

we have established, knowing that the Liberals are in power and that they will be justly treated in the North-west, are selling their farms, selling their cattle, and selling whatever they cannot bring with them, and coming into our country to settle permanently and live under the good old flag.

Mr. DAVIN. They came in three years before 1896, in consequence of the Conservative policy.

Mr. MACDONALD (Huron). You had better not express an opinion until I am done giving figures, and then you will see what they did during the last three years before 1896. I am going to give you the results of the immigration policy of the Liberal government during the last three years of their regime, so please sit quietly and patiently.

SOUTH AFRICAN WAR—INQUIRY FOR REPORT.

Mr. E. G. PRIOR (Victoria, B.C.). Before you leave the Chair, I wish to ask the government if the Minister of Militia has had any report to-day from Col. Otter, and if so, whether he will bring it down this evening and give it to the House?

The MINISTER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE (Sir Richard Cartwright). I hardly think that is the case, but I will mention the matter to the Minister of Militia and Defence.

It being six o'clock, the Speaker left the Chair.

AFTER RECESS.

Mr. MACDONALD (Huron). Mr. Speaker, when you left the Chair at six o'clock, I had finished giving a statement of the arrival of immigrants in Canada during the year 1899, which showed that a great many more immigrants arrived during that year than for many years past. I was asked some time previously to make a comparison between the results of the Conservative immigration policy during the last three years of their regime with the results of our policy for the last three years. I think that request was made by the hon. member for South Leeds (Mr. Taylor). As I do not see him in his seat now, I will make the comparison for his benefit, so that if he has time at his disposal he may read it. In 1896-7, the immigrants that came into Canada numbered 20,016. That was the first year, as the House will remember, of the regime of the Liberal party. In the first year we were not in a position to put our new policy into operation, and, therefore, the results of that new policy could not be well seen until the following year, when it was put into vigorous operation by the hon. Minister of the Interior. We may say, therefore, that the immigrants that came in during the first year of the regime of this party really came in under the old policy, and as I say, they

numbered 20,016. In 1897-8, the first year, I may say, of the operation of our policy, there came in 31,900 immigrants, or 55 per cent more than those that came in during 1896-7. In 1898-9, the next year of our policy, there came in 44,543, or 40 per cent more than came in during the preceding year, making 96,459 that came in during the three years, counting the number that came in during 1896-7, under, you may say, the regime of the Conservative party. That was an average of 32,153 per year. Now comes the comparison. In the last three years of the Conservative rule, the immigrants numbered 56,130, or an average in each year, during these three years, of 18,710, as compared with an average in our three years of 32,153, or, in other words, during the three years we brought in 40,329 immigrants more than were brought in during the years 1894, 1895 and 1896, or an increase, during these three years, of 72 per cent. Now, I think that comparison should be satisfactory to the hon. member for South Leeds when he reads it. I have here the following facts in regard to homestead entries made in Manitoba and the North-west Territories, and it will be interesting to all parties to see that while there is a largely increasing number taking advantage of the liberal land laws and homesteading freely, there is also a greater percentage of the land being occupied by Canadians. These figures will be interesting to the House. In 1896 the total number of homestead entries was 1,857. In 1897 the homestead entries numbered 2,406, in 1898, 4,848, and in 1899, 6,689, a large increase each year. Now, notice the homestead entries by Canadians. In 1896 the homestead entries by Canadians numbered 570 only; in 1897, 703 homesteads were entered by Canadians; in 1898, 1,534 homesteads were entered by Canadians, and in 1899, 2,154. Now, notice the entries by persons having made previous entries. In 1896 there were 385; in 1897, 396; in 1898, 620, and in 1899, 720. Now, notice the entries made by people coming into Canada from foreign countries. In 1896 there were 902; in 1897, 1,307; in 1898, 2,694, and in 1899, 3,835. That table is of very great interest to all parties, because it shows the continual and increasing income into this country, under the regime of the party that has taken hold of the immigration question lately with such vigour, energy and wisdom. Let me give you another comparison, and I shall ask the House if it is not convincing. I shall give now a comparison of the net homestead entries during the last three years of Conservative rule and three years of Liberal rule. You will understand, Mr. Speaker, what I mean by net entries. There are a certain number of cancellations going on, and the term net entries refers to those that are left after the cancellations are made. In 1894 there were 2,044 net entries; in 1895, 1,504, and in 1896, 1,426, making a total, in three years, under Conservative rule, of 4,974. Now,