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# IMMIGRATION

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EVIDENCE,

OF

A. M. BURGESS, ESQ.,

*DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR*

BEFORE THE

SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA

ON

AGRICULTURE AND COLONIZATION

SESSION 1896

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OTTAWA  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING BUREAU  
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The Select Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization met this day at 10.30 a.m., Dr. Sproule, Chairman, presiding.

Mr. A. M. Burgess, Deputy Minister of the Department of the Interior, was present by request, and on the invitation of the Chairman, addressed the Committee as follows:—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—The recent Immigration Conference at Winnipeg, has not only invested the subject of immigration with somewhat fresh interest, but it has also revealed the fact that there prevails throughout the country a very general lack of information as to the methods adopted by the Department in the expenditure of the limited appropriation made by Parliament for the conduct of this branch of the public service. In consequence of this, it occurred to me that it might be well to submit to this Committee a brief statement of these methods, not so much for the information of the Committee, because I am confident from the interest they have displayed on this whole subject during the years it has been under the control of the Department of the Interior, that no such explanation is necessary so far as they are concerned; but the publication of this statement in the Committee's Report will tend to throw a great deal of light upon the subject, so far as the press and the public are concerned, which can, at all events, do no harm, and in many quarters may do some good.

In the first place, it may be well to lay before the Committee a statement of the expenditure authorized by Parliament for immigration purposes, year by year, from Confederation down to the present time.

EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF IMMIGRATION, YEAR BY YEAR, FROM CONFEDERATION  
DOWN TO THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR.

Year.	Amount.	Year.	Amount.
1867-68.....	\$ 36,049 76	1881-82.....	\$215,339 24
1868-69.....	26,951 80	1882-83.....	373,957 71
1869-70.....	55,965 99	1883-84.....	511,208 83
1870-71.....	54,004 20	1884-85.....	423,860 90
1871-72.....	109,953 90	1885-86.....	257,354 93
1872-73.....	265,717 79	1886-87.....	341,236 39
1873-74.....	291,296 57	1887-88.....	244,789 09
1874-75.....	278,776 99	1888-89.....	202,499 26
1875-76.....	338,179 10	1889-90.....	110,091 76
1876-77.....	309,352 90	1890-91.....	181,045 38
1877-78.....	154,351 42	1891-92.....	177,604 82
1878-79.....	186,403 06	1892-93.....	180,677 43
1879-80.....	161,213 32	1893-94.....	202,235 52
1880-81.....	214,251 05	1894-95.....	195,652 97

Those are the actual expenditures, not merely the appropriations, for the years I have mentioned. For the current year the appropriation is \$130,000.

*By Senator Perley :*

Q. How much do they amount to?—A. \$6,230,002, that is since 1867. From this it will be observed that the appropriation of \$130,000 for the current fiscal year is the smallest that has been made since 1871-72, with the exception of the one year 1889-90,

and having been reduced from about \$200,000 for the immediately preceding year, I can assure the Committee that it has been very difficult for the Minister and those acting under him so to direct the affairs of that branch of the Department as to maintain in a fairly efficient state the machinery for the promotion of immigration from the several fields which had previously been occupied, and yet carry on the work within the limits of the money at our disposal. I have no hesitation in telling the Committee that, in my opinion, if the reduction were to be made permanent, it would be necessary for the Department to abandon some of the fields which at the present time we are attempting to occupy. This statement I make with the knowledge of the head of the Department, and I am authorized by him to say that he concurs in this conclusion.

#### EXPENDITURE OF THE APPROPRIATION FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

Every member of the Committee is aware that out of the appropriation of \$130,000, the Department is called upon to maintain the immigration office at Liverpool, including the salary and expenses of the agent and five officers, and the travelling expenses and all other expenditures which they may incur in the performance of their duties, with the rent of the building and the taxes thereon, and the cost of heating, lighting, insurance, furniture, maintenance and caretaking.

*By Mr. McGregor :*

Q. How much is that?—A. I am just setting out the various services in which the expenditure is made.

Q. How much is spent for that office?—A. I did not make out that calculation, but it can easily be done.

Q. That is what we want. It would be interesting to know how much we are spending, and who are getting it?—A. For each office?

Q. Yes.—A. The Public Accounts show that, and also the Auditor General's report. It is only a question of totalling up the figures. In the Auditor General's report the cost of each office is given, the statement he publishes being obtained from my Department.

*By Mr. McLean (P.E.I.) :*

Q. They are all stated in the Auditor General's report?—A. Yes, and therefore I did not think it necessary to repeat them this morning.

*By Mr. McGregor :*

Q. You had better put it there?—A. Very well. The Department has also to pay the cost of postage, telegrams, stationery and printing, and all the other miscellaneous expenses attaching to the maintenance of an office of this kind, usually classified under the heading of "Contingencies." The same statement is true in regard to the office at Bristol, and the office at Glasgow, where there is an agent and one clerk. The agency in Ireland at the present moment is vacant, but the same remarks may, nevertheless, be applied to it, with the exception that, latterly, no office rent has been paid, the agent being required to spend the equivalent of his office rent and expenses in travelling around the country.

