

APPENDIX No. 6

The WITNESS: You want a tabular statement such as the ones at the back, I suppose?

Mr. CARROLL: I think if the witness had prepared a general summary of the conditions existing at the end of this year, the fiscal year, so that we would make comparisons of the two, it would be satisfactory. For example, there is a very good statement on the last page, but I do not think it would be complete enough.

Mr. CALDWELL: We want something so that we can make comparisons as we go along. By the way, with regard to going back further than the two years, I think a good many failures are caused by the settlers leaving the farms because they consider that if they stayed and paid for them they would be paying far more than the land was worth under present conditions. I know more than one case of that kind. I know one man who had made his payments regularly, and the Board considered him a successful settler. He said, "I think I could pay for it, but if I did I would pay double what it is worth, and by quitting now I would lose less than by paying for the farm." I think the statement would have to go back more than two years.

The WITNESS: I think that could be arranged.

Mr. CALDWELL: I do not think we need very detailed statements away back.

Mr. CARROLL: For example, you have in your statement last year a diversity of crops. We do not want that.

The WITNESS: I was going to suggest running through the report and picking out the statements you want. For instance, "Total Settlement under the Act", you would want that.

Mr. CARROLL: Yes.

The WITNESS: "Training of Prospective Settlers"; that has been abandoned now. You do not want that.

Mr. CALDWELL: This present report covers all that ancient history fairly well, I think, and a synopsis of last year's operations in addition to this would be what we want. This is a fairly full report of things up to the end of 1923, March 1923.

The WITNESS: Yes. Then you do not want anything brought up on the question of savings?

Mr. CALDWELL: We have all that excepting last year.

The WITNESS: Yes, but it is difficult to bring up some of these things, and I want to get the essential ones. You would want the gross loans to settlers?

By Mr. Caldwell:

Q. The amount of loans granted in the last year?—A. Yes, we have all that. It is easy enough to give it to you. Frankly, I might say that I did not expect that we would plunge into the question of re-valuation; out of that would arise the various points. That is what I expected in coming here today, and I did not have prepared particularly a general statement dealing with the whole thing. I think all the other things would arise from the discussion of the situation of soldier settlers.

Mr. CALDWELL: We would save time by having a summary of last year's operations in addition to this report.

The CHAIRMAN: In that case, perhaps it would be better if we would just modify our proceedings now, and proceed with re-valuation and leave Major Barnett to prepare a summary of last year's operations to be brought up at the next meeting.

[Major John Barnett.]