

Agriculture and Colonization.

COMMITTEE ROOM No. 46,
HOUSE OF COMMONS,
SATURDAY, 18th April, 1896.

The Select Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization met this day at 10.30 a.m., Dr. Sproule, Chairman, presiding.

Mr. A. M. BURGESS, Deputy Minister of the Department of the Interior, was present by request, and, on the invitation of the Chairman, addressed the Committee as follows:—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—The recent Immigration Conference at Winnipeg has not only invested the subject of immigration with somewhat fresh interest, but it has also revealed the fact that there prevails throughout the country a very general lack of information as to the methods adopted by the Department in the expenditure of the limited appropriation made by Parliament for the conduct of this branch of the public service. In consequence of this, it occurred to me that it might be well to submit to this Committee a brief statement of these methods, not so much for the information of the Committee, because I am confident from the interest they have displayed on this whole subject during the years it has been under the control of the Department of the Interior that no such explanation is necessary so far as they are concerned; but the publication of this statement in the Committee's Report will tend to throw a great deal of light upon the subject, so far as the press and the public are concerned, which can, at all events, do no harm, and in many quarters may do some good.

In the first place, it may be well to lay before the Committee a statement of the expenditure authorized by Parliament for immigration purposes, year by year, from Confederation down to the present time.

EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF IMMIGRATION, YEAR BY YEAR, FROM CONFEDERATION
DOWN TO THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.
1867-68	\$ 36,049 76	1881-82	\$215,339 24
1868-69	26,951 80	1882-83	373,957 71
1869-70	55,965 99	1883-84	511,208 83
1870-71	54,004 20	1884-85	423,860 90
1871-72	109,953 90	1885-86	257,354 93
1872-73	265,717 79	1886-87	341,236 39
1873-74	291,296 57	1887-88	244,789 09
1874-75	278,776 99	1888-89	202,499 26
1875-76	338,179 10	1889-90	110,091 76
1876-77	309,352 90	1890-91	181,045 38
1877-78	154,351 42	1891-92	177,604 82
1878-79	186,403 06	1892-93	180,677 43
1879-80	161,213 32	1893-94	202,235 52
1880-81	214,251 05	1894-95	195,652 97

Those are the actual expenditures, not merely the appropriations, for the years I have mentioned. For the current year the appropriation is \$130,000.

By Senator Perley :

Q. How much do they amount to?—A. \$6,230,002, that is since 1867. From this it will be observed that the appropriation of \$130,000 for the current fiscal year is the smallest that has been made since 1871-72, with the exception of the one year 1889-90,