

B. C. MEMBERS' PLEA FOR ASIATIC EXCLUSION

Representatives of Province Speak to Resolution Introduced by Ralph Smith—No Room for White and Yellow.

Ottawa, Dec. 17.—The question of Oriental immigration introduced in the House of Commons yesterday by Ralph Smith (Nanaimo), was spoken to by other members of the House from British Columbia. The speakers were all in the same vein, strongly advocating the exclusion of Asiatics. Summaries of the different speeches are given below:

R. G. Macpherson, of Vancouver, seconded R. Smith's resolution. He said the British Columbia legislature had passed the Asiatic Exclusion Bill, which was a very wise and timely measure. It was a question of the future of the province, and he believed that the British Columbia legislature was right in passing it. He believed that the British Columbia legislature was right in passing it. He believed that the British Columbia legislature was right in passing it.

I do not think it requires the training of a constitutional lawyer to recognize the fact that the province of British Columbia was entirely outside the jurisdiction when it passed the Asiatic Exclusion Bill. The only authority that can handle this question is the federal government at Ottawa, and to the federal government at Ottawa we look for a solution of the problem.

Concluding Mr. Macpherson said: "It is my opinion that the yellow peril is much closer than we think it is. Even if it is not, it is a wise precaution on the part of our government, in view of the fact that the province of British Columbia has given an object lesson in the rest of Canada. I am not in sympathy with popular outbreaks which suggest the idea of riot, because we are a law-abiding people, and we should protect those who come to our shores, but if a few more shiploads of these Orientals come it will only intensify that feeling, and intensification of that feeling would work disaster for the rest of Canada."

W. Sloan Speaks.
W. Sloan (Comox) said from the fact that he had spent a portion of his life in the Orient, he hoped to deal with the question from a not altogether local point of view. In his present respect the question of Oriental immigration and its consequent effect upon our country was most vital. It was the most important matter which had been before parliament since confederation. He did not concur in any sense with the efforts put forth to make this a merely social or political issue. Holding the views which he did upon the subject, he desired to discuss it from the standpoint of loyalty to his native Canada and its future. He said that he had preceded him had dealt very fully with various features connected with the question, and it would not be necessary to give in further detail or cite the many able efforts which were made by those opposed to Chinese and Japanese immigration. One point resulted in parliament declaring, feebly it was true, in 1888, for a white Canada, by imposing a head tax of \$50 upon Chinese entering the Dominion. Again in 1900, for more emphasis, the parliament of Canada declared for the principle of a white Canada by increasing the head tax to \$100. In 1903 parliament again declared in no uncertain voice for a white Canada when the head tax on Chinese was increased to \$500, and this was coupled with the statement made upon the floor of this House that the Japanese government had agreed to restrict the emigration of laborers to this country. He was one of those who favored at that time a policy of exclusion, and he had not changed his views. The action of parliament, however, was accepted by a great majority as settling the question. It was accepted by all as a compromise, and the matter was disposed of and regarded as definitely settled. Recent events had shown that parliament was unduly optimistic, that the \$500 tax did not altogether exclude, for within the past seven months some 350 Chinese have paid the head tax.

The understanding given to this government by Japan then, and still acknowledged by representatives of Japan, had been evaded, in that the maximum was 600 Japanese laborers, as he understood it, to arrive in Canada in any one year. The arrivals, however, from July 1, 1904, to Nov. 30, 1907, are 11,112. And, as has been pointed out, another new and disturbing feature also is the influx of Hindus, over 4,000 having arrived in the past two years. Thus again was renewed the question of whether this Dominion of ours, or any portion of it was to be white or yellow. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had stated that the situation, as far as Japan was concerned, was different. He agreed with the statement, but from the very fact that it was different and, moreover, difficult it was dangerous, and the remedy must naturally be more drastic.

By those who favored—and they were not a few—Oriental immigration into Canada, the statement was made that labor was scarce in the West. That might be true, but it was equally true as regards Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, or the less than from Vancouver, as has been pointed out, not only laborers, but all classes and conditions were affected by the influx of Japanese and other Orientals. The potent result naturally being to discourage those of our own race who would, were different conditions prevailing, be more readily inclined to settle on our western shores.

