow some more.

Q. Almost 200 in two days?—A. Yes.

Q. Where are you sending them?—A. West; I have not seen the contract, at Winnipeg.

Q. On the Canadian Pacific Railway?—A. Yes, on the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Q. I am glad you are doing it; this is an improvement. These notices that were printed, did you get them at Mr. Cordasco's request?—A. These, I have read these.

Q. And wrote them?—A. I do not know; I think Your Honour can get the manuscript and find it is not written by me.

Q. Where is the manuscript?—A. I think at the printers.

Q. Well, then from what I can see you did not write them, and Mr. Cordasco was wrong in saying you did?—A. Yes, I did not write it.

Q. There are some things you have not done. I think that is all, Mr. Ganna.

Mr. BURNS, re-called.

*By the Commissioner :*

Q. This is a receipt showing you have paid for advertising in *La Patria Italiana*; do you remember what the 400 copies of the paper were for?—A. I think I had them distributed all over; we were very badly in need of men at that time.

Q. You heard the evidence of Mr. Ganna about sending out 200 men within the next day or two?—A. Yes.

Q. By whom were they directed to be sent out?—A. Through my office, and the instructions were to send out all the men possible out of employment.

Q. And any who paid money to Cordasco illegally, as the evidence showed?—A. My instructions were that he was to refund it; I do not know whether he has done so or not yet.

Q. How much money do you think he ought to repay them?—A. I do not know.

Q. Do you think \$4 a head too much to compel Mr. Cordasco to refund?—A. I do not know. I have orders for more men; I can place possibly about 2,000.

Q. Without paying anything to Cordasco?—A. This is not for the Canadian Pacific Railway; it is for large irrigation works at Calgary. About 2,000 men are required, and inquiries are made by American lines, and men are wanted very badly.

Q. You will see that no money is paid to Cordasco for any of their employment?—A. Yes, I will do my best.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 366.

Mr. POMPEO BIANCO, re-examined. (Through interpreter.)

*By the Commissioner :*

Q. Now, what do you wish to say ?—A. Mr. Cordasco asked us for our photos for that supplement.

Q. At the time he was crowned king of the workers?—A. Yes.

Q. Before crowning him?—A. Yes.

Q. How much was Cordasco going to give them for their photos?—A. He charged \$5 to all the foremen.

Q. He charged them?—A. Yes.

Q. Did the men pay ?—A. Mr. Cordasco told us, do you see that picture with 'la tête en bas' (upside down), that man refused to pay, and if any one else refuses to pay I will have his picture put there upside down, so we paid.

Q. Rather than have your picture upside down ?—A. Yes.

Q. Was there any inducement other than that?—A. Afterwards he said now I feel better, I am all right, everything is going well.

Q. After he was crowned?—A. Yes. Well, now, he said, 'We are going to have a banquet,' and Cordasco said he was to subscribe \$25. He did not pay the money, but put down the name in the book.

Q. Well?—A. He said to the foremen, any one who refuses to pay will go out of my office. So we paid each \$5 for the banquet.

Q. Did he offer any inducement other than work ?—A. After that we met at Roncari's, 471 Craig street, and we had a banquet there. We had drink, everything was good fun. Cordasco said I have received much honour this evening, there were a good many there. I do not know their names, but Cordasco said that one of them was the chief superintendent of the Vancouver division, and he will want 5,000 or 6,000 Italians for the coming spring.

Q. That was at Vancouver?—A. At Vancouver only, for Vancouver 5,000 or 6,000. Mr. Cordasco paid \$70 to Mr. Roncari for the banquet and kept the balance for himself.

Q. For himself ?—A. For himself. He had collected \$200 from 40 foremen at \$5 each and only gave Roncari \$70.

Q. He only made \$130 out of that?—A. Certainly he put that money in his pocket.

Q. Well, he has only kept up his general record. Is that all you know?—A. Well, some of those present at the banquet paid \$7 and some \$10 and he said well when you come back we will take some beer. He bought ten barrels for the poor people when passing, but they refused to take any. Of course he got that from the proceeds of the banquet. And then he sent out foremen who had never worked as foremen, men who had come from the States and never saw a track before.

Q. Boconeelli?—A. He said he better go to Mr. Burns, he will send you out. Cordasco took money from the men last night and this morning.

Q. That is the kind of man he is. How much?—A. \$3 men who paid \$1 before charged \$2 more.

*The Commissioner to Mr. Ganna:*

Q. Will you go for the book showing where these payments are entered?—A. I will go for it now.

POMPEO BIANCO.—The foremen took money from the men, A. Giacci took \$2 from each person yesterday.

