

There is hardly a steamer leaving the Pacific coast that does not carry tens of thousands of dollars shipped by these orientals to their home land; so the man who spends his money with an oriental in British Columbia or any other part of Canada is building up a home in Canton or Yokohama or some other eastern place, at the expense of the country where the money was earned.

With the Chinaman came the opium den, followed by the usual demoralization of the white race. We have found the orientals handling narcotics to a great extent, so they certainly have not raised the morals of the Canadian people by their coming. We find that the Japanese are much more aggressive than the Chinamen and you will probably have noticed the tremendous progress orientals have made in the last ten or twenty years as compared with previous years. It is largely attributable to the fact that they are now worth more money, and having that capital on hand, they are in a position to make much greater progress than they were before.

It has been clearly pointed out this afternoon that we cannot assimilate with these people. Therefore, they are a bad class of immigrant to allow into this country, which is a white man's country. We have had pointed out to us the conditions in California and the Hawaiian islands. Are we to stand idly by until we reach that point, or shall we be up and doing and protect ourselves against this Asiatic invasion? We have in our hands a very heavy responsibility, the responsibility to preserve this country for the white generations to come after us. It is simply a case of this kind: We have either to keep out these Asiatics or get down to their level to compete with them. We have noticed great improvements in late years in our methods of living, in education and so on. This is very desirable and should be encouraged in every way, but the Asiatic is going to prove a very great barrier to any improvement along these lines.

Why do we hold out for this word exclusion? That word was placed in there simply because the restrictions of the past did not satisfactorily restrict. They have not given us results, and we feel, those of us who have been living in British Columbia for a number of years right up against these Asiatics, that the methods used in the past have not been suitable and

[Mr. Meighen.]

therefore it is necessary to adopt even more drastic measures in the future.

I do not think that the exclusion of these few immigrants coming from these countries where there are hundreds of millions of people will interfere very seriously with trade, particularly when we take into consideration the fact that these countries have restrictions against us. I feel that if we can sell our raw products at a satisfactory price both the Chinese and the Japanese will buy them, whether we allow their immigrants here or not.

I fully realize too that the relations of the British Government with Japan make it rather more delicate for us to pass any legislation of this kind through this Parliament. Still, at the same time, I believe that when it comes to a show-down the British government will pay a great deal more attention to the welfare of one of her important Dominions than she will to her relations with any of these countries. Therefore, I strongly support the resolution as presented by the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. McQuarrie).

Hon. T. A. CRERAR (Marquette): Mr. Speaker, it is certainly not my intention to take up very much of the time of the House at this late hour. That this question is a very important one is evidenced by the fact that we have been debating it since three o'clock this afternoon, and I doubt very much if anything new in the way of argument can now be said upon the matter.

I agree with the observation that has fallen from the lips of some hon. members that the question of immigration, particularly in a new and developing country like Canada, is of the greatest importance. In providing for immigration to Canada, and laying the foundation of the future nation to inhabit this Dominion, we have seen to it in the past, that that foundation has been laid in the stocks of the peoples of Europe. It is true that there has been diversity among those people who have come to our shores; it is true that among those we have welcomed to Canada there have been differences in language, differences in religion, differences to quite a considerable degree in social standards and social ideals; but nevertheless these peoples that we have brought from Europe to Canada are such that we can look with confidence to the future, to find them coming together and evolving a distinctive Canadian type. I have a great deal of sympathy with my hon. friends from British Columbia in