In Scotland we have Mr. W. G. Stuart, popularly known as "Baillie" Stuart, occupying the northern part, with headquarters at Inverness; Mr. Peter Fleming, the southern counties, with headquarters at Dundee; and in England Mr. E. J. Wood, whose work is confined to the central and northern counties, with headquarters at Birmingham. So far as the southern part of England is concerned, a similar service is to all intents and purposes rendered from the High Commissioner's Office, from which point lecturers are arranged with, &c. I am glad to say that in a large proportion of cases these lecturers render their services free of charge, but in relation to their work there are considerable expenses in the way of advertising, printing, and occasionally the rent of a

hall. The object of this class of service is not only to excite the general interest of the public in the question of emigration to Canada, but to maintain that interest by personal appeals to the affected classes, and wherever practicable our agents follow up the work of the lecturers by interviews with persons likely to become good and satisfactory settlers, who in this way might be induced to make choice of Canada in preference to foreign countries or some of the other colonies.

I take this opportunity of acknowledging the very important assistance rendered us by educated, intelligent and disinterested gentlemen of various professions, but chiefly clergymen, teachers, and those interested in educational advancement generally, who have delivered free lectures upon historical and geographical subjects connected with Canada. This kind of work has been carefully fostered by the High Commissioner, by whom indeed it was initiated, and he has collected in his office in London for the use of people engaged in this work no less than thirty sets of stereopticon slides produced from photographs of places and things in all parts of Canada, relating chiefly to agricultural and industrial pursuits, which tend to add greatly to the popularity of the lectures and serve to attract the attention of the intelligent classes in a way which probably work conducted more directly in the interest of immigration would not do.

Incidental to this work a great amount of printing and advertising has to be done, but in regard to both classes of expenditure, I must say that within the past twelve months we have done much less than is desirable in the public interest simply for the lack of the necessary money with which to pay for it. As an example of our methods in this line I may mention the Handbook of Canada, the printing of which formerly cost us, for an edition of 80,000 copies, \$5,219.92, or \$65.25 per thousand. The cost of this work has been greatly reduced within the last two years as the results of methods adopted, some—and the most important of them—at the suggestion of the Queen's Printer, and others at the suggestion of the chief of the Immigration Bureau and myself; and an edition of 50,000 now costs the Department \$2,610, or \$52.20 per thousand, a saving of 20 per cent. A synoptical edition of this booklet has been translated into French, and it will also be translated, if we can afford it, into the other European languages as well. Meantime, we are utilizing in the last mentioned countries, pamphlets published under the supervision of Mr. Dyke, specimens of some of which are produced. We found these pamphlets defective in some particulars, and have sent carefully revised proofs to Mr. Dyke with a view of having new editions published. Up to the present time no copies of the new editions have reached us, and I am therefore not in a position to produce any specimens of them here.

I submit a pamphlet specially prepared by Mr. Auguste Bodard, our agent in France and Belgium. Mr. Bodard was a resident of Canada for a long series of years, knows the country well, and the result of his observation and experience has been that he has produced what, I am satisfied, will be regarded as a very satisfactory and creditable presentation of the advantages to be derived by the people of France and Belgium if they select Canada as a field for settlement. Mr. Bodard is due in Canada in a short time with a personally conducted party of settlers.

#### BONUS TO STEAMSHIP AGENTS,—THE UNITED KINGDOM.

In addition to the agencies, permanent and itinerant, to the circulation of printed information in regard to the country, to the advertising, lecturing, &c., above referred to, it should be mentioned that on the recommendation of the High Commissioner an arrangement was made, by Order in Council of the 6th January, 1893, for the payment to booking agents in the British Isles of a commission upon all tickets to Canada sold by them. As the Committee will readily understand, a great many people who are in the mood to emigrate, have not really made up their minds to what part of the country they will go, when they consult the local steamboat agent about the purchase of a ticket. He is usually the representative of nearly all the steamship and railway lines, and in this way may be said to have an equal interest in them all, but the ticket from the selling of which he can derive the largest profit is naturally the one he is most interested in selling. On the other hand, the intending emigrant is likely to be largely influenced

in his choice of a field for emigration by the amount it may cost him to get there. Bearing these two facts in mind, the High Commissioner thought, and the Government agreed, that it would tend greatly to promote the interests of Canada, the colony to which the cost of transport is the smallest, if the inducements to the steamship agent to sell a ticket were made as great as if he sold a ticket, for example, to one of the most distant of the Australian colonies. Therefore, for every ticket sold to an ocean adult passenger from any point in Great Britain and Ireland to Winnipeg, or any point in Canada west of Winnipeg, the steamship agent receives from the Government a bonus of \$1.75, which would render his commission upon the sale of an immigrant ticket to Canada as large as if he sold a ticket for more money to one of the Australian colonies.

The amounts paid, year by year, since this arrangement went into effect, have been as follows :—

1892-93.....	\$ 1,395 42
1893-94.....	3,521 60
1894-95.....	2,156 86
1895-96, 7 months to 29th February, 1896.....	916 94
	<hr/>
	\$ 7,990 82
	<hr/> <hr/>

The bonus is not paid until the party to whom the ticket has been sold makes use of it and his arrival in Winnipeg has been certified by the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, who is our chief immigration officer in the west.