THE COMMISSIONER.—But these men must not pay money for work, Mr. Burns will employ as many as want to go out. Will you please tell them this, Mr. Viglino, in Italian.

Mr. Viglino informs the men accordingly.

Mr. SALVATORE MOLLO re-examined.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. What do you wish to state, Mr. Mollo?—A. There were some names mentioned in Cordasco's newspaper against Mr. Candori and at the end of articles written they used to sign my name and I never authorized anyone to sign my name.

Q. Well, this is a matter between you and Cordasco. You can have him arrested for forgery, we cannot inquire into that.

Mr. DOMINICO PAMPILLO being sworn.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. Well Mr. Pampillo, what do you wish to state?—A. When I came back last year from the country Cordasco asked me to give him \$1, and I paid him \$1, and afterwards \$2, making \$3.

Q. When did you pay the other \$2?—A. About 20 days ago.

Q. Did you ask him to return the money?—A. I asked him this morning and he refused.

Q. Well go now to him and say that if he does not have it paid by two o'clock you will let me know about it.

Mr. CHARLES HODGSON OSLER being sworn.

*By Mr. Mowat:*

Q. What is your position in the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company?—  
A. Superintendent of mains and services.

Q. And you therefore superintend the employment of labour?—A. Yes.

Q. You remember the influx of Italian labour last April and May?—A. Yes.

Q. Would that affect the scale of wages for labourers?—A. Yes, I think it would.

Q. Do you employ many Italians or strangers?—A. A large proportion.

Q. How many?—A. Out of 250 or 260 men about 100 are Italians.

Q. What is the scale now?—A. We pay from \$1.25 to \$1.35.

Q. Other labour a little higher?—A. \$1.35 to \$1.45, some \$1.25.

Q. Thank you, that is all.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. What is the maximum wages paid for labourers?—A. Well, I think \$1.45 is the maximum.

Q. And the others are specialists above that?—A. Yes.

Q. These Italians only receive from \$1.25 to \$1.35?—A. Yes.

Q. Are there others besides Italians only receiving that pay?—A. Yes, quite a number.

Q. Who are they?—A. Well, some English and French-speaking men.

Q. You get as many as you require on your works without any difficulty?—A. We have done it so far. We have had no trouble at all. We had a little trouble last year, but we increased the wage to \$1.45.

Q. For everybody?—A. For good men.

Q. About \$1.45?—A. Yes.

Q. Why do you not make the line \$1.50?—A. I do not know why. We could get no more out of them. We got lots of men this year at \$1.25, whereas we had to pay \$1.45 last year.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

Q. I suppose there are the same number employed this year as last?—A. No, I have nearly double the quantity this year.

Q. How many have you now?—A. I suppose 200 or 270 altogether.

Q. How many last year?—A. Perhaps 150 or 160; something about that, I do not remember exactly.

Q. Do you know was there any attempt to bring out these Italians so far as you were concerned before being brought out by any public man or manufacturer?—A. Not that I am aware of.

Q. You did not hear of it?—A. No, we did not hear of it until we happened to be falling over them in the streets. Then we thought we might as well get all the work done we could while there was such a large influx of men.

Q. The wages then dropped 20c.?—A. Yes; well, of course, I cannot say it was altogether due to that.

Q. Due to the fact of the flood of men?—A. Well, some time ago many railways shut down and a good many thousands were thrown out of employment in the States.

Q. A great number of these came over from the States?—A. Yes.

Q. Was that owing to the railways shutting down?—A. I cannot say that alone, but it would affect a very large number of men. That, however, did not enter into the question. There was a large influx of men, and we took advantage of labour as it came in.

Q. That helped you?—A. Certainly.

Q. That is all, thank you.

Mr. SKINNER, re-called.

*By the Commissioner :*

Q. Well, Mr. Skinner, you have heard all this evidence from day to day as to the improprieties of this man Cordasco; what explanation have you to make of those overcharges?—A. I cannot make any explanation. I can say that almost every item in Cordasco's evidence was an absolute surprise to me. I did not know anything of these transactions between Cordasco and his labourers, and I had no possible opportunity of being able to know what was going on between them, as the negotiations with his labourers were all carried on in Italian and behind closed doors. My only negotiations with Cordasco were, as I said before, to tell him when the company wanted some men.

