

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: Well, why not have those countersigned or endorsed by the British consul or some other British official in China? That would be a proper precaution.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: If my honourable friend will look at the Act, he will see that that is already provided for. This machinery has been in operation for years. The department has been very strict in enforcing the law as against the entry of Chinese; in fact, we are amending the Act now because of the restrictions which have been placed on Chinese immigration having operated as a hardship in some cases. We can only use terms which are well understood in the English language. Any attempt to define a well-known term only leads to further complications. When we speak of a clergyman you know that he is a minister of religion. When we speak of students you refer to the Bill and you find what the word "student" means. Students are those:

coming to Canada for the purpose of securing a higher education in any Canadian college or university or other educational institution approved by the Minister.

Then, they must bring with them from China a certificate as to their status as students or clergymen, as the case may be. They must also satisfy the officials on this side of the water as to their status. Then they are admitted.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: For my part, I should be satisfied if the honourable gentleman were in a position to state that amongst Chinamen there is a class known as clergymen, but until we have an answer to that question, or some assurance on that point, we should delay consideration of the Bill.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: It is for us on this side to determine whether they are clergymen or not, just as we determine whether they are students or not.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: But is there such a class amongst Chinamen?

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: Yes.

Hon. Mr. BEIQUE: It may not be easy to determine.

Hon. Mr. CLORAN: The criticism is not an objection to the Bill. All this honourable House wants is to make it as clear and definite as possible. Some of us think that the door is left open to immigration which the country does not want, that is all. If

Hon. Mr. CLORAN:

the minister and the department are satisfied that immigration can be restricted under the terms of this proposed law, the House will accept the Bill, subject to any modification that may be necessary in the future. But I am still of the opinion, and I think the honourable gentleman from De Salaberry (Hon. Mr. Beique) is correct in stating, that the word "clergyman" is very broad and indefinite.

Hon. Mr. DANDURAND: I know two things: there are religions in China, very many; there are temples in China, very many. The question is, have they any priests or clergymen? I have no doubt from my knowledge of humanity that when there are those two conditions, religions and temples, there are priests, in China as elsewhere. I may say that during the winter of 1915-16 there was a congress of religions held in Shanghai under the auspices of the International Institute, presided over by the Rev. Gilbert Reid. There were in attendance at that congress representatives from all the sects, divisions, and subdivisions, including the Christian sects, who, before the higher intellectual classes of Shanghai, expounded the doctrines of their religions, which were all represented by clergymen of high standing, either by their official status or by their learning. I received the report of that congress, which lasted five or six months. They devoted a couple of days in the week to an exposition of the doctrines held by the various sects represented at the congress.

The section was agreed to.

On section 2—persons ceasing to be in exempt class liable for tax:

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: How will the Government keep track of these people? I think it would be rather difficult, once they get into the country, to keep track of them, whether they are exempt or not.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: In just the same manner as it is done to-day.

Hon. Mr. BOSTOCK: But, as I understand, it is not necessary to keep track of them at all to-day. Every Chinaman coming into the country pays the tax of \$500. Now it is proposed to allow these men to come in without paying any tax, on the representation that they are students.

Hon. Sir JAMES LOUGHEED: On the certificate issued by their own Government and endorsed by the British consul at the port of embarkation. Furthermore, they have to satisfy the authorities here.