

that we are coercionists, we ought, in the early career of our young nationality, to show that we are willing to open our arms to the people of the world and receive them hospitably, provided they show a disposition to co-operate with us and be industrious, law-abiding citizens. I oppose the measure on other grounds. I have some slight knowledge of the Chinese as they stand at present as a nation. I have some friends in China who have been placed there by the operations of the British family who made inroads into that country and have taken possession of a portion of it and who are certainly receiving great consideration from the Chinese. While we who are receiving those benefits from those people show a disposition to be unjust and unkind, I certainly do not wish to be considered as endorsing any such legislation. I have had letters recently from very near relatives of my own in China who are desirous of coming through Canada with their servants, two or three of whom would be Chinese, and in writing to me they expressed very great surprise that Canada should be so exclusive as to prevent the possibility of English speaking people coming through Canada with Chinese servants by enacting legislation of this kind. At that time I was not quite sure myself that there was such legislation on the Statute Book as would exclude them, but on inquiry I found it was too true, that in consequence of the restrictions on those people they are likely to change their route, and go to Europe via the Suez Canal instead of crossing over by the Canadian Pacific Railway. Seeing matters in this light I think it would be good policy on our part show to those people and show to the world that instead of shutting out cheap labor and people who are willing to come here and help to cultivate our soil and develop the industries of the country we, in this Senate, are not restricted and hampered by small and selfish considerations and that we are hostile to such legislation.

HON. MR. POWER—I am gratified at the discussion which has taken place on this measure, because it shows, what I had begun to fear was not the case, that when a subject comes up in which

the members of this House take an interest they are willing to discuss it for a reasonable time without crying down the speaker who happens to have the floor, or without intimating very strongly that they desire to finish the order paper. That is the general rule in this House. A desire to clear the order paper seems to be the principal motive which actuates members of the House; but I am glad to see that when a Bill comes up which interests the House, hon. gentlemen seem to think that our time was not intended merely for the purpose of clearing the order paper but may be profitably occupied in giving expression to opinions calculated to do credit to the Senate and to Canadians generally. I do not think, if I may be allowed to say so after what has been stated by other hon. gentlemen, that the Bill before us deserves the condemnation with which it has been received. The Bill on this subject which came up last session did, and I was happy to add my little note of condemnation to the general chorus of disapproval with which that Bill was received. The measure of last year was framed in view of the approaching elections, and was introduced I presume at the request of the representatives of British Columbia in the other Chamber to secure the votes of the labor element in their own Province. This Bill is a bill which, on the whole, rather tends to lessen than to render more stringent the provisions of the original Act.

HON. MR. SCOTT—No.

HON. MR. POWER—If the hon. gentleman will read the preamble, I think he will admit that it is so. It provides:—

Whereas it is expedient to exempt the wives of persons who are not of Chinese origin, from the payment of any duty imposed by "The Chinese Immigration Act."

That is relaxing the law as far as it goes, though not very far. I think it is suggested by my hon. colleague that the provision might go a little further without possibly doing much harm. The clause continues:—

To make provision as to the transportation through Canada by railway of persons of Chinese origin, and to restrict the issuing