

importance of these words, he must know that he has made such an agreement, has entered into such conditions with the government of Japan, and which have been accepted by this government, as will ensure that there is no possibility of future trouble from an influx of Japanese immigrants. I have got to take his statement in good faith, and as a member from British Columbia, I am prepared to take it in good faith. I ask that time be given to prove the words of the minister true. I am satisfied he would not have made such a statement in this House had he not felt convinced that the Japanese government would maintain with absolute good faith the engagements they had entered into, some particulars of which the Canadian minister was not at liberty to disclose to this House. I say, Mr. Speaker, that for my part I am willing to take the responsibility of placing implicit confidence in the Minister of Labour in that regard, and in the good faith of the British Ambassador who, as the Minister of Labour states, is cognizant of these conditions.

Now I am not going to detain the House any longer on this matter, there are others who will follow me. But I would like to make a word of reference to the amendment that has been proposed by the leader of the opposition. First, we have the recital of the attitude of the Conservative party in 1894 and 1895, and the attitude of the Japanese government at that time. I have already dealt with that subject, and I have said that what the Japanese government might have been willing to accept previous to 1897, they would not be willing to accept at the present time.

Mr. SPROULE. Does the Consul General say, in dealing with that condition, that they were willing to accept it?

Mr. GALLIHER. No, I explained to the House, Mr. Speaker, that by the fullest interpretation that can be put on the letter of March, 1903, it could not be held to include the reservation of the right to pass immigration laws in Canada.

Mr. SPROULE. What does my hon. friend make of this wording in the telegram of the Consul General of Japan:

The renewed assurances that the Japanese government are not desirous of forcing their people into British Columbia against the wish of the province, and that they are willing to enter into an agreement with your government by which they may bind themselves.

Mr. GALLIHER. If the assurances which have already been given to them are not sufficient—is that not there?

Mr. SPROULE. If they are not sufficient?

Mr. GALLIHER. Yes, that should be there; we had assurances from the consul of Japan and while the consul of Japan was

having interviews with the ministers here, when this matter was brought before him, he cabled to Japan and the answer came back—

Mr. SPROULE. To that effect.

Mr. GALLIHER. Yes, and what was that effect?—if you are not satisfied with the verbal assurances I have given to you, we will enter into an agreement to carry out those assurances. That is the meaning of it if it means anything. Take the government of the United States to-day, who have this exception in their Act, and what do we find them doing? They are going over and negotiating just the same as the Minister of Labour went over and negotiated and we have not yet heard whether they will meet with equal success, but even they, with that right reserved in their treaty, have the right to pass these immigration laws, they recognize the official standing of Japan to-day and they do not want to commit an act which will be considered as unfriendly to Japan.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. Is the hon. gentleman aware that they have made a special regulation in regard to Korean and Japanese labourers?

Mr. GALLIHER. I am not aware of the exact nature of it. I see some newspaper reports which may or may not be true and I am not going to pin my faith upon the strength of these, whether they are or are not.

Mr. R. L. BORDEN. I am speaking of regulations which are to be found in an official publication of the United States government.

Mr. GALLIHER. Now we will proceed.

Mr. TAYLOR. Pass that.

Mr. GALLIHER. There is nothing to it, as far as that is concerned. We found them negotiating to-day just the same as we had to go and negotiate. Now, the second last clause of the amendment of the hon. leader of the opposition is:

That in the opinion of this House Canada should not enter into or accede to any treaty which deprives parliament of the control of immigration into this country.

Very good; that is a good sentiment, a very proper sentiment, but in this particular case what does it effect? We have already entered into a treaty and to put that on paper does not alter the fact in regard to the Japanese treaty. It is there. As to the treaty it is too late. Then the hon. gentleman declares:

That this House, while expressing its profound appreciation of the friendly intentions and courteous assurances of the Japanese government, and while declaring its sincere desire for the most cordial relations with the Japanese people, desires nevertheless to record