The natural resources of Nova Scotia

Ontario, Quebec and the prairie provinces had been developed by white labor, and it was a gross libel to say that the Pacific province, with resources more varied, more extensive, more valuable, could not be developed with white labor. It would mean a more equal division of the wealth produced. It might mean a decrease in dividends and a consequent shrinkage of unearned stock values to a proper legitimate business, to employ white labor, but the final result would be good business for Canada, for Canadian enterprises and Canada's dominion from the Atlantic to the Pacific. We were just rounding off the first century of British dominion on the northwest coast of America. In that brief space of time, through the indifference of imperial statesmen we have lost large areas of territory and coastline, both on the south and the north of what we now hold. His firm conviction was in view of past history and present conditions that, unless there was a complete reversal of policy, time would see our present possessions of British Columbia from the Rocky Mountains westward to the Pacific ocean become a colony, and ultimately a possession of an united Orient. Honorable members might say "never," but could all subscribe to that sentiment, but it did not stop the locust swarm of Asiatics from coming, nor was it in any sense a check on the uncounted millions of the Far East.

Who could pretend to say what the outcome would be? We had to trace England's rise to greatness to her position as a great world power, to her present position of naval and commercial supremacy through a long gradual process of development. We saw in our own organization looking up on the horizon of the Pacific, appearing with meteoric suddenness, another great world power, both commercial and naval, a nation, young, vigorous, aggressive, with recuperative powers undimmed by devastating wars, a giant undoubtedly, with possible limitless ambition. Who could tell? That Japan aimed to become the commercial power of the Pacific was unquestioned. That she had also ambitions to sovereignty over the Orient would appear from the recent utterances of Count Okuma, who in a speech at Kobe declared that Japan would surely dispossess the people of India if she waited to afford protection to the millions they regarded as oppressors by Europe. Their ambition may extend also to the Occident, and furthermore, it was undeniable that the present overgrowth of a now over-densely populated country would follow the lines of least resistance.

England guarded with jealous eye, and with her best blood, the northern passes of India. Mistress of the Pacific and with rapidly increasing colonies on our western shores, would not a united and land-hungry Orient turn a training and calculating eye upon the Pacific? Rocky mountains? It was noticed as an almost universal law that the political boundaries of nations of the old world were mountain ranges, creating and maintaining distinct national and racial divisions.

In North America, where the struggle for land had not become acute, we had penetrated mountain barriers, and we had up to this almost universal law of the eastern hemisphere, although unconsciously it had appeared in provincial and state divisions of territory.

England had made an alliance with this new world power, but this alliance and all other treaties or compacts of an Eurasian complexion could not endure. They would, at best, possess only the elements of expediency. They could never possess elements of permanence or stability. It was impossible, it was impracticable, nay, more, it was unnatural. As individuals, races did not, and never would assimilate. As nations their ultimate and individual destiny, their wide interests, their undying ambition, centred in points as opposed as the poles.

Canada recently accepted this treaty made by Great Britain. Whether this was done at the request of the Imperial authorities or of her own volition mattered little. It was claimed that trade relations with Japan and the Orient were of paramount importance. It was found on investigation that trade with Japan was not an important factor. Japanese commercial and manufacturing activities were rapidly increasing, and those who were pressing for trade relations would, in a few years, be praying for relief from protection against the cheaper manufacturers of Oriental origin. The United States was not disturbed over trade relations with the Orient, and why should Canada be?

Oriental trade would flow in the most favorable competing channels, and the ports of Vancouver, Victoria and Alberni were 600 miles nearer Hongkong than San Francisco, it gave Canada an undeniable advantage. And again, Prince Rupert, with a harbor equaled by few and surpassed by none in the North Pacific ocean, east or west—and he had visited all those of importance with the exception of Port Arthur and Vladivostok—Prince Rupert occupied a commanding position from the fact that the distance to the Orient was 350 miles less than from Vancouver, and nearly 1,000 miles less than from San Francisco. Prince Rupert, backed by the grain fields of Alberta and Saskatchewan, equipped with elevators and terminal facilities, was destined to command trans-Pacific trade, irrespective of Oriental restrictions.

