

trying to do, and perhaps with more ability. However, I am also encouraged with regard to this question, and I hope that what I may say will strike a responsive chord in his generous heart, and that, together with this Government, he will do something towards helping the people of British Columbia to free themselves from what may be called a growing evil. If my opponent in the late election said what was true—and I have no reason whatever to doubt his word—then the honorable, the Leader of the Opposition (Sir Charles Tupper) is likewise pledged to the consideration of this question. In fact, it was stated upon the public platform during the last election that the then Premier was prepared to deal with this question in sympathy with the wishes of the people of British Columbia. I may then take it, Mr. Speaker, that so far as this House is concerned, there is nothing of a party nature in the question, and that as we try to solve what may be regarded as a knotty, delicate subject we will approach it simply from the standpoint of citizens interested in the development and in the prosperity of the people of Canada. To some, my position on this question may seem a little strange; that is to say, most people to-day who take a broad view of things are in deep sympathy with what is called the brotherhood of man. I do not for a moment deny that doctrine on the floor of this House. I assent to it with all my heart. I believe that the time is coming, it is now on the wing though it is yet far distant of which our Scottish bard has so sweetly sung :

When man to man the world o'er
Shall brothers be and u' that.

But, I hold that the claim which the people of British Columbia make through their representatives does not in any way clash with what is now justly regarded as one of the noblest dreams ever conceived by the mind of man. I may say, that when I went to British Columbia six years ago, I

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against the Chinese agitation. In the sincerity of my heart I believed the opinions of some of the distinguished men in this country, who thought that Chinese immigration would give a glorious opportunity to the church to christianise them. I was kindly disposed towards them. I have no ill-feeling towards them yet, but when I began to come in contact with the trouble—because there is a very serious trouble in connection with the matter—when I began to realise how these Chinese gentlemen affected the moral and material interests of our own Canadian people, then, I found that it was our self interest to do all the justice to our own people that we possibly could. I unhesitatingly say, from observation and contact, that as things have been going on and as they are going on at the present time, we are doing a positive injustice to those who are bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh. I heard the Premier say not long ago—and, Mr. Speaker, I desire to congratulate him on obtaining his present honorable position, and on the high vantage ground which he now holds in our political life. I am glad that after breasting the