

Agriculture and Colonization.

A. It may be that you do not spend enough to do the work as thoroughly as it should be done. I believe that this expenditure is necessary to carry on the work effectively.

Q. The present expenditure for immigration is \$127,438, and the question is whether we are getting a return for that expenditure?

A. I think \$130,000 was the vote in 1896 for immigration.

Q. We have this year 1,519 English immigrants, 205 Scotch and 69 Irish?

A. Certainly, so far as Winnipeg is concerned, but the returns we have this year are most encouraging for the efforts that have been put forth. I have not the exact figures with me, but there has never been a year in the history of the Northwest since 1882 when there has been as large a number of people going in as during this year. (See Table E.)

Q. It seems to me that it would be desirable in the interests of the Committee, so as to enable them to report their observations to the House, that that information, as far as it could have been available, should have been before the Committee. The season is getting pretty well advanced for bringing in immigrants, and if you have returns up to a late date it would be well that the Committee should have them?

A. I thought it possible that the Minister might refer to the matter himself in the House; that is the reason I did not bring any figures in regard to it.

Q. It would be desirable information for the Committee, because if they have any recommendation to make, it should be based upon certain information?

A. If you think it advisable I will add that to the report. (See Tables A to H.)

Q. As to the pamphlets that are being distributed it seems to me that we should have information as to these.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:—It was agreed that Mr. Smart should send samples to the Committee.

Mr. SPROULE:—I take exception to that, because when they are sent here there is no one to give us information as to the cost of these pamphlets so that the Committee may have an opportunity of expressing an opinion when they make up their report. We will have no time to investigate the details so as to give an intelligent expression of opinion upon them. I do not so much blame Mr. Smart because he has never been here before and he did not know what were the lines which had been followed in the past, but this is one of the lines in regard to which the Committee are entitled to get information so as to be enabled to judge intelligently of what is being done in reference to European and foreign immigration.

By Mr. Wilson :

Q. I would like to ask whether Mr. Devlin is allowed a living allowance besides his salary?

A. Not in Dublin.

Q. Do any other of these Irish agents have a living allowance ?

A. They are travelling all the time.