#### EUROPEAN CONTINENT.

On the European continent we are, as the members of the Committee are probably aware, debarred from carrying on any active work in any of the German States. The same statement will apply to Russia and Austro-Hungary. We are, as a matter of fact, receiving immigrants from all these countries, most of whom are of a very desirable class, but they either come upon their own responsibility or through the indirect influence of the steamship agents, who receive a bonus of \$5 for every ocean adult passenger who reaches Winnipeg. This arrangement has been in force for several years past. Under it the undermentioned sums have been paid since the transfer of immigration to the Department of Interior :—

1892-93.....	\$ 7,235 36
1893-94.....	10,931 40
1894-95.....	5,485 26
1895-96 (7 months to 29th February, 1896).....	3,460 21
	<hr/>
	\$27,112 23
	<hr/> <hr/>

In France and Belgium, Mr. August Bodard, to whom reference has already been made, has been representing the Department for the last three and one-half years. It is perhaps rather early to come to any decided conclusion as to the results of his work, but so far they appear to be satisfactory. Quite a number of French and Flemish colonies have been formed in Manitoba and the Territories, and they consist, to a very large extent, of intelligent farmers who, when they become accustomed to the soil and climate of the country, and understand the methods of agriculture applicable to their new conditions, are likely to do very well for themselves.

An allowance of \$1,000 a year is made to the Canadian Commissioner in Paris, for the promotion of immigration work. This includes a subvention to the newspaper "Paris-Canada," which devotes a great deal of space to our interests.



Under Mr. Fabre's supervision and direction, Mr. P. Foursin has established a colony near Wolsely, Assiniboia. This colony is very largely a private enterprise, the money which has been expended in bringing the settlers to that region and establishing them upon land having been advanced by private parties. It is too early in the history of the colony, yet, to be able to say decisively what its success is going to be, but so far it promises well.

#### ICELANDIC.

The Icelandic immigration has fallen away considerably of recent years. All the people in the island, apparently, who are able and willing to move having already emigrated to Canada. Times have also improved in Iceland, and the inducements to emigration are not as strong as they were. The authorities also, for the first time in the history of the country, so far as I am aware, are making active and continuous efforts to prevent any more people leaving. For many years, we were accustomed to send Mr. Baldwinson, our Icelandic agent in Manitoba, over to the island during the winter, and he invariably returned in the spring with a large personally-conducted party. When he and the agent of the Government of Manitoba visited Iceland in company, about two years ago, such difficulties were thrown in their way by the authorities that it has not been thought advisable to send Mr. Baldwinson back again. The Icelanders already in Canada, however, are so numerous and so successful that no efforts of the Danish Government or of the local Icelandic authorities are likely to be successful in permanently restraining the emigration to this country, which is quite certain to resume its flow soon.

#### SCANDINAVIAN.

There is nothing, so far as I can learn, to prevent the Government of Canada from establishing an emigration agency in Sweden, Norway or Denmark, from which countries we get so many of the very best class of agricultural settlers. A good deal of correspondence has taken place between the Department and the High Commissioner's office with a view to establishing an agency or agencies in one or all of these countries. The reduction in the appropriation, however, has prevented the experiment from being tried for the present, and we have therefore to content ourselves with such services as the steamship agents may, consistently with the laws under which they are operating, be able to render, in order to earn the bonus of \$5 for each adult immigrant booked to Winnipeg, and duly certified, as already mentioned, by the Commissioner as having arrived.

We also advertise the advantages of the country in the Scandinavian newspapers on a limited scale. If we had the money to do it, a very much larger expenditure in this way, would, in my estimation, be justifiable. The Scandinavians already in Canada have also, especially of late, been writing very favourable letters to the local press and to their friends. We send papers containing these letters, to parts of Germany and Scandinavia where they are likely to do most good, but I have reason to fear that occasionally, especially in Germany, these newspapers do not reach their destination. Means are found to prevent their being delivered.

Out of the vote of \$130,000 we have also to pay the expenses of successful farmers on this side who have emigrated from the other, and whom we encourage occasionally to go back to their former homes for the purpose of satisfying their friends and acquaintances as to the actual measure of success they have attained in farming. This is a kind of expenditure which we would gladly extend, if the money at our disposal would permit of it, especially so far as relates to continental European countries.

#### UNSUITABLE CLASSES WARNED.

In relation to the work we are doing on the other side of the Atlantic, I ought to add that we have exercised the greatest possible care to discourage people from coming to Canada who are not likely to make good settlers. In other words, what we have

endeavoured to do has been to encourage quality, not quantity. I called attention in my annual report of last year, to the extraordinary proportion of the immigration of the United States which never goes beyond the boundary of the State of New York. If I remember rightly, it was 45 per cent, which means that a very large number of people who are reaching that country from the other side of the Atlantic, are clerks and shopkeepers, men of the kind for whom neither we nor they really have any room. I might say that if we were simply anxious to get numbers from the other side of the Atlantic, it would be, in my opinion, a comparatively easy thing to do. However, we discourage people of that kind, and offer encouragement to none but people who are likely to engage in farming if they come.

GOVERNMENT'S CAREFUL PROVISION OF AMPLE MEANS FOR SECURING THE HEALTH, COMFORT AND GENERAL PROTECTION OF IMMIGRANTS, UPON ARRIVAL IN CANADA, UNTIL SETTLED.

