

EXCLUSION OF ASIATICS

Premier McBride in Address to Legislature on Subject of Oriental Immigration

In the Legislative Assembly on February 14th, the Hon. Richard McBride, Premier, moved the following resolution which was recommended by the Hon. W. J. Bowser, Attorney-General:

"That whereas the feeling in the Province of British Columbia has long been opposed to Asiatic immigration; and

"Whereas numerous representations have been made by the Legislative Assembly of this Province to the Federal authorities, setting forth the views of the people at various times as being in favor of effectual exclusion; and

"Whereas on account of the action of the Dominion Government on several occasions in disallowing local legislation, framed on the lines of the commonly called "Natal Act," with the object of preventing such immigration, the local Legislature has been prevented from exercising authority on its own behalf; and

"Whereas a delegation from the Government of British Columbia, whose report has been submitted to this House, has recently made further and urgent representations on the subject to the Federal authorities to the effect that the immigration from Oriental countries still continues in a degree constituting

a menace to white labor and the desire to preserve British Columbia as a white man's domain:

"Therefore, be it Resolved, That this House heartily concurs in the representations made by the said delegation to the Right Honorable R. L. Borden, Prime Minister of Canada, and desires to express its great satisfaction at the announcement that the Government of British Columbia will be consulted in connection with the new Treaty with Japan so far as consideration specially affecting British Columbia may be concerned; and

"Be it further Resolved, That His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor be requested to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Honorable the Secretary of State at Ottawa."

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The Hon. Mr. McBride said:

"In rising to move this resolution I am quite sensible of the importance that must attach to the attitude of this House with regard to the party that may be in power in the Dominion in the settlement of this question. The object of the resolution is to secure once more the voice of the House on the policy the