

APPENDIX No. 6

By Mr. Arthurs:

Q. I would like to ask the witness whether he has a synopsis or a full statement of the change in the policy of New Zealand regarding these loans. If possible, I would like to get that before the next meeting of the committee.—A. I do not know whether we can get the latest returns; we receive reports continually from them, and I think it is possible to give you some statement of that kind. Of course, there is one difficulty about the New Zealand figures, that in New Zealand housing and land settlement are mixed up together, and you cannot distinguish the two. That is, there was a Soldiers' Housing Scheme and a Land Settlement Scheme, an actual Agriculture Scheme all mixed up together, and the figures are hard to untangle on that point.

By Mr. Brown:

Q. You know the general principles on which they work?—A. Yes. We receive reports but I do not know whether we have any reports on the actual changes that they made or not.

Mr. CALDWELL: In connection with the information asked for by Mr. Speakman, I notice on page 33 of the report a summary of land sales. "Cost to the Board \$3,204,874.75. Selling price \$3,580,104.10." I take it this is the amount of money the Board had against the land, and not the actual cash price paid for the land in the first place. That is, this does not include any payments by the settler?

The WITNESS: No.

By Mr. Caldwell:

Q. I think you can prepare for us a statement showing the amount of money actually paid for the land; then giving the amount the Government paid; the amount of the settler's initial payment, and in another column the amount of the subsequent payments, and so on. The reason I would like to have the initial and subsequent payments divided is this, that they will indicate to us whether or not these settlers made any payment after the initial payment or whether they were all "Duds" who never made any payment.—A. They are not; I have that statement here.

Q. This man in New Brunswick told me "I think I can pay for it, but I will lose more money by doing that than by leaving it now and losing what I have already paid on it."—A. I have that statement here, as a matter of fact.

Q. This would indicate that the Government has received more money for these farms than was actually paid in the first place, and I do not think that is really the case. For that reason, in order to get an intelligent idea, I think we should have the amount paid by the soldiers as well.

By Mr. Brown:

Q. Would it be possible for you to give us the details of any specific case?—A. If you can give me warning of it I could. I cannot specify any one out of 4,000 cases without a little time. I could get particulars on any case that you want if you tell me about it.

Mr. CALDWELL: Mr. Chairman, I do not think we can expect the Chairman of the Board to do that; I think all we can do is to get the general idea; we cannot take up individual cases with the hope of adjusting them. We are to settle the principle and find a remedy if one is needed for a condition that is very bad in the Department at the present time.

Mr. BROWN: We arrive at our general conclusions very much by our knowledge of specific cases, and while it would be manifestly impossible to ask the Chairman of the Board to give all the details of all the cases, yet I think that if one of the Committee has any knowledge of any particular case it

[Major John Barnett.]