On this side of the Atlantic, too, we pay out of this limited appropriation the expenses of what I submit is a very thorough system of taking care of the immigrant and seeing that he is properly dealt with, from the time he arrives in Canada until he is finally located on his homestead in Manitoba or the Territories, or employment of some description has been found for him, as his circumstances may call for. First of all, there is the immigration agency at Halifax. Unfortunately, about a year ago the building used for the reception of the immigrants on their arrival at that port was, with the buildings of the Intercolonial Railway at the deep water terminus, burned down, and although the Department of Public Works and the Department of Railways have together been doing their best to have a new building ready for our purposes as quickly as possible, the work of reconstruction has not yet been completed. Meantime, by the generous co-operation of the Intercolonial Railway authorities, arrangements have been made which permit incoming immigrants to land with the least possible inconvenience and discomfort.

All the salaries and expenses of various kinds connected with this agency are charged to the general appropriation for immigration, as are the salaries and travelling expenses of the interpreters at Quebec.

It would be hard, I submit, to suggest any improvement upon the methods adopted for the reception of immigrants at Quebec. Our building at that place, on the Louise Embankment, is a model of cleanliness, order and comfort, and Mr. Doyle, the agent, himself a most efficient man, of over 27 years experience, is aided by a capable staff of interpreters and guardians, including a matron whose sole business it is to see to the comfort of the female immigrants and to care for such as may not be able to leave the immigrant station immediately. On the very next occasion when Parliament is sitting during the season when the navigation of the St. Lawrence is open, I respectfully submit that it would be highly in the interests of the country, and a matter of great importance to the Committee, that its members should visit Quebec in a body, and witness for themselves the efficient way in which the immigrants are handled. It may be pointed out in this connection, that at both Halifax and Quebec, arrangements are made by the department for furnishing to the new arrivals all necessaries in the way of food at schedule prices which are agreed upon between the caterer and the Department, prices, by the way, which are, before approval, submitted to the leading merchants at both points, and certified to be the regular minimum prices for the articles of food included. Facilities are also offered for the exchange of European money into Canadian currency by a broker who is specially selected by the Government for that purpose, and between whom and the Government certain rates of exchange have been agreed upon in advance. It may be mentioned here, that the stipulated price lists of provisions and tables giving the relative values of various European coins and Canadian money are printed on large cards in various languages and posted up all over the immigrant halls, for the information of the immigrants, so that they may be in a position to assure themselves that they are not being taken advantage of.

As speedily as possible after their arrival, the immigrants are placed on board colonist sleeping cars furnished by the railway companies; and if, in the opinion of the agent there be any desirable object to be accomplished thereby, an official who speaks the language of the party accompanies it as far as may be thought necessary from the port of landing, so as to see that the people are all comfortably settled down, that they are in good health, that they are using to the best advantage the facilities for cleanliness and preparation of food which are furnished for them by the railway companies, and if either they or their women or children should suffer in any way from the results of the journey, to have medical attendance and comforts procured for them. This last, of course, is an authority which is used by the attendant only in cases where absolutely necessary, because the expense of that sort of attention is great.

At Montreal and Port Arthur every immigrant train is visited by an agent of the Department and accompanied part of the way, and in cases of Scandinavian parties of considerable size, the interpreter who is stationed at Ottawa also visits the train and assists and advises his fellow-countrymen.

On arrival at Winnipeg the immigrants are met by a competent staff of officials, speaking the various European languages, and there again the arrangements for their comfort in the immigration hall are excellent. They are not encouraged, however, or even permitted to make any more than a temporary use of the Government buildings, but are urged to commence work and strike out on their own account immediately on their arrival in the country. In every instance where they are looking for homesteads, reasonable assistance is rendered them, and local farmers speaking the language of the party concerned are employed and paid by the Department to show them over the vacant and available agricultural lands in the respective districts. The advantage of this system is found to be that it saves the Department the expense of keeping guides in permanent employment who would be at the service, after all, of but a comparatively small proportion of the arrivals, and would cost the Department more than the present system does. There is also the inducement that if the immigrant is a desirable one, his guide has a personal interest in procuring him a suitable homestead in his own locality. The plan has been found to work very well, and is very economical. I might also add that it has the advantage of giving to the farmer guide, a little ready money at a time when it is likely to be of very great use to him.

*By Senator Perley :*

Q. How long after does he get the money?—A. As soon as the service is completed, immediately he returns from the trip. I might say that money to pay expenses of this kind is placed at the disposal of the agent from month to month according to an estimate he furnishes. He accounts from month to month for the money placed at his disposal, and sends forward an estimate of the money he will require for the following month.

In what I have said above I have dealt almost exclusively with European immigration. We are also carrying on operations in the United States which are productive of excellent results, and which could be extended with great advantage if we had the money to do it. We have three salaried officers, namely, Captain Holmes who is our chief agent in the United States and who goes about wherever useful work can be done; Mr. P. F. Daly who manages our Immigration Bureau at Chicago; and Mr. C. O. Swanson who works among the Scandinavians, principally in the New England states. In addition to those we have one temporary agent on salary working in Michigan, and we have some sixty commission agents who are paid by results.

Ever since the enforcement of a strict quarantine against cattle from the United States, we have been at the expense, jointly with the Department of Agriculture, of caring for any cattle brought across the line by settlers during the quarantine period of ninety days. The share of the expenses in this relation which had to be paid out of the immigration appropriation each year since the arrangement was effected, and the payments for veterinary inspection, have been as follows:—

## CATTLE QUARANTINE.

Season 1893.....	\$ 5,089 95
“ 1894.....	1,750 80
“ 1895.....	3,627 65
	<hr/>
	\$ 10,468 40
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## VETERINARY INSPECTORS' FEES.

