

tinct in themselves, with their own institutions, claiming the rights of citizenship, the right to vote, absolutely controlling the affairs of the country. I lay down the proposition that we have no right to allow to enter this country any people to whom we are not prepared to extend the franchise. We have no right to encourage men to come to this country to whom we are not prepared not only to give the franchise but to permit them to take places in the parliaments of our country; and if we are not prepared to extend that privilege, we have no right to welcome them.

I ask you to consider for a moment what it would have meant to Canada had such a horde been allowed to come in and to exercise the rights and privileges of citizenship which we have guarded as our most precious heritage. At present in British Columbia we do not allow an Oriental to vote. Some of you may criticise us for that, but the people of British Columbia would absolutely refuse to extend that privilege to them. Why? These people have a distinct life, distinct in ideals, in habits, in conditions, morals, and every other way. I care not what value you may place on it, it is distinct from ours, and that life and these ideals are what would guide them in their decisions on different matters. Do you mean to say that they would consider our feelings on domestic matters? Not for a moment. The laws that they would put on the statute book would be consistent with their ideals. I could, if time permitted, lay before the House some most startling evidence on the beliefs and tendencies of these people. I speak strongly on this question, but it is not because of any feeling against them individually or as a people; it is because I hold that civilization finds its best exemplification in the civilization which we see in the British Empire and in the other countries of northern Europe. I hold that it is the sacred trust of the Anglo-Saxon and kindred peoples to hold that civilization and to cherish it. I ask you or any intelligent member what would be the effect in the British Empire, what would be the effect in the Dominion of Canada, if we gave unreservedly to 340,000,000 Asiatics the same rights in the empire as we enjoy ourselves. You know that 340,000,000 of these people against the 60,000,000 Anglo-Saxon of the British Empire would undoubtedly mean that within the space of a generation our most cherished traditions and customs and doctrines would be set aside.

I wish also to draw attention to another phase which I consider of very great importance. This aspect of the question has very seldom been referred to. It is, however, not a question that can be lightly set aside or that we can afford to dally over, because it is even more vital than any of those I have spoken of; I refer to the health side of the question. I hold in my hand a report of the Rockefeller Sanitary Investigation Commission in regard to the hookworm and to other diseases to which not only the Hindu but other Asiatics are subject. I know very well that the average person, when such a subject is presented, will say: Oh, well, that is a trival matter; it does not amount to much. If I could impress on the minds of the members of this House the importance of this question I should consider that I had discharged a very important duty. I shall illustrate first in this way. It is estimated that the vitality and the economic usefulness of the white people of the southern states is only forty per cent of that of the people of the northern states, directly traced to the hookworm, which was introduced into the southern states by the South African negroes. That is a very important matter. If you will study the statistics of the American census and other reports you will find that in spite of the fact that the southern states are more fertile and lend themselves more to the advancement of industry, etc., than the northern states, yet there is much less advancement there than in the northern states. You will find that land is of much less value there, although its productiveness is nearly double that of the northern states. Why? Because of the weakness, the lack of stamina, in the people of the southern states. I am told, on the strongest authority, that when an industry is established there, they discount the output of their labour sixty per cent, and they take that into consideration when considering the amount of capital to be invested. I desire to read a portion of a report of the United States Commissioner of Immigration dealing with the hookworm:

Hookworm infection practically belts the globe in a zone between the parallels of 36 degrees North and 30 degrees South latitude, being present to a greater or less extent in all countries lying within those limits.

Then he gives some illustrations:

The Southern two-thirds of China are involved with the infection in many places in the Yang-tse-Valley running as high as 70 to 76 per cent among the farming population. The disease is widely prevalent in the Japanese Empire; although exact figures cannot be