

Japanese government, that the only Japanese allowed to leave Japan for Canada are : (1) Those holding old passports and certificates of Japanese consuls certifying that they are residents of and returning to Canada; (2) families of Japanese residing in Canada and coming out to them, and (3) merchants and students duly qualified. And so on all through the piece. The assurances which my hon. friend the Postmaster General has brought back from Japan do not seem to be fuller or more conclusive or to offer any better security than those which have been given to us from time to time from 1900 to 1907. I do not say in this regard that we are to find any fault with the Japanese government. The Japanese government has a perfect right to deal with these matters as matter of internal regulation just as Canada ought to have an absolute right to deal with the restriction of immigration to her own shores from Japan. Both countries should be entitled to exercise these rights to the full. The situation at the present time is that Japan, in so far as immigration from that country to Canada is concerned may exercise control and that Canada may not exercise any control.

My hon. friend has asked for a fair trial of the new regulations. I would not object to giving the new regulations a fair trial and I trust that assurance which the Postmaster General has been able to secure from the government of Japan will answer all the expectations which he has announced to the House in his speech of a week ago. That, however, does not alter the situation, that does not affect the principle and the principle for which we must stand in this House is that Canada ought not to enter into any treaty engagement which would prevent the necessary and effective control of immigration into this country. It is a subject which may be of transcendent importance as far as oriental immigration is concerned, it is a question of vital importance not only to British Columbia but to the whole of the Dominion and it is fraught with the gravest consequences not only to us at the present day, not only to the great wage earning population of the country but to all the people of Canada and to those who will succeed us in the future in developing this country. So, I think it is only right, Mr. Speaker, in view of what has taken place from 1895 down to the present time, that the subject should be placed before the country upon a basis which we deem right and which is in the interest of Canada. Therefore I move :

That all the words after the word 'that' be left out and the following substituted therefor :

By order in council of 3rd August, 1895, the ministry then in office in Canada called attention to the dangers of unrestricted immigration and declared that Canada's adhesion to the treaty of 1894 with Japan should be accompanied by such a proviso or stipulation

Mr. R. L. BORDEN.

as would enable parliament to control the immigration of labourers and artisans;

That Japan in 1896 consented that such a proviso and stipulation should accompany the adhesion of Canada to the treaty;

That notwithstanding such consent the present government in 1905 deliberately abandoned any such proviso or stipulation, although its great importance was twice called to their attention by the British government during the course of the negotiations; and, having entered into the treaty of 1906 (which brought into force in Canada the treaty of 1894 absolutely and without reserve) the government secured its ratification by parliament in 1907.

That the ratification of the said treaty of 1906 was almost immediately followed by a great influx of Japanese labourers into Canada;

That in the opinion of this House Canada should not enter into or accede to any treaty which deprives parliament of the control of immigration into this country;

That this House, while expressing its profound appreciation of the friendly intentions and courteous assurances of the Japanese government, and while declaring its sincere desire for the most cordial relations with the Japanese people, desires nevertheless to record its strong protest against a policy under which our wage-earning population cannot be protected from destructive invading competition except by entreating the forbearance and aid of a foreign government.

Mr. W. A. GALLIHER (Kootenay). Mr. Speaker, this question which we are now discussing has occupied the House for a considerable time, and there will no doubt be further discussion upon it. I am satisfied that the importance of the subject justifies all the time that this parliament may devote to its serious consideration. It is a question which is fraught with great importance to the province of British Columbia, and to my mind it is of equal importance to the rest of the Dominion. It is a question that is national in its character, and I am sure that the members of this House who have listened to the speeches delivered by the British Columbia representatives upon the motion of the hon. member for Nanaimo (Mr. Ralph Smith) have a good deal of light thrown upon the Oriental question in so far as it affects our province of British Columbia and all Canada. I am satisfied that these hon. gentlemen have a different view on that question now from that which they held before the facts were so ably presented. My hon. friend from Nanaimo and other hon. gentlemen have given various grounds upon which it was not in the interests of British Columbia or in the interests of Canada that there should be any large influx of Oriental immigration into British Columbia. It is not my purpose to cover all the reasons set forth by these hon. gentlemen, who have marshalled all the facts that it is possible to marshal in support of their contention. But, sir, I may add another ground upon which objection may be based