

*Oriental Aliens*

and citizenship considerations outweigh mercenary motives. We are solidly behind Mr. McQuarrie in his efforts to get federal action on this issue.

In view of this we urge that if, for any reason, it should not be possible to pass the resolution as it stands, your Government give the matter the serious consideration it urgently calls for.

As Canadian citizens first and retail merchants afterwards, we ask that this issue be constructively dealt with at this session of the federal House.

The situation of to-day is acute. The situation of to-morrow will be embittered. Can we with equanimity bequeath to the Canada of the future a race problem worse than the negro heritage in the southern States?

Many telegrams have been received from various branches of the association throughout the Dominion, endorsing the resolution.

The Great War Veterans Association at its Dominion convention held at Port Arthur in October last passed a resolution of this subject to the following effect:

Whereas, for many years past there has been an increasing influx of Chinese and Japanese into Canada, and especially British Columbia;

And whereas, the standard of living of such races makes it impossible to compete with them industrially, considering also that white men cannot buy land in Japan, and that the Chinese are the principal channels through which the drug habit is being spread in Canada;

And whereas, there is a great deal of unemployment among white men, and particularly returned soldiers in British Columbia;

And whereas, it is of the utmost importance that the present almost unbearable condition, due to the influx of the alien Asiatics into British Columbia, be dealt with without delay and in the interests of the people of this country;

Therefore be it resolved, that this convention go on record as being in favour of the exclusion hereafter of alien Asiatics;

And further, that legislation be enacted to prevent the sale and lease of land to said aliens either directly or indirectly;

And further, that the incoming Dominion executive be instructed to lay this resolution before the proper authorities and vigorously prosecute the same.

I may add that I have received telegrams respecting public meetings held in British Columbia which were specially called to press for the exclusion of orientals, one of these meetings having been held at Nanaimo and another at New Westminster quite recently.

I have also a telegram from Charles F. Macaulay, secretary of the Asiatic Exclusion League of Canada. That league, I am told, has a large and representative membership. The telegram is dated April 4, 1922, and is as follows:

[Mr. McQuarrie.]

Forty thousand British Columbians, members of Asiatic Exclusion League stand solidly behind you in your fight for a white Canada.

The Trades and Labour Congress of Canada, with a membership of something like 225,000, at its last annual convention held in Winnipeg, on August 22, 1921, passed a resolution calling for the exclusion of oriental immigration, and I also have here a letter from the president, Mr. Tom Moore, dated April 7, 1922, in which he says:

Organized labour in Canada is to-day asking for the total exclusion of oriental immigration, and item 3 (b) of the legislative requests, presented to the Prime Minister and members of the Cabinet, asks for "Exclusion of Asiatics." This request is based upon the decision reached at our last convention held at Winnipeg, in August, 1921, when 694 delegates were assembled from all parts of Canada.

In past years the Trades and Labour Congress have actively supported measures for the restriction—

I would ask hon. members to pay particular attention to this part of the letter:

—of Asiatic immigration, but our experience has been that no effective restrictions have as yet been devised, as is illustrated by the present over-running of the province of British Columbia with orientals and the considerable extent to which the Chinese have spread through other parts of Canada, especially in the restaurant and laundry business.

The Trades and Labour Congress of Canada look upon this subject as one of national importance, and realizing the vast difference in the economic development of Canada and oriental countries, have become convinced that the only way in which Canada, especially the Pacific province, can be retained and developed in the interests of the white race, is by the immediate application of a policy of exclusion of further Asiatic immigration.

The United Farmers of British Columbia, at their last annual convention, held in Vancouver, on January 25th of this year, passed the following resolution:

Resolved that we are opposed to orientals owning or leasing land in the province of British Columbia.

That all oriental produce be marked as such. That we go on record as against all leasing and selling of property to orientals.

That in future all oriental immigration be excluded from British Columbia.

Resolved, that this convention of the United Farmers of British Columbia suggest to the Government that a graduated tax, according to the numbers of orientals employed, be placed on all employers of orientals in the province. This to apply to all oriental employers as well as to white employers, and that all proceeds be placed to the credit of the hospitals of the rural districts of the province, and cities wherein collected.

Then we have the Army and Navy Veterans, Disabled Soldiers' Association; we have Farmers' Institutes; we have various