

Mr. SPROULE. That is a mere statement of the hon. gentleman.

Mr. HEYD. I had the pleasure of going through their works, and saw what they are doing.

Mr. SPROULE. The hon. gentleman might see a great deal, but that statement is not borne out by facts. The Bill gives them larger powers than they have to-day. My only object is to confine them to the operations which they are engaged in to-day.

Mr. DYMENT. This is just a copy of the Dominion Steel Company's Bill which was passed by this House last year.

Bill reported, and read the third time.

Mr. DYMENT. I move that the title be changed to An Act to incorporate the Algoma Iron and Nickel Steel Company of Canada.

Motion agreed to.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE—THIRD READINGS.

Bill (No. 68) respecting the McClary Manufacturing Company.—Mr. Hyman.

Bill (No. 37) to incorporate the Bishop of Keewatin.—Mr. Osler.

SUPPLY—IMMIGRATION.

House resumed debate on motion of the Minister of Finance (Hon. Mr. Fielding), that the House go into Committee of Supply.

Mr. JABEL ROBINSON (West Elgin). I feel, Mr. Speaker, that it is my duty to say a few words on this question, which was discussed so long and ably before recess. The question of immigration is one of the most important that can be considered by this House, because the future welfare of this country depends on the class of people that we bring into it. If it be necessary to bring in people to settle our wild lands, and help to carry on the industries of this country, it is the duty of the government to see that the very best class of people from Europe are brought in, and no others. We have heard something this afternoon about certain people who have been brought in, and concerning whose desirability there is considerable difference of opinion. We had the two sides of the question presented to us this afternoon. The hon. member for Lennox (Mr. Wilson) thinks that the Doukhobors are a detrimental class, who will be of no benefit to us. On the other hand, the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. McCreary) says they are a very fine people, who will make most excellent settlers. There are the two opposite opinions, and it is not for me to say which is right, because I do not remember ever seeing a Doukhobor, and, consequently, am not in a position to judge. But if, as the hon. member for Selkirk says,

Mr. HEYD.

they are, they are equal to the Society of Friends, known by the name of Quakers, then, I think they will be a great addition to our population, because I am satisfied that there is no denomination which stands higher than the Society of Friends. If what the hon. member for Selkirk says be true, then, hon. gentlemen on this side have nothing to grumble about. However, I cannot pretend to be a judge.

The member for Selkirk spoke with a great deal of zeal for something over an hour. He waxed fast and eloquent, and I must say that he not only spoke with zeal, but with knowledge. He had a right to have knowledge, for I see in this book, the Auditor General's Report, that he had expended \$90,000. I did not know whether that is the same gentleman, and if I have made a mistake I apologize. I would have a good deal of knowledge and a good deal of zeal, too, if I had that amount of money voted for me. The reason why I feel, perhaps, more interested in this question than most of the hon. gentlemen present, is that I am one of those whom you have been talking about so much—I am an immigrant and a farmer. And, being an immigrant and a farmer, I think I have a right to speak for these people. But it is forty-five years since I came here—that is to say, I came here before some of these hon. gentlemen were born, so I know as much about Canada as many who are not immigrants. Then I have had the pleasure of having under my roof and under my tuition quite a number of young immigrants. And I have to tell some of these hon. gentlemen that I wish I could say that they were as good men as those whom I have educated. Some of these men are now settled in the North-west, and I am satisfied that they do credit to the community wherever they may be located. I was sorry to hear this afternoon the hon. member for Selkirk (Mr. McCreary) say that a certain section of the country was not fit for settlement. I had the pleasure of visiting that section some eighteen years ago. The Dominion government has established an experimental station in that section. As well as I could judge of the soil—there were no crops growing there then—I thought the country was fit to produce an excellent crop. I went further than the Canadian Pacific Railway was then built, and I had a favourable impression of the country. With proper irrigation and cultivation, I am satisfied that that land will some day be a garden. I believe in that country around Medicine Hat that was traduced this afternoon by the gentleman that was so much interested in immigration last year, and I am sure the people there will not thank the hon. gentleman for what he said. Now, we heard this afternoon not only that the success of immigration work was due to the fact of this government being in power, but that it was to the same fact that we must look for the