1892-93.....	\$ 991 06
1893-94.....	1,964 07
1894-95.....	2,976 15
1895-96, 9 months to date.....	1,185 85
	<hr/>
	\$ 7,117 13
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*By Senator Perley :*

Q. Does that go to the North-west Mounted Police veterinaries?—A. No, to local veterinaries; none of it goes to police. All we do is to recoup the mounted police appropriation for what extra service we call upon them to do. That is, of course, it costs a good deal extra to keep men at out of the way places like St. Mary's River and the other places where we have the quarantine stations, and we simply recoup the mounted police for the cost of maintaining these men and the outfit.

In giving details of our arrangements for the reception and care of immigrants, I ought to have added that if within one year after their arrival they fall ill and are unable to pay for themselves, we pay for their maintenance and medical treatment in the hospitals in Manitoba and the Territories. I may also mention that an outbreak of small-pox amongst immigrants a couple of years ago, led to a very heavy expense, and to the necessity of establishing a preventive hospital in the neighbourhood of Port Arthur, the cost of which we are to share with the Provincial Government of Ontario and the Canadian Pacific Railway.

What I wish particularly, however, to impress upon the Committee is that all the services which I have endeavoured to outline, above, have had to be met this year out of an appropriation of \$130,000, and as I have already indicated, the extent of the field which we are attempting to occupy must be seriously curtailed if the appropriation is not restored to its former figure at least.

## IMMIGRATION LITERATURE AND AGENCIES.

*By the Chairman :*

Q. Have you any copies of the pamphlets that you distributed?—A. Yes. I have a complete set of them here.

Q. Printed in the different languages?—A. Yes, there are pamphlets in French, German, the Scandinavian languages and English. There are quite a number of them, as you will see.

Q. Have there been any new pamphlets brought out of late?—A. We are always getting out new material. There are some standard publications like the “Handbook of Canada,” which we try to freshen up every year. We get the provincial authorities to revise and rewrite the paragraphs respecting the advantages they offer to immigrants, and we add to and change portions ourselves from time to time, taking away the materials that have become stale or may not be very appropriate.

Q. You did not give us the result of the operations of late years—the number of immigrants who have been brought to the country?—A. No, I have not. I dealt with that subject very fully, as the Committee may remember, in my annual report some

years ago, and in the course of my report on that occasion I stated that I did not think it was possible to keep any account of the people who are going and coming, especially as between Canada and the United States. The length of the boundary line is so enormous and the facilities for crossing so great; there is such a continuous going and coming that it would be, in my opinion, as reasonable to try to count the sands of the sea as to keep an account of the emigration from Canada to the United States or from the United States to Canada.

Q. You are getting a lot of immigrants from European countries. Have you any idea of them?—A. Yes, we have complete statistics in regard to them. We get the steamboat manifests, which always certify as to numbers, ages, sexes, destination, &c., of immigrants, as the Emigration Act requires.

Q. Have you a memorandum of that with you?—A. No, nothing in addition to what I had in the annual report. Up to the end of last season, in fact up to the beginning of January—that is to say three months ago—a complete statement is contained in the annual report, and there is really nothing of importance to be added since then. The spring immigration is just commencing, but during the months of January, February and March, very few people arrive in the country. I can easily add to this statement the statistics contained in the annual report.

Q. I think it would be desirable to have the statistics added, because we have always done so, and it seems to me it would make your statement more complete?—A. Very well, it will be very easy to do that.

Q. I think you said you had no permanent office open in Ireland now. Was the agent removed from there?—A. No; he resigned at the close of last summer.

Q. No other has been appointed?—A. No other has been appointed yet.

Q. You had two agents, you said, in Scotland?—A. We have two temporary agents. We have also a permanent office in Glasgow, the point of the departure of the steamers from Scotland. The business of the agent there, of course, like the business of the agent at Liverpool, is largely seeing and answering the inquiries of people who are about to leave the country, more than directly promoting emigration.

Q. Well, you have, besides, two permanent working agents, have you not, one in the south and one in the north?—A. Yes.

Q. How many have you in England?—A. Only one in England of that description.

Q. Where is he located?—A. At Birmingham. As I explained in the course of this statement, the south of England is largely taken care of in that way by the High Commissioner's office.

Q. And have you a permanent agent in France?—A. We have Mr. Bodard, but you could hardly call him a permanent agent. He has been sent to France on a temporary engagement, but if his work turns out satisfactory, no doubt he will be continued.

Q. Have you any agent in Germany?—A. They won't allow us to have any agent in Germany.

Q. The Government regulations will not permit it?—A. No.

Q. I think you said that in Norway and Sweden there is no objection?—A. Well, I think not. We have been corresponding with the High Commissioner in that relation. I have no doubt that if the Government of Canada were to ask to have an agent appointed in one or all of the Scandinavian countries, the request would be complied with. It seems to be questionable, however, how much an agent could do if he were appointed. I do not know what they would let him do. They certainly do not allow the steamboat agents to do much to influence emigration. They put them under heavy bonds to simply confine their operations to the selling of tickets without giving any information or advice except what the people who are buying the tickets may ask for.