In connection with my surprise regarding Cordasco's evidence, I wish to say that I have every reason to believe that Mr. Burns had the same surprise. On the afternoon before this investigation began I happened to be in Mr. Burns' office in the Windsor street station, and I heard Mr. Burns say—

Q. That is not evidence?—A. I heard Mr. Burns tell Mr. Cordasco, in some such words as these. Mr. Cordasco was somewhat agitated, and Mr. Burns told him most emphatically : I want you to produce everything you have in this investigation. Tell the whole truth, you have nothing to fear. I did not take part in the conversation, but inferred from Mr. Burns' whole manner—

The COMMISSIONER.—Just state the facts, Mr. Skinner, just as they occurred; I do not want inferences.

*By Mr. Mowat :*

Q. There has been some evidence about your taxing down those bills for the past six or seven months?—A. Yes.

*By the Commissioner :*

Q. What means did you take to satisfy yourself as to these, was this one month?—A. I began taxing Cordasco's accounts beginning with the month of October. I dis-

puted these accounts from the very first, and checked some of them every month took off a large amount in December and remember the great fuss made by Cordasco about it. I said you can appeal to Mr. Burns. He appealed to Mr. Burns, but Burns supported my views. Every month almost there has been a large amount taken off and most of these were so changed by me in taxation that Cordasco got them written over again in order that they might look well.

Q. His overcharges in the first place were so excessive?—A. I want to say Your Honour, as to my position in the labour department. Almost everything through me from Mr. Burns to Cordasco, and I believe I am in such a position as to be better than anybody else if there is any wrong-doing, and as far as Mr. Burns is concerned, he is the only person I have heard spoken of with any disrespect, and from my knowledge in the conduct of the labour department of the Canadian Pacific Railway I am absolutely certain in my mind that Mr. Burns did not know—

Q. That is not evidence, you must adduce facts. You are only stating your opinion. Now, in the month of October you reduced Mr. Cordasco's account 1½ days, you reduced him 28½ at \$5?—A. I think a couple of Sundays were taken off.

Q. In November the same thing, 28 days; December was the largest number of days interfered with, and he immediately raised a row. That was the first time there was any difficulty, because you allowed him his accounts up to that time?—A. Of course I was fresh at that time.

Q. At no time did you go into the provision accounts at all?—A. I did not, the prices were settled by some one.

Q. The prices were not settled because no evidence was given to that effect?—A. I inquired of that.

Q. From whom?—A. I spoke to Mr. Burns.

Q. Did you inquire from any grocer?—A. No, I did not.

Q. That was the place you would have found out the value. You saw there was \$6,000 or \$7,000 worth of provisions supplied to Italians and Chinese, and there was really no audit of that account, and there were over \$3,800 overcharged in that account?—A. Of course, you mean the difference between the cost and the profit?

Q. Yes, Cordasco was your agent; you saw he was supplying these goods, and you knew he had no business to make such profits?—A. I did not understand that; the custom in the Canadian Pacific Railway that every one going to work provided their own provisions.

Q. It is the custom for the Canadian Pacific Railway to have their work done performed, and you were employing Cordasco; he had no right to make such a profit. Mr. Burns admitted that?—A. I admit that.

Q. That is all, Mr. Skinner.

Adjourned until 2 p.m.

MONTREAL, QUE., July 26, 1903.

THE COURT HOUSE, 2 p.m.

The Commission resumes.

Mr. CORDASCO recalled.

*By the Commissioner :*

Q. Is this the little slip you got printed for the occasion of your coronation?—A. I saw this after the coronation, I did not know about it.

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 3Cb.

Q. It was handed to the Italians?—A. Well, I have no doubt it was. I saw this, 'Viva Edouardo VII., Viva Lo Canada, Viva Antonio Cordasco, Viva O.P.R., Viva l'Italia.'

Q. The men got that up at that time?—A. Yes.

Q. Let us understand, have we heard from you all the details of the manner in which you obtained money from these Italians, have you told me about all the moneys you have obtained in any way from them?—A. Pretty near, sir. What I remember.

Q. Cannot you go a little nearer?—A. I don't know.

Q. What other means did you take to get money out of them. Had you a boarding house, a lodging house. Had you not to be paid so much per man?—A. When a labourer came I called Mosco and I told him to send him to his place to make friends.

