

may be done next session. We have tried to reduce the expense as much as possible. The suggestions have been printed in a volume, which is not large, and the committee ask authority to have one thousand copies printed, with a view of sending one copy to each person who took the trouble to make suggestions, and to circulate the balance, some 750 copies. I will ask the Clerk to read the report.

The Clerk read the report, as follows:

The Senate,
Committee Room No. 69,
Thursday, September 20, 1917.

The Special Committee appointed to further inquire into what is being done and what could be done to best promote the Agricultural, Industrial and Trade Interests of this country, both during the war and after, beg leave to make their Third Report as follows:—

In pursuance of the authority granted your Committee during the last Session of Parliament, the following circular letter was mailed during recess to all public and quasi-public bodies in Canada (about 22,000 circulars):—

"By instructions from the Special Committee lately appointed by the Senate of Canada 'to inquire into what is being done and what could be done to best promote the Agricultural, Industrial and Trade Interests of the country, both during and after the War,' we enclose herewith copy of the Order in Council upon which the Economic and Development Commission was appointed by the Government in October, 1915.

"2. On pursuing the Order in Council you will see that it covers a great variety of important questions, such as the whole field of agriculture, colonization, immigration, labour, employment for returning soldiers at the end of the war, improvement of highways, branch railway development, the attraction of capital in the country, and the extension of trade relations. You will readily understand that the Commission can hardly be expected to solve these questions without the earnest help and co-operation of the public at large, and especially of all the organized bodies in the country.

"3. The object of the Senate in appointing the Special Committee is mainly to help the Commission in the discharge of the heavy task imposed upon it, also to inquire as to the development and utilization of our natural resources generally, and to make an appeal to all organized bodies for their best co-operation in the matter.

"4. The frightful expense, destruction of life and waste of property entailed by the unprecedented war into which almost the whole of Europe and Canada are now engaged and the new and temporary channels of industry to which both public and individual energies are now mainly directed, will demand prompt and radical readjustment of conditions in the country when peace is signed.

"5. The readjustment in this country will be best found in the development and in the improvement of agriculture, in the fostering of homogeneous industry and in the expansion of our trade.

"6. The development of our agriculture being dependent upon an increase of population, it becomes imperative to find the means of at-

tracting a proper class of immigrants and as numerous as possible.

"7. With the peace, great avenues of trade will be opened within the Empire and with the Allies and neutral countries. Let us prepare to take our fair share and thereby find permanent employment for the capital and labour which is presently engaged in the manufacture of munitions of war.

"8. Let us prepare also for the transferring, at the end of the war, of the energies of the country from the military to the economic field.

"9. The Special Committee most earnestly request your prompt co-operation in seriously studying these and all other questions which you may consider within your province.

"10. A like appeal is being made to all municipal bodies, Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce, Schools, Colleges and Universities, School Commissions, Farmers' Associations, Manufacturers' Associations, Transportation Companies, Church Dignitaries, heads of the various Federal and Provincial Government Departments, Bar, Medical, Notarial and Trade Associations, all Newspaper and Press Associations, Labour Associations—in fact, to all the organized bodies in the country—and the Committee hope that it will receive from every one of them, at as early a date as possible, the result of their best thoughts and suggestions in concrete form. In the event of such information being already of record, a reference to the publication where it can be found will be sufficient.

"In addition to securing the suggestions of the Press, the Committee would appreciate its further co-operation in creating and interest in the investigation by giving as much publicity as possible to the aims and objects of the Committee and by inviting the views of the public.

"Everybody should give his mite towards bridging the cataclysm we are going through. Let all bear in mind that this joint and common action may be the means of avoiding a great depression at the end of the war, and of laying the best foundation for the future prosperity of our great Dominion."

Some two hundred and fifty replies were received. Many of these replies are limited to matters of a local character and others containing suggestions of general interest. The more valuable of the latter have been printed and are submitted herewith, together with a criticism and suggestions by Lord Shaughnessy.

Your Committee have held several meetings when the above-mentioned suggestions were fully considered in so far as they relate to agricultural interests, and your Committee now beg to make the following recommendations:—

1. Co-operation between Dominion and Provincial Governments in formulating plans for the granting or selling of land for farming purposes, whereby the respective mineral, forestry and agricultural value and its advantages and disadvantages for the latter purpose would be ascertained before each land section or district is opened for grant or sale.

2. The opening of the different sections of land for farming purposes on colony basis covering different branches of agriculture, and as close as possible to market and railway facilities.

3. That the system of disposal of the remaining Dominion lands in the West be rearranged so as to promote increased development of mixed farming on lands within a reasonable distance of railways, and of live stock industry