#### JUVENILE IMMIGRATION.

Q. Have you had any representations from the authorities throughout the country with regard to the Barnardo Home boys; I have read a good deal in the press about it?—A. Yes, thinking that perhaps that question might come up this morning, I

brought with me a series of papers regarding juvenile emigration generally, consisting, first of all, of a circular which we sent out to the children's homes asking for information. I suppose it would be hardly worth while reading to the Committee a list of the people to whom we sent it, but they consist of all in Canada, who are maintaining homes for emigrant children when they arrive here, such for instance as Miss Rye, Dr. Barnardo's Home, the Quarrier Home at Brockville, and so on. The circular asked them to answer the following questions:—

“On what terms are children from your home placed out and are those terms set forth in any duly signed documents?” “What measures do you take to ascertain that the applicants for children are able to sustain the responsibility?” “Do you keep in communication with the children until they attain some particular age?” “Do you make inspection of the children after they have been placed?” “Do you keep records of the children?” “Are you placed in possession of any of the past history of a child before it has reached Canada?” “If you learn that a child is ill-treated, what action do you take?” “If the employer makes complaint against a child what action do you take?”

I might read as a specimen the answers sent by one gentleman, the Rev. Lord Archibald Douglas, who is acting for the Salford Protection Society, an English Roman Catholic Association. I take his case because it happens to be the one immediately before me. To the first question he says: “That young children are placed out for board, lodging, schooling and clothing. With regard to older children, they are placed out for some agreed wage.” In regard to the second question; that is to say, as to the measures they take to ascertain that the applicants for children are able to sustain the responsibility they do not actually demand any signed documents, but he says: “We are going to draw for the guidance of those to whom we give the children a memorandum of the conditions on which they must receive them and upon which they will be left to them.” The next question asked is, “Do you keep in communication with the children?” The answer is, “Yes, we make a special effort until they are 16, but we are always glad to correspond with them as long as they themselves may desire. We are only dealing with boys. If we brought out any girls, we would do so for several more years. We keep records of the children and know all about their history. We have them trained in our orphanages and before they are received there, their cases are thoroughly gone into. The next question is, “If you learn that a child is ill-treated, what action do you take?” The answer is, “We remove the child and replace it.” Then the next question is, “If an employer makes a complaint against a child, what action do you take?” The answer is, “We should take back the child and replace it elsewhere.”

We have answers to the same series of questions from all the different bodies and organizations sending juvenile immigrants to Canada. They are of much the same tenor, but if anything, more satisfactory than those I have just read.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. What assistance does the Government give to these associations?—A. They pay a bonus of \$2 per head of the children, which is about equivalent to the cost on the other side of the Atlantic, of the certificate of medical examination which they are required to produce.

Q. Have you any record of the numbers that were brought to Canada during the last year or in recent years?—A. Yes, that is all contained in the Annual Report. I will add the figures to the statement I have submitted, as already arranged.

#### AN IMPERIAL STATE PAPER.

I might explain to the Committee that at the request of the Imperial Government, the Minister, Mr. Daly, prepared, during the last year, a memorandum of the advantages which Canada offers to agricultural immigrants. This memorandum was made an Imperial state paper, and printed for the information of the British Parliament. The Imperial Government has also asked us to forward reports regarding the crops of the

several provinces, and we are in communication with the local governments with a view to getting that information. This is all part of a new policy adopted by the Imperial authorities with reference to the colonies.

Q. There has been a conference in Winnipeg lately on the subject of immigration. What relation had it to your Department, or had it any connection?—A. It had no connection with our department; it was purely voluntary.

Q. Was it started by the Provincial Government?—A. No; by private individuals, following the same lines of a movement made by the people of Minnesota, who had an immigration conference in St. Paul during the past winter. The object of the conference was largely to enlist the active co-operation of private individuals with the Government in the work of immigration.

*By Senator Perley :*

Q. They have made application for a certain sum of money to be placed at their disposal?—A. I do not think they have specified a certain sum of money. They have asked for assistance, but have not specified how much they want nor how they propose to apply it. As far as I am able to understand, they had no definite plan of operations formed when they were here.

Having examined the preceding transcript of my evidence, I find it correct.

A. M. BURGESS,

*Deputy Minister of the Interior.*

## APPENDIX TO MR. BURGESS'S EVIDENCE.

*By order of the Committee, vide p.*

### IMMIGRANT ARRIVALS IN CANADA.

I make the following extracts from my Annual Report to the Minister of the Interior for 1895 :—

The number of people arriving in Canada by way of Halifax and Quebec during the past six years, and declaring their intention to settle in the country, was as follows :—

1890 .....	24,409
1891 .....	26,894
1892 .....	27,810
1893 .....	29,455
1894 .....	20,680
1895 .....	18,617

There was a falling off for 1895 of 2,000 as compared with 1894. The percentage of decrease, however, was far greater during the early part of the season than it was later on, which I think may be taken as a somewhat hopeful sign. The High Commissioner, in dealing with the subject, while admitting that he does not for a moment intend to infer that the movement from Great Britain to Canada is as large as he would like to see it, maintains that we have had a very fair share of the *bona fide* emigration, the settlers being of a good class. The difficulties in the way of obtaining tenant farmers are fully and well described in the High Commissioner's report, and I am convinced that all that can be done at present is to maintain the interest in Canada which has been created and to keep in touch with the agricultural community—the means taken to this end being, in my opinion, well conceived and well carried out.

