

(c) Such right shall not extend to a visit or temporary residence for labour purposes or to permanent settlement.

There is a frank recognition that so far as labour is concerned the right of entry to Canada does not apply to Indians desiring to come here for either work or settlement.

3. Indians already permanently domiciled in the other British countries should be allowed to bring in their wives and minor children on condition (a) that not more than one wife and her children shall be admitted for each such Indian and (b) that each individual so admitted shall be certified by the Government of India as being the lawful wife or child of such Indian.

Mr. McMASTER: A terrible responsibility!

Mr. LAPOINTE (Kamouraska): Will Canadians receive reciprocal treatment in this respect?

Mr. ROWELL: I am quite sure the Government of India will facilitate any hon. member by following the same procedure there. This clause was of course regarded by the Indian representatives as of great importance to them, while other clauses were of as equal importance from the standpoint of the self-governing dominions.

The most acute troubles that have arisen in connection with Indian immigration have occurred in Canada and South Africa, perhaps more largely in the latter country which has had a larger immigration, but I am glad to say that this resolution was unanimously accepted by the representatives of all the peoples of the Empire, including India, as embodying for the future a fair and honourable understanding on this subject.

Mr. McQUARRIE: Was that agreed to by Australia?

Mr. ROWELL: Yes, it was agreed to by all portions of the Empire; and I think that when one considers the subject from every point of view one must recognize that it is a fair and reasonable solution of the difficulty. I appreciate the objections there may be on the part of some to permitting the wives of Indians at present residing in Canada to come here. I can quite conceive that there may be objections to this, but I think we must concede that much at least to our fellow citizens of the Indian Empire who have fought so valiantly in this war.

Mr. LAPOINTE (Kamouraska): Has the minister any idea which particular wife of an Indian will be given preferment in coming to this country?

Mr. ROWELL: The only rule is that embodied in the resolution. The Government of India must decide who should be the wife to come to Canada.

In dealing with this question, I think it is only right to say that the Indian representatives pointed out that the removal of the grounds of misunderstanding which had so long existed between India and the Dominions, and which had been used by the German propagandist to stir up trouble there and cause widespread unrest, was a real contribution to the peace and security of the Empire.

Mr. McQUARRIE: May I ask the minister if this arrangement is similar to the arrangement which has existed between India and South Africa for some years? I believe that in South Africa one wife is admitted with her children, but there a very difficult situation has arisen because a woman would bring a large number of boy children, perhaps nine or ten, and there has been absolutely no way of meeting that situation. Perhaps an amended arrangement has been agreed to by South Africa as well as other colonies. I would like to know whether any change has been made in regard to the arrangement which was adopted in South Africa.

Mr. ROWELL: I am not familiar with the arrangements existing in South Africa. All I know is that the representatives of South Africa cordially approved of this as being a satisfactory arrangement.

I was going on to say that India contributed over a million soldiers in this war. They fought magnificently in the three eastern theatres, Mesopotamia, Palestine, and East Africa. The Indian troops were probably not suited to conditions of warfare in Western Europe, but in the other theatres they have won imperishable glory for that race, as have the soldiers of the self-governing dominions.

If the representatives of the dominions are to meet around a common council board with representatives of India to plan together about the affairs of the Empire, we must give some recognition to the common citizenship that exists to the extent at least indicated by this resolution.

Mr. McMASTER: I think the minister was in attendance upon this conference. Did he gather that this proposal was heartily accepted by the representatives of India?

Mr. ROWELL: I think the best answer of that would be to read the statement of