

migrant to that western country; I went from Portage la Prairie when there was not a foot of railway between that place and the Pacific. I know how easy it is to discourage immigrants. I know that people who went out there often started back, homesick; possibly it was the first time they had ever left their home fireside. When these Hebrideans, with a strong attachment for their fireside and their country, finding themselves for the first time in a strange land, are told yarns such as are floating round in the newspapers of Alberta, is it any wonder that they are discouraged? As a matter of fact, I have been expecting exactly this thing to happen ever since I heard that these splendid Scottish settlers had gone to Red Deer. What is the nature of the environment there; what is the atmosphere with respect to immigration? What is the attitude of the hon. member for Bow River (Mr. Garland) and of the hon. member for Battle river (Mr. Spencer) with respect to immigration? Have they encouraged immigrants to go there? Have they held out to them the right hand of fellowship when they got there? What has been their general attitude? If these immigrants have read some of the speeches made by the hon. member for Bow River or the hon. member for Red Deer, it is no wonder they have the blues and feel like going back to Scotland. Until hon. gentlemen from Alberta take a different attitude toward immigration and toward these various questions that arise, they are going to be a long while settling the plains of the West from any source whatever.

Mr. KENNEDY (Edmonton): Will the minister permit a question? He has suggested that the result of some speeches made by members from Alberta has been to discourage immigrants. Is it not likely that the rosy speeches made by Mr. Duncan Marshall in the Old Country, when he was describing conditions in Alberta, and then the actual conditions that the people found when they got there, have been more likely to cause discouragement than any attempt on the part of hon. members from Alberta to portray the facts?

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I did not see any statement by Mr. Duncan Marshall to the effect that my hon. friend describes. If he will let me know what the statements were—I know he was run over by a steer or something of that kind; is that what my hon. friend refers to?

Mr. KENNEDY (Edmonton): I was referring to the fact that in the literature of the

Western Canada Colonization Association it was stated that Mr. Duncan Marshall was over in the Old Land drumming for settlers.

Mr. MOTHERWELL: I do not know what my hon. friend is driving at; it seems to me he is pretty hard put to it for something to chew about. The hon. member for Red Deer asked the question, can the government be relied upon to engage in any considerable scheme of immigration? And he based that question upon an alleged interview published in a newspaper. There is no question that the remarks of the hon. member for Red Deer, whether they were so intended or not, could not be accepted in any other way than as a straight attack upon the Department of the Interior. I think the whole incident has been most disgraceful, Mr. Speaker. We will never get anywhere in the development of our country and the settling of unoccupied lands if this kind of attitude is taken by hon. members. And I would point out that arguments of this kind are made in connection with the first effort of any considerable proportion to place first-class settlers in a first-class district in the province of Alberta.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House that the hon. gentleman shall have leave to withdraw his motion?

Mr. SPEAKMAN: Mr. Speaker—

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no reply; it is a motion for adjournment, not a substantive motion.

Mr. D. F. KELLNER (East Edmonton): Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the two ministers who have spoken upon their consistency in the matter of government policy. They have tried to convey to the House the impression that there is practically nothing the matter with these immigrants who are stranded in Alberta; that this is purely a case where some members of the House wish to criticize the government. I think the Minister of Immigration (Mr. Stewart) before he concluded his remarks admitted that he had some information from Alberta to the effect that these immigrants were not wholly satisfied with the conditions. Now the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. Motherwell) rises and states that this subject has been brought up, not with a desire to better conditions, but purely for the purpose of criticizing the present administration. I think that statement is wholly unfair; I am convinced that the hon. member for Red Deer (Mr. Speakman) brought this matter to the attention of the House and of the government with the sole desire of bringing some relief to those who