While there has been a slight falling off in the immigration to Canada, the statistics go to show that the steamship passenger business between Europe and the United States has experienced a distinct revival. The report of the Bureau of Statistics of the United States Treasury, issued in November, 1895, gives the following as the total immigrant arrivals in the United States for the periods mentioned :—

1st July, 1892, to 30th June, 1893.....	497,656
“ 1893 “ 1894.....	311,605
“ 1894 “ 1895.....	276,136
“ 1895, to 30th Nov., 1895.....	147,980

The first eleven months of the year 1895 show a decided improvement, however, which the figures quoted do not indicate, having reference, as they do, to the fiscal period. But the High Commissioner and our European agents are unanimous in the conclusion that the increase in arrivals from Europe at United States ports is no indication of a revival of *bona fide* emigration. It is explained that the low steamship rates prevailing during last season induced a large number of workers in the United States to visit the Old Country, the return fare being about £4, and now that there are indications of increased business activity and these people are returning, their numbers go to swell the reported immigrant arrivals.

#### STEAMSHIP RATES.

The steamship rates from European ports to points on the continent of America generally were very much lower during the past season than they have been for many years, but the companies have recently come to an understanding on this subject, and have not only restored the rates to the standard of the last few years but have considerably increased them, the advance being altogether about \$15 per ticket. What the effect of this on the emigration of next year may be it is hard to determine. The High Commissioner and our European agents do not anticipate that it will be harmful; but the railway authorities on this continent seem to take the other view, and in correspondence which has taken place with them, have expressed the fear that the increase in the rate will go a long way to counterbalance the good effect which we had hoped would be produced by the plentiful crops of the past season. It is of importance to note that under the new arrangement a slight discrimination in favour of Canada has been agreed upon. The High Commissioner, with the best means at his disposal of coming to an accurate conclusion, takes a hopeful view of the situation, remarking that trade is reviving in Great Britain, which is always in favour of increased emigration.

#### FARM PUPIL BUSINESS.

I think it important to quote verbatim, for the purpose of emphasizing, if possible, the following observations of the High Commissioner :—

“The farm pupil business still continues to flourish. I am sorry to say, notwithstanding all our efforts to put a stop to it. Within the last year, one or two associations have been particularly active, but several cases have come under my notice in which difficulties have occurred owing to the promises made to the young men not having been carried out. Innumerable warnings have been issued in the press, and that, of course, is the only means by which the matter can be kept before the public. I am now arranging to again call attention to the matter.”

#### IMMIGRATION APPROPRIATION.

The High Commissioner concludes his report with a paragraph which I also think it important to quote in full :—

“I have only to assure you in conclusion that I take the keenest possible interest in the promotion of emigration to Canada, and that I shall continue to do all that I can in that direction. I have no hesitation in saying that I regard the filling up of the



vacant lands in Manitoba and the North-west Territories, as well as in the other provinces of Canada, as one of the most important matters—if not the most important—that can engage the attention of the Government of which you are a member. You know we have been handicapped considerably for some time past in regard to the smallness of the funds that are available for emigration purposes. I do hope the Government will be able to induce Parliament to put aside annually a much larger sum for immigration work, and that an even larger proportion of it than usual may be placed at my disposal, for it is in this country and on the continent that expenditure is needed. If we ever expect to get a large emigration we must keep Canada continually before the world, and especially before those sections of the population which we desire to reach.”

#### THE REPATRIATION MOVEMENT.

The secretary of the Repatriation Society at Montreal, which receives an annual subvention from the department, reports that 1,850 people registered their names as his office during the eleven months from January to November, inclusive; that more than a dozen special excursions were organized by the society to take these people out to regions in the province of Quebec suitable for colonization; and that most of the people referred to have actually become settlers in the districts thus visited. The society is doing a two-fold work in diverting intending emigrants from their purpose by showing them the available places for settlement near home and in their own country, and by inducing as many as possible of those who have already emigrated to the States to come back to Canada.

The Reverend Father Morin is as usual doing good work in connection with this movement and makes an interesting report. He states that fifteen families came in from Kansas and twelve from Minnesota, altogether one hundred and forty-four souls, as the result of a journey he made last winter to the United States, and in addition to this, thirty families have joined his colony from other portions of the United States and eastern Canada. Father Morin gave eighteen lectures in the States last winter, besides visiting a great many people in their homes.

#### IMMIGRANT ARRIVALS.

The whole number of arrivals of the immigrant class at the ports of Quebec, Halifax and Montreal during the first ten months of the present year, was 23,363, as compared with 25,653 for the corresponding period of last year, or a decrease of 2,290. Of the persons coming into the country between the 1st of January and the 31st of October last, 17,231 declared their intention of becoming residents of the Dominion of Canada; 18,923 during the same period of 1894 made this declaration. The persons who signified their intention of making their homes in Manitoba, the North-west Territories and British Columbia, numbered this year, for the period of ten months mentioned, 4,901, which is a decrease of 1,749 as compared with the corresponding period of 1894. As has been explained in previous reports, the immigration agents at the ports of landing count the number of persons arriving by the ocean steamers, and obtain from each a declaration as to whether he intends to remain permanently in the country or not, and the province in which he proposes to reside. No attempt is made to keep trace of immigrants arriving from the United States, except in so far as they become settlers on homestead lands.

