

under an exemption under the Defence of the Realm Regulations or the Aliens Restriction Order. These exemptions are to be paid for at the price of ten guineas, but in special cases the whole or part may be remitted, and the alien must advertise the exemption in a paper circulating in the area of his residence. Another restriction put upon aliens is to debar them from juries in judicial or other proceedings when either party challenges them."

A LEGISLATIVE EXPERIMENT.

We are glad to find that an attempt on the part of the Manitoba Legislature to initiate some foolish legislation of United States invention has proved abortive. One of the great safeguards of liberty is the fact that, according to the British system of legislation, laws cannot be passed without due deliberation and debate, in which all sides of a question may be brought forward and considered. The Act in question known as the *Initiative and Referendum Act* purported to enable the electorate to pass and repeal laws by popular vote without any debate or deliberation beyond what might take place in the course of an electoral contest or at public meetings. It purported to give to the electorate at large the legislative powers which by our constitution are vested in the Provincial Legislature. In short the Provincial Legislature attempted to divest itself of, and confer on some other body, the legislative powers which under the constitution are vested in itself. This the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council have found to be *ultra vires* of the Provincial Legislature; and the people of Manitoba are to be congratulated that the folly of its Legislature has been overruled.

This freak kind of legislation is one of the results of a single legislative chamber, which happens to be unduly weighted with demagogues seeking to curry favour with the populace and unmindful of their higher interests. Our close proximity to the neighbouring republic renders us liable to imitate their methods, but for the substantial good of the country we are disposed to think we had better seek for examples for our own constitutional and legislative methods in the Motherland.