

United States treaty, should be broadened by adding thereto the words 'and artisans.'

On the 23rd January, 1897, the matter again came up for the consideration of this Government, and by an order in council of that date the Government affirmed the same reasons as before for refusing to accede to the treaty. It will be observed that up to the time the Conservative Government went out of power, Japan—although it had acceded to the stipulation embodied in the treaty with the United States—had not acceded to the additional words, 'and artisans,' required by the order in council of 1895. It is, however, apparent that the Japanese Government in October, 1896, accepted in full the view which had been put forward by the Canadian Government in August, 1895, and therefore the treaty could have been acceded to by Canada in October, 1896, upon the exact terms laid down by the Conservative Administration in its order in council of 3rd August, 1895.

On the 30th July, 1897, the question of Japanese immigration into British Columbia had apparently become a somewhat serious one, because on that date the British Columbia Government and Legislature sent a memorial to the Governor General in which they respectfully requested that if the Dominion Government should decide to become a party to the treaty with Japan, they would secure such stipulations as would prevent the unrestricted immigration of Japanese into Canada. And in the year 1900, there was a petition of more than 2,000 residents of British Columbia to His Excellency the Governor General, in which it was set out that between the 1st January, 1900, and the 30th April, 1900, 4,669 Japanese had landed in Victoria and Vancouver and the province was being flooded with them.

So the matter stood until the 7th June, 1905, nearly ten years afterwards, when, by an order in council passed by the present Administration, it was declared that the previous obstacles to the accession of Canada to the treaty had been removed, and His Excellency the Governor General was moved to ascertain whether or not the Japanese Government was prepared to admit Canada to participation in the treaty. A despatch was sent to the Colonial Secretary in accordance with this order. The Colonial Secretary had before him the attitude of the Canadian Government in 1895. He had before him the express declaration made by Canada in 1895 that Canada would not accede to this treaty except