

faith on the part of the Government's agents the Galicians who were starving at Yorkton last winter had to tell. They had been lured into immigration here by delusive promises as to what the Government would do in supplying them with stock, implements and provisions, in addition to giving them their homesteads. These unscrupulous methods on the part of the Immigration Department cannot fail to have an injurious effect upon immigration generally. If the reports of the way in which these settlers have been treated served merely to check Galician immigration, the consequences would not be very serious, for the country is better without these immigrants than with them. But foreign immigration agents will cite these breaches of faith and acts of high-handedness as illustrations of what all settlers coming to Canada may expect at the hands of the Government, and thereby many really desirable settlers will probably be lost to the country. It is high time that the Government should do something to reform the methods of the immigration service.

Sir, I think it is very desirable that we should have an answer from the Government as to the serious charge made in this article.

The PRIME MINISTER (Sir Wilfrid Laurier. My hon. friend (Mr. Davin), I am sure, will agree that it is not possible for the Government to give any answer to a newspaper article, which may be true or may not be true, but upon which it is not possible for the Government to take any action. If the hon. gentleman will warrant that the statements made are accurate, the Government will at once inquire into the matter. But he will see that it is hardly fair to expect a statement with regard to an article which gives no names of officers impugned, or to expect the Government to take action upon such a vague statement. All I can say is that we have no report, so far, of such maltreatment of immigrants as is reported there to have been inflicted upon the Galicians. All the information we have received is that the Galicians are a most desirable class of immigrants.

DISMISSALS IN CAPE BRETON COUNTY.

Mr. McDOUGALL. I wish to call the attention of the right hon. the First Minister to a matter I referred to on Monday—the promise made by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries (Sir Louis Davies) to bring down to this House certain papers in connection with dismissals of officials in the county of Cape Breton. On the 10th May the hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries promised to bring the information before the House. He said :

I shall have to give the reason in each particular case. I told the hon. gentleman that I would bring down the information in each particular case, and I will give it to him to-morrow. But to-morrow the information was not brought down, and on the 13th I called the Minister's attention to the fact, and the following discussion took place :—

Mr. McDOUGALL. I desire to call the attention of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to papers he promised to bring down the day before yesterday. These returns refer to the dismissal of William James Dunlop, William Burke, Francis Quinan, Richard Hickey and Alexander MacDonald.

The MINISTER OF MARINE AND FISHERIES (Sir Louis Davies). I will take a memorandum of what the hon. gentleman requires.

Mr. McDOUGALL. I desire also to ask the Minister of Customs and the Minister of Public Works if they will be good enough to give me information which I endeavoured to secure from them respecting the dismissals in their respective departments in my constituency. If these papers are brought down, the work of passing the Estimates will be facilitated.

The MINISTER OF CUSTOMS (Mr. Paterson). There is a memorandum in my department referring to this matter, and I will make inquiries.

On several occasions since I have been promised the papers and the right hon. the Prime Minister promised on Monday the papers would be brought down. The hon. Minister of Marine and Fisheries has gone out of the country, and I would like to know who has taken charge of the department, and if I can get a promise that will be fulfilled.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE (Mr. Fielding). I do not know how far the hon. gentleman's (Mr. McDougall's) question goes, and whether the memorandum I have here, furnished me by the department, covers the information desired. But I will send it to the hon. gentleman and he will be able to see whether it covers what he wishes, and if not, I will be glad to discuss the matter with him with a view to procuring the information for him.

Mr. McDOUGALL. I wanted a copy of the names of the officers dismissed in my county, the names of the parties appointed to their places, the reason for dismissal in each case, &c. I wanted, in fact, all the papers connected with these dismissals and appointments—the usual information in a return of that kind.

The MINISTER OF FINANCE. This memorandum gives the names of officials, date of dismissal and names of parties appointed, but there are no other papers. I will send the memorandum to the hon. gentleman and see how far it meets his wishes.

MILITARY COLLEGE EMPLOYEES.

Sir CHARLES TUPPER. Before the Orders of the Day are called, Mr. Speaker, I desire to ask the Minister of Militia if he would kindly supplement a return he brought down with regard to the class of employees in the Royal Military College. I find that item "C," which in the Order of the House covers "the respective conditions of engagement as regards duration," and I do not find anything in this return on that point. In the absence of the Minister of Militia, the hon. Minister of Marine and