

there is effective exclusion from those countries of the people whom they do not wish to have. The Government have already gone into this matter; would it not be better, in the interests of all parties concerned, to bring about the object aimed at without arousing the antagonism of the Japanese by the use of a word that undoubtedly must be offensive?

I hold in my hand a resolution passed by the British Columbia legislature on the first of November, 1921. It reads as follows:

That a respectful address be presented to His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, praying him to convey to the Dominion Government, through His Excellency the Governor General of Canada, the respectful request of this House that the Dominion Government amend the Immigration Act of Canada so, as near as possible, to totally restrict the immigration of Asiatics into this province, keeping in view the wishes of the people of British Columbia that this province be reserved for people of the European race, and that the Dominion Government consult with the provincial Government in the proposed amendment.

Be it further resolved, that His Honour the Lieutenant Governor be requested to forward a copy of this resolution to the Honourable the Secretary of State at Ottawa, the Hon. the Premier of Canada, the Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, and Hon. Mr. Crerar.

I do not intend to follow the argument any further. I presume I shall have some small part to play in this matter, and I shall do what I can to further the objects sought to be attained. But I do think you will put us in a much better position if you agree to the elimination of the word "exclusion" in the fifth line of the resolution. I therefore move, Mr. Speaker:

That the word "exclusion" in the fifth line of the resolution be struck out and the words "effective restriction" be substituted therefor.

Mr. MEIGHEN: With your permission, Mr. Speaker, and the permission of the Prime Minister, I might make this suggestion. In the act passed in 1910 the following language appears:

Prohibit for a stated period, or permanently, the landing in Canada, or the landing at any specified port of entry in Canada, of immigrants belonging to any race deemed unsuited to the climate or requirements of Canada, or of immigrants of any specified class, occupation or character.

That is an act which gave power to exclude any race, but the word "prohibit" is used. I would suggest, if the word "exclusion" has any historic meaning carrying with it offence, that the word "prohibition" be used instead, and that to make it clear after "immigration" the words "for residence purposes" be added.

Hon. S. F. TOLMIE (Victoria City): While this oriental question has been brought before the federal House of Commons on many occasions it is very doubtful if it has ever before received the reception that it has on this occasion. For many years this has been a problem peculiar to British Columbia, but as the orientals have scattered over Canada towards the east, we find that it is becoming an eastern question as well as a western question and that our eastern friends now lend a more receptive ear to our warnings of the dangers of this oriental invasion.

Having been born and brought up in British Columbia, I have had an opportunity to observe the development of these Asiatics. I remember the day when there was but one Chinese store in the city of Victoria, and at that time the present site of the city of Vancouver was a timber limit. I have watched their development in agriculture. I have seen them absorb completely the truck-farming business. I have seen excellent Old Country gardeners come out and attempt to compete with them and be wiped out of existence, first, because the Chinamen would work much longer hours and work on Sundays, and secondly, because the Chinaman met a Chinese cook at the door when he went to sell his vegetables who stood in with him and bought his vegetables from him in preference to the white man.

I have seen them take hold of the small fruits industry also. At first they were received with open arms in some portions where fruit farming was carried on. The fruit growers welcomed them because they expected to produce their fruit at a lower figure on account of the cheap labour, but they soon found out that their employee of yesterday was their competitor of to-day and to-morrow and right along. The Chinaman and the Japanese went into these farming districts and worked for wages first. After that they insisted on working on shares, and later they would lease the land and finally purchase it, if possible, and put up a very strong competition with the white grower.

As has been pointed out this afternoon, our fisheries are largely now in the hands of the Japanese. It was pointed out that we have no less than sixty logging camps on the coast operated by Japanese. Only a few weeks ago I saw that the Japanese were negotiating for some of the largest timber holdings in the province of British Columbia.