

CANADA

House of Commons Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, April 15, 1925

The House met at three o'clock.

WESTERN FRUIT COMBINE

Hon. JAMES MURDOCK (Minister of Labour): I beg to lay on the table copy of interim report, writings, telegrams and other documents in connection with the recent investigation into the fruit combine in the west, asked for by the right hon. leader of the opposition (Mr. Meighen) on April 6. These documents represent, I believe, all that the mover of the motion desires and include all the documents that the Department of Labour feels free to table at this time.

REPORT

Report of the chief whips who attended the Wembley exhibition.—Hon. Mr. Robb.

QUESTIONS

(Questions answered orally are indicated by an asterisk.)

ASIATIC IMMIGRATION INTO CANADA

Mr. McQUARRIE:

1. Has the government or any minister or official thereof, received from the government of the province of British Columbia, the following resolution unanimously passed by the British Columbia legislature on the 17th day of December, 1924, or any resolution to the same effect, namely,—

Therefore be it resolved, that this House go on record as being utterly opposed to the further influx of Orientals into this province, and further, that this House places itself on record as being in favour of the enactment of such amendment to the "Immigration Act of Canada," as is necessary to completely prohibit Asiatic immigration into Canada.

Be it further resolved, that this House is also of the opinion that the field of industrial and commercial activities of all Orientals now in Canada, particularly British Columbia, should be restricted by legislation.

And be it further resolved, that an humble address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, praying that he cause a copy of this resolution to be transmitted to the hon. the Secretary of State or other proper official at Ottawa, for presentation to His Excellency the Governor General in Council.

Be it further resolved, that the government of the Dominion of Canada be respectfully requested to grant adherence on the part of Canada to no treaty or binding international obligation in any form whatsoever having the effect of limiting the authority or power of provincial legislatures in respect of the

regulation of social and industrial activities within the provinces; and, further that the government of the Dominion of Canada be respectfully requested to forthwith take the action necessary to bring about the denunciation of any and all treaties in so far as the terms and provisions of the same have the effect of depriving the Dominion of Canada of the power of regulation, control and prohibition of Asiatic immigration?

2. By whom was the said resolution received, and what disposition was made thereof?

3. Has the said resolution been considered by the Privy Council, and if so, when?

4. What action has been taken by the government in regard to the said resolution?

5. What reply has been sent to the government of British Columbia in regard thereto?

6. What action does the government propose to take in regard to the view expressed by the said legislature that it is utterly opposed to the further influx of orientals into the province of British Columbia, and in particular, does the government intend to comply with the request of the said legislature for an amendment to the Immigration Act of Canada to completely prohibit Asiatic immigration into Canada?

7. Is it the intention of the government to give effect to the request of the British Columbia legislature to grant adherence on the part of Canada to no treaty or binding international obligation in any form whatsoever having the effect of limiting the authority or power of provincial legislatures in respect to the regulation of social and industrial activities within the provinces, as mentioned in the said resolution?

8. Does the government intend to give effect to the request of the said legislature to forthwith take the action necessary to bring about the denunciation of any and all treaties in so far as the terms and provisions of the same have the effect of depriving the Dominion of Canada of the power of regulation, control and prohibition of Asiatic immigration, as set out in the said resolution?

9. Is it true that existing treaties between Great Britain and Japan prevent the legislature of the province of British Columbia from passing legislation prohibiting the holding or leasing of land by Orientals, and otherwise curtailing the rights and privileges of Orientals in British Columbia? If so, specify such treaties and give particulars of the effect thereof in regard to the matters hereinbefore mentioned.

10. Is the said resolution now in the custody of the Minister of Immigration and Colonization or his deputy?

11. Why did the Deputy Minister of Immigration and Colonization refuse to furnish the member for New Westminster with a copy of said resolution?

Right Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE KING:

1. Yes.

2. The Secretary of State, who transmitted it to the Clerk of Privy Council, for consideration by the cabinet.

3. Yes. Upon its receipt.

4. Its representations are receiving due consideration.