

by the head of any other Department; but I am not able to say that the words in the Civil Service Act are precisely the same, although the effect is the same.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Who are entitled, under the present rules, to receive a superannuation allowance?

Mr. THOMPSON. Only those officers appointed by Order in Council.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. How low does that go?

Mr. THOMPSON. The officers included are the warden, deputy warden, surgeon and accountant. The chaplains are mentioned as being appointed by Order in Council, but they are not on the superannuation list.

Mr. DAVIES. Is there any change in the salaries?

Mr. THOMPSON. The minimum is less than at present, the maximum is in some cases greater.

Bill reported, and read the third time and passed.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

Mr. CHAPLEAU moved second reading Bill (No. 54) to amend "The Chinese Immigration Act."

Motion agreed to, Bill read the second time, and House resolved itself into Committee.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. CHAPLEAU. As I have already said in introducing the Bill, this measure is practically a repetition of the Bill which passed the House last year on the same subject, with the exception of the first clause, which says that no duties shall be payable under this Act in respect of any woman of Chinese origin who is the wife of a person who is not of Chinese origin, and who, for the purposes of this Act, shall be of the same nationality as her husband. Another clause provides for the passing of Chinese *in transitu* by railway through the country. The next section provides for the procuring a passport or certificate of leave for Chinese residents of British Columbia, who desire to visit their native country, with the intention of returning within three months. It is also provided that the person who presents a fraudulent certificate shall be liable to a penalty, and that one-fourth of the duties and penalties under the Act shall be paid, after all costs, to the Provincial Government of British Columbia.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). The hon. gentleman proposes that the Chinese wife of a British subject shall not be treated as a Chinese woman, but under his policy, when a Chinaman is married to a woman who is not of Chinese origin they are both treated as being of Chinese origin. The hon. gentleman has made enquiry into these matters, and he knows what statements are made with regard to the morals of the Chinese, and it would seem to me that this was almost legislating in such a way as rather to militate against the morals of those people.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. I refer the hon. gentleman to the report of the Chinese Commission for any information on that subject, but I may say that experience has shown that Englishmen coming from China who are married to Chinese women, were obliged by the Customs officer to pay the duty for their wives and children. It really strikes anyone that the wife of a man who is a Christian and a British subject should not be subjected to that duty, for, according to a law which is higher than ours, being married they are both one, and they should be treated as one.

Mr. DAVIES. As I understood the scope of the question raised by the hon. member for Bothwell (Mr. Mills), it was whether it was not desirable, in the interests of morality, that married Chinese women should be admitted free of this duty.

Mr. THOMPSON.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. As I understand the remarks of my hon. friend, he thinks it would probably encourage the immigration of married people among the Chinese if this restriction were removed. Well, Mr. Chairman, I fear that in that case there would be considerable difficulty. As has already been stated, there was a political difficulty felt in allowing Chinese immigration into America, without certain checks and restrictions, and in the United States that has been recognised to an extent to which we do not feel disposed to go in this country, but I do not think it would be wise at the present moment to prevent Chinese married women from paying a duty in the same way as their husbands do, and thus encourage, instead of preventing, Chinese immigration.

Mr. MILLS (Bothwell). That is precisely the point which I would bring under the hon. gentleman's attention, because the hon. gentleman's regulations at present practically prohibit married men from coming into the country, because this prevents them from bringing in their wives. I think there are social grounds upon which that policy ought not to be persisted in. If the hon. gentleman is disposed to exclude Chinese immigration altogether, that is, of course, a perfectly intelligible policy. If he proposes to restrict the immigration by imposing a tax on every male coming from China, that is an intelligible policy; but when he proposes to impose a tax indiscriminately on every Chinese man, woman and child that comes into the country, he proposes a policy which, I think, is not in the interest of public morality.

Mr. CHAPLEAU. There is this inconvenience: when a Christian or a British subject marries a Chinese woman, proof of the marriage can be made which is satisfactory to the authorities. But we know that by the customs prevailing in China not one wife merely is allowed, but several; there the concubine is called the second wife; and when the Pacific coast Province is complaining that Chinese immigration is already too great, and that the majority of the female immigrants are such as should not be encouraged, it is easy to see what abuses and difficulties would result if they were allowed to come free into British Columbia on the pretence of being married.

Mr. DAVIES. That seems to be a fair ground of argument, and perhaps the hon. gentleman is right; but to one who has not had the same opportunity of studying the question that he has had, the very opposite result would appear to follow from his policy. The people protest against the introduction of the Chinese because a class of women who are not desirable come; but the question my hon. friend raises is whether, if you adopt the more generous policy and allow the better class of Chinamen to come with their wives, the objections now naturally felt against Chinese immigration would be materially lessened. I think the subject is worthy of consideration.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. The whole policy of this measure is to restrict the immigration of Chinese into British Columbia and into Canada. On the whole, it is considered not advantageous to the country that the Chinese should come and settle in Canada, producing a mongrel race, and interfering very much with white labor in Canada. That may be right, or it may be wrong; it may be a prejudice or otherwise; but the prejudice is universal. Whether it be in the United States, in Australia or in Canada, white labor and Chinese labor will never work harmoniously together, and we shall have the same scenes in Canada, if that immigration is permitted, that we have seen so lamentably exhibited in the United States. The policy of the Act which now exists is to restrict Chinese labor, and therefore any step which is contrary to the principle of the measure which received the sanction of Parliament, I believe, would not be satisfactory to those portions of Canada where Chinese labor has been introduced to