## NATIONALITIES OF HOMESTEAD SETTLERS.

I submit a statement showing the nationalities of the settlers taking up homesteads during the first ten months of 1895, as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year.

Nationalities.	1894.		1895.	
	No. of Entries first 10 months.		No. of Entries first 10 months.	
Canadians from Ontario.....	446		312	
do do Quebec.....	59		54	
do do Nova Scotia.....	17		15	
do do New Brunswick.....	8		—	
do do Prince Edward Island.....	10		2	
do do British Columbia.....	23		14	
do do Manitoba.....	81		107	
do do North-west Territories.....	64		23	
		708		527
Persons who had previous entry.....		386		382
Canadians returned from the States.....		185		97
United States.....		514		432
Newfoundland.....		1		1
New Zealand.....		1		1
Australians.....		1		2
English.....		296		261
Irish.....		18		23
Scotch.....		64		76
French.....		99		81
Belgians.....		26		15
Italians.....		—		2
Austro-Hungarians.....		74		46
Germans.....		78		44
Hollanders.....		2		2
Danes, other than Icelanders.....		10		7
Icelanders.....		27		15
Swedo-Norwegians.....		53		20
Russians, other than Mennonites and Poles.....		136		67
Mennonites.....		3		4
Poles.....		1		9
		2,683		2,114
Number of souls.....		8,244		6,147

Underneath will be found a statement giving the number of entries made, respectively, during the calendar years 1893 and 1894, and the first ten months of 1895, by persons coming from the various states and territories of the American Union. In examining the figures for the present year it must be borne in mind that they relate to the first ten months only.

States.	1893.		1894.		First 10 months of '95.	
	Number of Entries.	Number of Souls.	Number of Entries.	Number of Souls.	Number of Entries.	Number of Souls.
Arkansas.....	1	1				
California.....	7	22	14	32	4	8
Colorado.....	8	22	3	3	1	2
Connecticut.....	3	3	2	4	1	1
Dakota.....	120	340	121	378	74	263
Florida.....			1	4		
Idaho.....	27	83	22	55	33	127
Illinois.....	10	22	12	44	4	9
Indiana.....	2	4	1	1	2	13
Iowa.....	4	9	13	36	12	41
Kansas.....	12	37	43	146	52	172
Kentucky.....			1	1	3	5
Maine.....	3	6	3	9	2	15
Massachusetts.....	9	45	23	82	4	9
Michigan.....	93	296	61	175	23	90
Minnesota.....	87	266	209	650	102	377
Missouri.....	6	6			2	2
Montana.....	20	52	18	51	4	7
Nebraska.....	139	423	78	260	46	153
Nevada.....	1	1				
New Hampshire.....	5	10	6	32	1	4
New Jersey.....	7	19	6	18		
New York.....	24	57	25	77	11	45
Ohio.....	4	18	7	17	6	13
Oklahoma.....					1	1
Oregon.....	30	92	22	46	19	80
Pennsylvania.....			10	27	6	16
Rhode Island.....	1	5	4	10		
Tennessee.....					1	4
Texas.....	2	5	1	1	2	5
Utah.....	50	137	15	56	26	101
Vermont.....	6	15			5	11
Washington.....	105	254	105	294	63	165
Wisconsin.....	29	101	18	52	12	39
Wyoming.....	3	9	1	5	7	44
State not given.....			5	22		
	818	2,360	850	2,588	529	1,822

The following is the statement of expenditure extracted from the departmental accounts :—

## CANADIAN AGENCIES.

	\$	cts.		\$	cts.
Brandon.....	724	80	Prince Albert.....	119	40
Calgary.....	3,263	85	Quebec.....	11,067	90
Duck Lake.....	28	14	Red Deer.....	423	15
Edmonton.....	1,513	79	Regina.....	931	90
Estevan.....	203	50	St. John.....	957	48
Halifax.....	4,841	42	Wetaskiwin.....	625	20
Kamloops.....	182	25	Whitewood.....	188	40
Minnedosa.....	5	00	Winnipeg.....	7,232	39
Montreal.....	4,392	49	Supplies for Moravian settlement,		
New Westminster.....	151	65	South Edmonton.....	300	00
North Bay.....	1,388	25	Yorkton.....	26	25
Ottawa.....	1,420	29			
Port Arthur.....	1,308	00			
				41,295	20

## EUROPEAN AGENCIES.

	\$	cts.		\$	cts.
Birmingham.....	1,709	89	London.....	1,992	46
Bristol.....	1,100	76	Paris.....	1,719	05
Dublin.....	2,063	28	Miscellaneous expenditure, Great Bri-		
Dundee.....	1,716	86	tain.....	1,846	39
Glasgow.....	3,201	87			
Inverness.....	1,659	13			
Liverpool.....	7,855	50		23,865	19

## GENERAL EXPENDITURE, INCLUDING SERVICES IN UNITED STATES.

Grants, services and travel.....	\$ 20,866	79
Bonuses.....	9,521	60
Veterinary inspection fees.....	2,777	75
General expenses.....	83,708	39
Printing, advertising, &c.....	13,643	75

A. M. BURGESS,

*Deputy Minister of the Interior.*