

APPENDIX No. 3

Q. You made the statements that you consider your method more satisfactory than that of placing the immigrants from a central agency?

A. Yes.

Q. Why did you adopt the central agency system in regard to western Canada and also in regard to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec—I notice most of the men are placed from Montreal and Quebec—while you adopt this policy in Ontario, singling out the province of Ontario? In the United States you spend \$233,601 to promote immigration, and none of that has been devoted to bringing people into Ontario; and you have spent in Great Britain \$303,915; while the total expenditure for immigration for 1911 was \$1,079,125. Now you have an agency in Montreal, in Quebec and in Toronto. I notice that the agency for Quebec cost \$28,101, the agency at Montreal \$12,074, and the agency at Toronto, \$2,767. Now you admit that a great many counties have not received many men through your agents. Will you tell this Committee why you believe this to be the best system and why you have singled out Ontario?

Mr. CHISHOLM (Antigonish).—Is that a proper question to ask?

By Mr. Sutherland:

Q. I would like to know if your local distributing agents have reported to you that in the last two years no men have been placed in the counties of Dufferin, Lennox and Addington, Lambton, and Leeds. Although these six counties have lost over 20,000 people in ten years they have not received any men to replace those they have lost. I would like to ask whether he has reported that nothing has been done with regard to emigration in order to supply the demand for men in those counties. I would also like to know if he shows in his report that the counties of Middlesex and Lambton have only received very very few men?

A. He would not have any knowledge of it, Mr. Sutherland, that is not his work.

Q. Then he does not find out how many men these agents are placing?

A. No.

Q. He does not inquire how many men these agents are placing?

A. We have that information in the office at Ottawa here.

Q. You cannot tell us why he inspects them?

A. Simply with regard to whether the man is a suitable and respectable man, &c., if the Committee want copies of all the reports I will be only too happy to submit them.

Q. Is it necessary to report on that question every year?

A. I think so, yes.

Mr. ROSS (Middlesex).—I want to ask just for information, Mr. Sutherland, where do you get the figures you are quoting?

Mr. SUTHERLAND.—From a return brought down in the House which was asked for, and which I will be pleased to produce. I assume that it has been prepared by Mr. Scott.

Mr. ROSS.—You will understand that the Minister, the Deputy Minister and all the heads of departments would have that information so that there would be no reason for a report. What is the purpose of your question? He must have the information before him because you have it.

Mr. BEST.—I think the reason for that question is that the farmers look to this Agricultural Committee; many counties that are represented here have failed to get the farm help they require, and if we never found fault the conclusion would be that we were satisfied. Very well, I want to let the Minister know that we are not satisfied with the present conditions.