

Agriculture and Colonization.

Committee. We are working now on a better system of preparing these statements, at least a better system of getting at the facts in regard to immigration to Canada. As there is such a long border between Canada and the United States it is almost impossible to arrive at the exact figures as to the number of people who cross to all parts of Canada.

By Mr. Sproule :

Q. What is the system you refer to?

A. In Winnipeg we are working a system by which we will have the number of immigrants to Manitoba and the North-west, where there is the largest part of the immigration. We are working a double system, one with the railway conductors, who report every day the number of ins and outs, and we propose to take the difference between those who come in and those who go out; the difference will be those who have settled in the country. (See Table F.) There will be no question of that, so far as the railways are concerned, but we know a great many drive across the line. We hope, however, to get track of them through the Customs officials.

Q. You cannot give an idea of the number brought in last year?

A. No, I cannot give the total from memory, but I will furnish a statement to the Committee. I can send it. (See Tables A to F.)

The CHAIRMAN:—It will go into the report when Mr. Smart revises his evidence.

By Mr. Sproule:

Q. The countries from which they come and the classes to which they belong?

A. Yes, that is recorded.

By Mr. Hughes:

Q. Have you any record as to the country that furnishes the best class of immigrants, outside of Great Britain, for Manitoba and the North-west? How do immigrants of the Scandinavian race get along?

A. They have done very well; the Swedes have done very well, and the Icelanders are remarkably good settlers.

Q. That is the second generation?

A. And the first generation as well.

By Mr. Sproule :

Q. How do you find the Galicians?

A. In some districts they have done very well as far as our reports of them are concerned. Of course, a great many of them came without means.

Q. I see reports that say that many of them were in a most destitute condition?

A. We have been looking after them. When these reports came to the office at Winnipeg our men were sent out immediately to look after them and care for them.