

hear," so that I know that I am voicing his sentiments in making this declaration.

Sir SAM HUGHES: Hear, hear.

Mr. McQUARRIE: To my mind there are certain classes of population that we do not want in this country. The first class is one which includes people who cannot readily be assimilated. Among this class are, the Chinese, the Japanese, the Hindus, and other Eastern races. So far as the Chinese are concerned, we get them in British Columbia. The unfortunate thing is that when you speak of the number of Chinese in Canada you practically have reference to the number of Chinese in British Columbia. I only wish the Chinese would come down here in large numbers, and that you would employ them as you think they would be useful to you. I know how you feel about it here in Ontario. You have no sympathy with us, when we speak against Oriental immigration. You say: "These Chinese will be very useful to us, we want cheap labour." I want to tell hon. gentlemen that when you get the Chinese you do not get cheap labour. The Chinaman, like everybody else, has become educated, and he is not going to work for any cheap wages. Although there is an overabundance of Chinese in British Columbia at the present time, yet they demand big wages. What would you people in Ontario think of paying \$60 to \$70 a month to an ordinary farm labourer, when down here you probably pay about \$25, or \$30?

Some hon. MEMBERS: Oh, no.

Mr. McQUARRIE: I venture to say you pay considerably less than \$60 to \$75 a month for good farm labour. In British Columbia you cannot get a Chinaman who is any good to work on a farm for less than that wage. You cannot get a Chinaman, who is any good, to work in a house or residence, for less than \$50 a month and board. If you want to get a good one, you must pay \$75, \$100 or \$125 a month. Talk about cheap labour; you do not get it with the Chinese. I am safe in saying that there are too many Chinese in British Columbia, because I have no less an authority for it than the Chinese Consul at Vancouver. Conditions are so bad that he has found it necessary to go to the Vancouver City council and make representations in the matter. In speaking of these Orientals, the Chinese, Japanese and Hindus, I am referring, of course, to the coolie classes. The Chinese Consul has asked the Vancouver City council to make

representations to the Dominion Government with a view to restricting Chinese immigration. I have here a copy of the written statement made by Koliang Yih, the Chinese Consul, in the Vancouver City Council chamber on February 7, 1919. It is as follows:

Although there is only one Chinese to every 3,000 Canadians in this country, yet labour conditions here, aggravated by the large number of returned soldiers, whom we all honour, make it advisable that no more Chinese labourers be allowed to come at present, unless they are returning Chinese or bona fide exempted class, pending a gentleman's agreement between the governments concerned to abolish the head tax and to limit the number of immigrants.

I understand that some 2,000 alleged students, paying \$500 head tax each, have come to Canada during the past few months without expecting the war would end so suddenly, and that head tax has been received here and elsewhere on more than 1,200 alleged students who have not yet left China. I think you should petition your Federal Government and suggest that these head taxes be returned to those paying same and those who arrived at Canada three months before the armistice was signed, if they desire to return. I will do my part in requesting my government to allow no Chinese labourers to come here without applying for government's passport, properly vided by a British Consul.

Many Chinese already in this country are finding difficulties in making a living at present, and the stand I am taking now is for the protection of their immediate interests as well as those of the Canadians.

Between the period of 1906 and 1917, no less than 30,000 Chinese have paid their head tax to the amount of more than \$15,000,000 to your Federal Government. Many Chinese, finding that the conditions, both economic and social, were unbearable to them, have since returned to China, and this statement can be proved by the fact that according to the last census taken, there were less than 30,000 Chinese throughout the whole Dominion. Those unfortunate fellows who paid in the tax and went away elsewhere have certainly found themselves between the devil and the deep sea, without being driven to the latter by others.

The Chinese who are planning to come to Canada know little or nothing about the true situation caused by the sudden end of the war, and it is only right for your Government to refund the tax when it knew itself that 50 per cent of the so-called students applying for admission are unable to go to school at all. Your Government should be more rigid in examining these alleged students and more lenient in dealing with other exempted classes. But once the Chinese are admitted they should be entitled to every right and protection as any citizen or subject from other countries enjoying the most favoured agreement. I have heard so much of the Britisher's traditional sense of justice and I hope it will show itself in this case.

After all, this big question should be amicably settled by the government concerned while we are here simply to express our own points of view. I therefore suggest that the question brought up by the representatives from Fairview and Grandview be not considered by this council, and that the less talk about the Oriental immigration to mislead the public the better.