Q. How much did you get from each man per month?—A. Nothing.

Q. \$3 per month?—A. For what?

Q. For lodgings?—A. I never had any lodgings.

Q. Have you no place to send them to?—A. I do not charge one cent.

Q. Do you swear to that?—A. Sure.

Q. Some people will swear that you did charge them \$3?—A. I never charged them anything. I kept a boarding house some years ago. I charged an immigrant \$2 when other people charged \$2.50 and \$2.75 and as high as \$3 per week. This money does not go into my pocket not for board.

Q. Goes to Mosco or others?—A. Yes.

Q. These are your men, Mosco is your man?—A. When he works for me I pay him.

Q. Gaillard is your man?—A. Has got house by himself.

Q. Who lives on Craig Street?—A. Pellegrini.

Q. He is your man, your house?—A. That is rented from the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Q. And which he is conducting for you?—A. For himself and his wife.

Q. How much does he pay you?—A. \$20 per month, I don't know. I told you I began giving him \$5 then \$10. He is working for himself and if he charges the men \$2 or \$3 I do not know.

Q. How many poultry did you send up to Mr. Burns some time ago?—A. I sent one sure.

Q. Only one?—A. Sure.

Q. Any other presents?—A. A few fruits, something like that on Easter Sunday. He has been very good to me outside of the Canadian Pacific Railway. He got me the agencies.

Q. You took him over to New York with you?—A. Yes.

Q. You did not pay his way?—A. No, sir.

Q. Did he pay your way?—A. He pay my way? I paid myself.

Q. Well, that is all I wish to ask you to-day?—A. If there is anything else I can do for you I am ready.

Q. If you do right by those poor Italians you got money from, that will be better?—A. I will give them back every cent; you can depend on Cordasco.

Mr. RICHARD BRINTON being sworn.

Q. What is your occupation. You are an employment agent?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you been acting as such in Montreal?—A. Two years.

Q. What class of men do you employ?—A. All classes.

Q. You employ unskilled labour?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. How many?—A. My partner has the figures, I do not know. (Partner who is present hands him paper with figures.)—This year 355.

Q. For whom have you employed them?—A. The Dominion Coal Company and certain other contractors.

Q. Do you find any difficulty in getting all you require?—A. At the present time we do.

Q. Up to the present you have not?—A. No.

Q. What is the cause of difficulty now?—A. I think the men are pretty scarce.

Q. Have they gone out?—A. They have all gone out to work.

Q. Or occupied in the city?—A. Yes.

Q. How much do you charge each man for obtaining work for him?—A. According to the length of the job and money that he gets.

Q. Let me have your charges?—A. \$1.25 to \$1.40 a day; we charge \$1, sometimes \$1.50 up to \$1.75. Sometimes we have charged from \$2.25 to \$2.50 because we have guaranteed favourable prices to Glace Bay and charged extra.

Q. How much do you charge for foremen?—A. We never charge for foremen. We have hired foremen, but do not charge anything. They find the men and get the job for nothing.

Q. You do not charge foremen \$5?—A. No.

Q. You do not charge them other than ordinary labourers?—A. I do not charge foremen at all.

Q. Do you find it difficult to get all you want during the year?—A. Yes, in the fall, say from now until the end of October.

Q. What means do you take to get Italians?—A. We pay 25c. a head for rounding them up.

Q. Foremen?—A. Men who round them up.

Q. You have a man to round them up at 25c.?—A. Yes.

Q. Does he succeed?—A. Yes.

Q. Last year did you succeed?—A. We did not hire many Italians last year.

Q. How many do you remember?—A. I do not think we have hired 100.

Q. You think not 100?—A. I think not 100 last year.

Q. Have you hired any for any of the railways?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Which railway company did you supply with men?—A. We have been supplying Mr. Macdonald, Canadian Northern, with some, and the Great Northern Railway Company.

Q. What class of immigrants are there in Montreal, the largest number, besides Italians?—A. We have Scandinavians, Polanders and Russians.

Q. Are there many English, Scotch or Irish?—A. There are a great many in the floating population of a big city like this; they generally go through to the west.

Q. How many are there in the country going through?—A. I cannot tell.

Q. Now, do you register every man you employ in any book?—A. No, we do not charge any man anything until we get an order to hire men.

Q. No such thing as registration?—A. We have opened since a short time a register and registered about 20 skilled men, clerks, but no unskilled men.

Q. What is the result of unskilled labour coming in such large numbers as were brought here during March and April this year?—A. The result is on the workmen's wages.

Q. You mean to say that it reduces wages, were they reduced generally or not?—A. I do not think it made a bit of difference.

