

ed a very fine campaign pamphlet which contained numerous beautifully etched illustrations of the different works he had obtained for the constituency, and amongst these illustrations was one of the immigration building which, during the campaign, was described as the Japanese Hotel. It is true that in the pamphlet the hon. gentleman (Mr. Templeman) did not say he asked for the building, but the inference was that he regarded it as one of his achievements for the constituency, and we are told that it contained all modern comforts and separate apartments for Chinese, Japanese and Hindus. Whether or not that statement so put in print assisted the hon. gentleman (Mr. Templeman) in the campaign or not is open to question. But the fact that he made that statement and the fact that in the report of the Minister of the Interior I find that out of a total of 6,024 immigrants who came to the province of British Columbia in the year 1908, there were only 190 who were not Chinese, Japanese, or Hindus, point to the further fact that when the government authorized the expense on this building it had in mind that it was for the accommodation of the Asiatic immigrants. The Minister of Public Works tells us that he has beds for 124 people in the hospital, and that he can accommodate a large number in addition, but, considering that the immigration to British Columbia via Victoria other than Oriental immigration is so small, how in the name of common sense could the government have decided to erect such a large building? I may say that the people of Victoria, whom I represent, do not want and never did want this immigration building and it certainly is not necessary unless the government are preparing to take care of Oriental immigration, which it is needless for me to say the people of British Columbia are utterly and absolutely opposed to. Like my hon. friend from Yale-Cariboo (Mr. Burrell) I realize the responsibilities of government; I realize that the finances of the country are depleted and that we who criticise the government for its extravagance have no right to ask for extraordinary expenditure, but I do say that we are bound to criticise them for the useless expense of \$93,000 on this immigration building, when, if it were applied to improving the harbour of Victoria the money would have been beneficial to that city and to the country at large.

Mr. CROCKET. What is the cost of this building?

Mr. PUGSLEY. The total estimated cost is \$85,000.

Mr. PRICE. If this building were erected for the accommodation of Chinese, Japanese, and Hindu immigrants I could quite understand it, but if it is simply for the

accommodation of white immigrants, who are so few in British Columbia, how can the government excuse such a waste of money? For instance, in the hospital of this institution there are 134 beds, while only 193 white immigrants landed in Victoria last year. How can the government justify the erection of such a building under the circumstances?

Mr. CROCKET. Is it a brick building?

Mr. BARNARD. I can assure the House it is a very fine building on a very fine site.

Mr. PUGSLEY. I do not think I can say more than I have said.

Mr. PRICE. I am not at all satisfied with that answer. We have a right to know why this building was put up and why this large expense was incurred.

Mr. PUGSLEY. I have already said it was at the request of the Minister of the Interior.

Mr. CROSBY. The minister did not know how many immigrants came to British Columbia last year and now that he has been told what is he going to say about it?

Mr. PUGSLEY. It was represented by the Department of the Interior that in a port like Victoria, to which a large number of people were coming from Asiatic countries, as well as from United States Pacific ports, it was desirable to have a suitable immigration building. An important port like Victoria would not be equipped as it should be unless it had a building where immigrants could be properly taken care of, and where those who might be considered undesirable could be humanely treated pending deportation. The money was voted by parliament, the contract was let, and this vote was to pay the contractor the balance due him. There is always a likelihood of a very large number of immigrants arriving in a great seaport like Victoria.

Mr. BARNARD. I understood the minister to describe Victoria as a great seaport.

Mr. PUGSLEY. A very important seaport.

Mr. BARNARD. I shall have something to say on that question later on.

Mr. PUGSLEY. I shall be glad to hear you.

Mr. PRICE. It would appear from the explanation given by the Minister of Public Works that there can be no doubt that this building was erected because the government expected a large immigration of Japanese, Chinese and Hindus.

Mr. J. D. TAYLOR. We should have some statement of the policy of the government