

of tickets of leave to persons of Chinese origin who wish to leave Canada with the declared intention of returning thereto.

I do not think there is any provision in the existing law for the transportation of Chinese from one point in Canada to another. That is a step in a liberal direction in this Bill.

HON. MR. SCOTT—No, no.

HON. MR. POWER—If the hon. gentleman will show me any provision in the existing law under which the Chinese can travel through Canada, I shall be obliged to him. I do not myself see any provision in the existing law for Chinese to land in Canada and go across the country.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—No, there is none.

HON. MR. SCOTT—I have no doubt it will be read by the Customs authorities, who are not friendly to those people, as placing the most stringent restrictions on the Chinese, that it will control clause 8 of the Bill as being recent legislation.

HON. MR. ABBOTT—This extends to everybody of Chinese origin.

HON. MR. POWER—We can accept that provision as far as it is liberal, and strike out the remainder of it. Then the third clause is to restrict the issue of tickets-of-leave. We need not accept that portion of the Bill if we do not wish so to do, and inasmuch as there is some good in the measure we might allow it to go to Committee, and there deal with it in detail.

HON. MR. SCOTT—All the clauses are more stringent than in the old law.

HON. MR. POWER—The third clause is the only one which renders the law more stringent, and we can strike that out if we please. I think at this stage of the session it would not be wise to introduce a Bill to repeal the original Chinese Act, because it would have no chance of passing the other House, and would involve a considerable loss of time in discussion. Perhaps next year we might

take up that question in the early part of the session instead of adjourning.

HON. MR. WARK—From the course this debate has taken I think there is not much probability of the Bill passing in its present shape. The hon. gentleman from Sarnia has proposed that a Bill should be brought in to repeal the present law. If we could accomplish that I should most heartily support it, but the result would be just to leave the law as it stands if we throw this Bill out. I think that instead of exempting from this tax the Chinese wife of any other nationality but a Chinaman we ought, if a Chinaman brings his wife, to exempt them both, because the probabilities are they are going to settle in the country. One great complaint against the Chinese is that they come here merely to earn money, and when they have earned it they leave the country and carry the money with them. If we would just alter the clause of this Bill to provide that when a Chinaman comes in with his wife and children they should be exempt from the tax altogether, I think it would be a great improvement. The hon. gentleman from Ottawa proposes to confine this legislation to British Columbia. I should like to go a little further and allow Chinamen to land in British Columbia and to cross over the mountains to where they can settle down on the prairie and become settlers, producing more than they can consume and adding to the wealth of the country. Another great complaint against the Chinese is that they work for lower wages than the white man. I think they are not popular with the saloons; I do not think they spend much money there; but although a great number of our people are quite indifferent on the Chinese question altogether, there are two classes with whom it is a live question, one who are violently opposed to their coming into the country at all, and the other class who believe that it is an arrangement of Divine Providence to allow them to come in here and bring them under Christian influences. Looking at the amount of money which the various Christian churches are spending in sending missionaries all the way to China to christianize the Chinese, when