Q. Do you know, as a matter of fact, whether it did make any difference or not?—A. I do not know.

Q. Have you inquired?—A. I know that wages are just as they were.

Q. How high are they?—A. They range from \$1.25 to \$1.75. Generally from \$1.25 to \$1.50.

Q. They were \$1.25 last year?—A. In Montreal and neighbourhood, yes.



SESSIONAL PAPER No. 36b.

Q. What do you mean by neighbourhood?—A. Somewhere around Montreal.

Q. You mean to say that wages were \$1.25 last fall?—A. That is what they paid at the Radner Forges down below.

Q. Had they any Italians?—A. Yes.

Q. How many?—A. I cannot tell you.

Q. How many men do they employ?—A. I am sure I do not know.

Q. 100?—A. More than that.

Q. 200?—A. Somewhere in the neighbourhood of 200.

Q. You see the Superintendent of the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company stated that they were paying \$1.45 last year for unskilled labour, which was hard to get even at that; this year it is \$1.25. You see that is a reduction, you did not know that?—A. Of course, there are circumstances where firms pay higher than other firms. Some firms, when they treat labour right, can get men at \$1.25 per day, when others have to pay \$1.40. Perhaps board is cheaper in one place than in others.

Q. Do these men board them besides paying them?—A. No, they have to pay for their own board in the city of Montreal. I did not hire many men for Montreal.

Q. You do not know about the wages in Montreal?—A. Not much.

Q. Do you know what wages were paid in Montreal last year?—A. Well, I think the corporation paid about \$1.50.

Q. The corporation pays that now?—A. Yes.

Q. That is all, Mr. Brinton.

Mr. THOMAS D. TATTERSALL being sworn.

*By the Commissioner:*

Q. You are Mr. Brinton's partner?—A. Yes, sir.

Q. Carrying on business under the name of the Dominion Employment Agency in the city of Montreal?—A. Yes.

Q. For the last year?—A. I have been in partnership with my friend since August last year.

Q. You have heard Mr. Brinton's evidence?—A. I have.

Q. What do you say in reference to it?—A. It covers the ground.

Q. You corroborate his statements?—A. Yes.

Q. You charge no higher than \$2.50 and that is all?—A. Never.

Q. That is for men who receive?—A. Remunerative positions.

Q. What wages?—A. \$1.75 to \$2 per day.

Q. Are these unskilled labourers?—A. Yes.

Q. From \$1.75 to \$2 as far as \$2.25.

Q. \$1.75 up?—A. Yes. We have a firm doing business that hire men at from \$1.75 to \$2.25.

Q. You charge the parties you supply with men?—A. Not always; we cannot get it from both ends.

Q. You are like others, you try to get from both ends?—A. I do not understand.

Q. Sometimes do you get from employers \$1 per man and sometimes you get nothing?—A. At present we cannot get anything from both ends, we cannot get anything from employers.

Q. You cannot get anything from employers?—A. Not at present.

Q. And you agree with what Mr. Brinton says as to the difficulty in getting men?—A. It is commencing to get difficult.

Q. How many unemployed are there in Montreal now, unskilled labourers, how many?—A. That is a pretty hard proposition.

Q. About how many?—A. I should say about 2,000 or 3,000.

Q. Unemployed?—A. Of these of course are a number who would not go to work if they could.

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Q. How many unemployed Italians are there at present?—A. Not a great many.

Q. About how many?—A. I should judge about 300 or 400.

Q. You have not made any inquiry?—A. Well, I have not, but in the course of my business I cover the city pretty well and can form a fair idea.

Q. That will be all, thank you.

The COMMISSIONER.—To Mr. Perron: Have you any provincial statute relating to employment agencies?—A. We have a by-law and we have a provincial statute as to notices given by masters and servants.

Q. Nothing else?—A. No.

Q. If there is any other witness or any one who would like to make a statement, I will take the statement before I adjourn.

Q. Mr. Perron, you will kindly leave this copy of the by-law with me?—A. It is for your own use, Your Honour.

The COMMISSIONER.—Now my address will be, for any communication on this subject, care of the Minister of Labour, Ottawa; so if any one wishes to address me within a week or so I will be ready to receive any communication at all, and if necessary, I will sit again if there is any important evidence to be heard before I make my final report; however, I cannot wait very long. Do you wish to say anything, Mr. Perron?

Mr. PERRON.—No, Your Honour, I will leave the whole matter in the hands of Your Honour.

The COMMISSIONER.—Very well, adjourned *sine die*.

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