

*Chinese Immigration*

at least \$2,500 invested in business in China and are prepared to invest a like amount in Canada in a business dealing exclusively in goods grown, produced or manufactured in China.

Hon. gentlemen will see that a merchant according to this definition would be a man who had been engaged in mercantile pursuits in China previous to making application for passport from the Chinese government; and having that passport viséd by the Canadian officer he would require to have been in business in China and had \$2,500 invested therein. In addition, when he came to Canada he could engage only in business dealing in goods grown, manufactured or produced in China.

Mr. McQUARRIE: Have you any control over him?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Absolutely. The act provides also that if he fails in any respect in carrying out the provisions under which he entered Canada—and my hon. friend will realize that not very many will qualify under that provision—he shall be subject to deportation.

Mr. McQUARRIE: If he engages in any other occupation?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Yes. Once he departs from the provisions surrounding his entry into Canada, in other words, if he engages in any other business than that described, the provision of deportation shall apply.

Mr. McQUARRIE: What section has the minister quoted?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): What I have read is not in the bill; I am giving the regulation which we intend putting into effect to define the word "merchant."

Mr. McQUARRIE: But the deportation clause?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): My hon. friend will find it in section 27, if I remember correctly.

Mr. NEILL: I understood the minister to say that he proposes to make an arrangement with the Chinese government to limit the number of immigrants coming in per annum. What is the limit?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): I was quoting from the memorandum dealing with the definition of a merchant, namely, an individual engaged in mercantile pursuits. He might be engaged in any mercantile pursuit in China, but whatever line he was engaged in he had to have \$2,500 invested in his business.

[Mr. C. A. Stewart.]

Mr. NEILL: The minister began by saying; It is proposed to make an arrangement with China to limit the number. Will he look at that memorandum again and tell us what is to be the limited number?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): My hon. friend will have to treat that in the larger sense. Of course, there is a very great limitation of numbers in regard to Chinese immigration because it is confined now to merchants, students and members of the diplomatic corps.

Mr. NEILL: Clearly the minister proposes to make an arrangement to limit the number of Chinese merchants that are to come in in any year.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): No, my hon. friend has taken the wrong interpretation.

Mr. NEILL: Will he read it again?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): Certainly; but it does not deal definitely with the word "merchant". There is a definition of the word "merchant" by regulation. This is a restriction all around.

Mr. NEILL: Will the hon. minister read the first few lines of that regulation?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): I know perfectly well what my hon. friend has in mind. The reference to numbers means numbers of merchants.

Mr. NEILL: Yes.

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): But that is not our intention.

Mr. McBRIDE: The right hon. Prime Minister stated that he would allow merchants to bring in their wives and families. I understand there are very few Chinese merchants in Canada that have not two or three wives. Would the Prime Minister admit to Canada only the children of the merchant by one wife, or would he let in the whole of them?

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I would allow him one wife and any children by that wife.

Mr. McQUARRIE: Which wife?

Mr. CLARK: Did I understand the minister to say in introducing this section that this bill is merely intended to enact regulations which are already in existence?

Mr. STEWART (Argenteuil): No. The old act provides for the entry of Chinese on payment of head tax; there was no restriction on the number of immigrants so long as they each paid the stipulated head tax. Within