

porating terms which each country has presented to the other as being the proper basis upon which to admit immigrants from the other country would be the most satisfactory method of removing all traces of discrimination with regard to any limitation which might be placed upon such immigration. So we urge that such a treaty should be comprehensive and all-embracing, covering all aspects of immigration, both the admission of the wives of persons of Chinese origin now resident in Canada and the admission of Chinese immigrants in the future. We submit that this should not be left merely to regulation by order in council. I think it would not be too extreme a statement to say that the repeal of the Chinese Immigration Act should not be proceeded with until we have answers to those questions and until we have such a treaty or some permanent definite policy to put in its place.

There are further questions which come to mind when considering this matter in the light of the Prime Minister's statement yesterday, concerning particularly the admission of the wives and families of Chinese at present in Canada. Does the present proposal in the light of the Prime Minister's statement yesterday mean that all the wives and families of Canadian Chinese now resident in Canada shall be permitted to come into Canada when this bill is repealed and the order in council is in force as the only means of governing Chinese immigration? In that connection the house should recall the numbers involved. There are over 22,000 males of Chinese origin living in Canada who have wives and families living in China, and of those 22,000 over 12,000 reside in the province of British Columbia. I would ask specifically, would not an influx of 22,000 wives and families into Canada and over 12,000 wives and families into one province alone, British Columbia, be, to use the Prime Minister's own words, a "considerable oriental immigration"? In his statement yesterday the Prime Minister said, as reported on page 2646 of *Hansard*:

Large-scale immigration from the orient would change the fundamental composition of the Canadian population. Any considerable oriental immigration would, moreover, be certain to give rise to social and economic problems of a character that might lead to serious difficulties in the field of international relations.

I ask this question of the Prime Minister or perhaps of the Minister of Mines and Resources: Would not the immigration of 22,000 Chinese wives and families into Canada and of over 12,000 into one province alone come within the category of "considerable

oriental immigration"? I think we should have an answer to that question before we are asked to pass this bill.

We have said that the whole matter should be covered in a treaty. There are other questions which should be answered. If all these wives and families are to be admitted, are they all to be admitted in the first year after the Chinese Immigration Act is repealed, or how many are to be admitted each year? Will an unmarried Chinese now living in Canada be allowed to go back to China, marry and then bring his wife back under the order in council, or is it contemplated that it will be applied only to those already married? We should like the government to give a detailed statement of its whole policy with regard to the question of Chinese immigration and its application under P.C. 2115, as well as a statement as to how P.C. 2115 is to be administered.

This is a serious matter, Mr. Speaker, particularly for the province of British Columbia. I am speaking for myself here, but I do not think any British Columbia member would take a stand against the admission of the wives of these loyal Canadian Chinese who have made such a contribution to our province. They have been extremely good citizens there. We have no Chinese problem in the same way that we have a Japanese problem, and in illustration of that fact I mention that in British Columbia the Chinese amongst others were given the right to vote this year. That is a concrete indication of the way we feel about them. They are now accepted into our citizenship. They are my constituents just as much as Canadians of the white race are my constituents. I am not at the moment opposing the admission of the wife of one of these Chinese citizens, but I do want to know what will be the policy. How many will be allowed to come in and when will they be allowed to come in? Will Chinese now resident in Canada be allowed to go back and marry and bring back their wives to Canada? I should like an answer to those questions before I am asked to agree to the passing of this bill, particularly in the light of the Prime Minister's statement yesterday that he did not propose to permit any considerable oriental immigration into Canada. It makes us wonder, however, if they are all allowed to be brought in, whether British Columbia will not once again be saddled with what is truly a national question.

In conclusion I repeat that we feel we are entitled to answers to those questions, either from the Prime Minister or the Minister of Mines and Resources, before we are asked to pass this bill, and that we should have a