

the Department in Great Britain and Northern Ireland was 2,076, of whom 388 have cancelled their applications, leaving a net total of 1,688. These families numbered 9,367 individuals, including, besides the heads of families, 1,335 dependants of working age. In the first year 459 families arrived, and in the second 1,039.

In 1925 the Minister of Immigration and Colonization negotiated with the British Government a further agreement providing for cheap passage rates for British farm workers, and undertaking to give the settlers brought out under this agreement five years' after-care through the service of its rural field land settlement staff. Up to Dec. 31, 1926, the Board had been instructed by the Department to give after-care to 2,486 persons who have come out under the agreement, and had undertaken to place 10,000 more of these assisted passage migrants in 1927, and to give them after-care for five years.

To Dec. 31, 1926, the Land Settlement Branch had also placed in farm employment 22,335 farm labourers. In the calendar year 1926 there have been placed 5,027 labourers and dependants numbering 4,163, also 260 domestics.

From time to time the Board, at the instance of the Department, has investigated applications made by residents in Canada for the admission of foreign Europeans from non-preferred countries. These investigations have necessitated long trips into the country to visit the person making the application and to ascertain the *bona fides* of the same. Applications which have been personally and individually investigated number 19,270.

The staff of the Soldier Settlement Board numbered 492 on Dec. 1, 1926, a reduction of 69 p.c. since June, 1920, when the high water mark of soldier settlement activities necessitated personnel numbering 1,579.

## 2.—Department of the Secretary of State.

The Department of the Secretary of State was constituted in its present form in 1873, through the merging of the previously-existing offices of the Secretaries of State for Canada and for the Provinces. The Secretary of State is the official mouthpiece of the Governor-General, as well as the medium of communication between the Dominion and Provincial Governments, all correspondence between the two being conducted by him with the Lieutenant-Governors. He is also the custodian of the Great Seal of Canada and the Privy Seal, as well as the channel by which the general public may approach the Crown.

The Secretary of State is also the Registrar-General, registering all proclamations, commissions, charters, land patents and other instruments issued under the Great Seal. He is further charged with the administration of the Companies Act, the Canada Temperance Act, the Naturalization Act, the Board of Trade and Trade Unions Acts, the Ticket of Leave Act and the War Charities Act. The following information on these subjects has been secured in the course of administration.

**Charters of Incorporation.**—The number of companies incorporated under the Companies Act and amending Acts during the fiscal year 1925-26 was 801, with a total capitalization of \$353,342,800. Supplementary letters patent were granted to 183 companies during the year, 48 of which increased their capital stock by the aggregate amount of \$33,303,500; 47 decreased their capital stock by \$43,797,780.50; the remaining 88 were granted supplementary letters patent for various purposes, such as changing names, extending powers, etc. The total capitalization of new companies plus the increase of capital of existing companies amounted to \$386,646,300.