

Mr. ROBB: They were not landed in Canada.

Mr. NEILL: Then how did they get on the boats they are on now from the Cedric which brought them here? They must have landed on the wharf, and they are now in Canadian boats, in Canadian waters, travelling between Canadian ports. If they are not in Canada, where in God's name are they?

Mr. ROBB: I will read again to my hon. friend the definition of "landed" in the act:

"Land", "landed" or "landing", as applied to passengers or immigrants, means their lawful admission into Canada by an officer under this act, otherwise than for inspection or treatment or other temporary purpose provided for by this act.

Mr. GUTHRIE: I would think, Mr. Chairman, that even under the language quoted by my hon. friend, these men are landed in Canada. They are in Canadian territory, and under our jurisdiction in every way. They are here undoubtedly.

Mr. ROBB: Does my hon. friend object to that?

Mr. GUTHRIE: I would prefer they had been excluded. My only object in mentioning Chinese immigration under this section is that I think it should be amended to make it plain that this act shall not over-ride or come in conflict with the Chinese Exclusion Act. We have an act that excludes Chinese immigration, and I am heartily in accord with the provisions of that act. I do not think it would be proper to pass another act to permit the minister to do what the Chinese Exclusion Act says he shall not do. I think there should be a limitation to this section, to the effect that it shall not come in conflict with the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Mr. ROBB: We never attempt to do that, and I venture to say that since the act of last year came into force it has been fairly administered. As regards these men who come in on the Atlantic coast, if this government is wrong, every government for the last ten or fifteen years has been wrong.

Mr. GUTHRIE: The fact that we have done wrong hitherto does not justify our doing wrong now. I understand that it is the conviction of the great majority of this House that Chinese immigration should be absolutely excluded from Canada. That is the sense of the Chinese Exclusion Act. We used to allow them in on payment of a poll tax. We stopped that.

Mr. NEILL: Hear, hear.

Mr. GUTHRIE: I do not take it as good legislation, I do not think it is logical to exclude them by one act and allow the minister to admit them under the clause in another act.

Mr. ROBB: If my hon. friends had made a careful study of the act we would have less of this debate. Now the section which bears on this matter reads:

All provisions of this act not repugnant to the provisions of the Chinese Immigration Act, 1923, shall apply as well to persons of Chinese origin as to other persons.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: That is what is objected to. That makes good the point raised by the hon. member (Mr. Neill):

Mr. ROBB: Not at all.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: Yes, because as I followed his reading the section says it shall apply.

Mr. ROBB: The provision shall apply but if the Chinese Act excludes them it does not apply.

Sir HENRY DRAYTON: I suggest that if a provision of this kind is inserted it will meet the case raised by the hon. member for Comox-Alberni:

The provisions of this act shall not in any instance extend the rights of any immigrants subject to the provisions of the Chinese Immigration Act.

That is a plain short declaration.

Mr. ROBB: When we come to section 29 we will consider that.

The CHAIRMAN: What about the amendment limiting the time of the permit to six months?

Mr. ROBB: I would rather not accept that. Amendment (Mr. Neill) negatived.

Mr. NEILL: I have another amendment and I do not think the minister will find it in his heart to object to it. It is one found in a great many of our laws, and in every one of these cases where extraordinary powers are given to the minister. It is simply that he shall present a record of his transactions in that regard to the House annually within ten days of the meeting of parliament.

The CHAIRMAN: It is moved by Mr. Neill that section 3 be amended by adding thereto:

A return of all such permits, with the reasons therefor, issued during the year shall be made by the minister to parliament within ten days of its meeting.

Mr. ROBB: Would my hon. friend make the period 30 days?