It had, however, only taken a few months' experiment with this treaty to manifest the weakness of our position in so far as immigration is concerned, and it had been found necessary to send a plenipotentiary in the person of the minister of labor to Japan with a view to a more definite understanding.

That our representative to Tokio would be firm, even to the verge of failure, was his hope for Canada at this time, thus leaving a government in a position to carry out their avowed policy of 1903, and he trusted that legislation would be introduced this session with this in view. Canada should not, and must not, recede from the position that immigration to this country should be controlled from within, not from without. Other self-governing colonies assumed and maintained this position. That Canada, the connecting link of British dominions, should do likewise was doubly imperative.

He noticed in recent press dispatches from Tokio a statement credited to Baron Ishii, chief of the bureau of commerce of the Japanese foreign office, who had just returned to Japan from a trip to the United States and Canada, investigating the immigration problem. The essence of his statement was that Japan would bow with deference to the wishes of the United States and discontinue sending her laborers to that country, but would continue to send a limited number to Canada. If this was correct, that Japan had yielded to the wishes of the United States, disregarding the local interest of the government, as expressed on the floor of this House, the position of Canada as a colony of Great Britain was indeed humiliating. It had been charged that the whole question of Oriental immigration was largely the result of labor agitation and labor unions. Speaking for himself, the charge was absurd. The interest he had in this was a national interest. In his constituency he had not even a labor union, much less a labor agitator. He mentioned this matter of local interest to corroborate what he said. He had no sympathy with mob violence, but he did sympathize with legitimate agitation, the recognition of every free-born British subject. Were Canadians to stand idly by and see our Canadian national life dragged down to the standard of a contract slave? Were we to saddle upon our offspring and the future generations of Canada the blighting prospect of everlasting competition with the out-ports of the Orient?

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In conclusion I have to say that I am sure that this motion will be passed without any opposition.

J. B. Kennedy then read his remarks of last session on the subject. M. S. McCarthy, of Calgary, moved an adjournment of the debate and the question will not come up until some time after the House re-assembles.

TIMBER SCANDAL REVIVED.
Union Trust Company Takes Action to Recover \$50,000 From G. W. Fowler and Others.

Toronto, Ont., Dec. 17.—The B. C. Timber and Mills deal, which figured so prominently before the royal commission on insurance, came into the court again today. The Union Trust Company notified G. W. Fowler, M.P., and others directly interested in the deal, that the company was about to institute proceedings to recover \$50,000 that had been received by defendants for the use of timber, and the interest thereon, and for accounting in alternative for damages for the same amount for conspiracy to defraud.

At the royal insurance commission inquiry it was stated that Mr. Ryan sold to G. W. Fowler for \$170,000, the timber of local interest to the company, when the transfer of property was being arranged for, it was said that G. W. Fowler asked that the amount be made \$25,000 as a bona fide price paid for property which was being secured for a union trust. It appeared to the Trust Company from the evidence given before the royal commission that the company had to pay \$55,000 more than the property actually cost, and this amount it now seeks to recover from Mr. Fowler and his associates.

OPPOSED REMOVAL OF THE BUILDINGS

Deputation Waited on Council—The Spring Ridge Gravel Pits Again Discussed.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)
At the meeting of the city council last night a deputation of property owners, with H. D. Helmecken as spokesman, was heard with respect to the projected removal of shacks on Fort Street, under the improvement by-law.

The contention was that while certain shacks on the corner of Fort Street and the improvement by-law might be removed, it was unreasonable that they should be removed altogether, as such removal would entail a considerable loss of money now accruing to the owners in rents. The owners of the buildings wished opportunities to be given to them to remove the buildings to other buildings in the immediate vicinity and he did not see why a similar privilege should be denied in this case. In reply to the mayor, the inspector expressed the opinion that the removal of other buildings which had occasioned condemnation.

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Mr. Helmecken said that repairs had been permitted to other buildings in the immediate vicinity and he did not see why a similar privilege should be denied in this case. In reply to the mayor, the inspector expressed the opinion that the removal of other buildings which had occasioned condemnation.

After some further discussion, further consideration of the matter was deferred for a week, to give the property owners time to make an arrangement with the building inspector as to the work which must be done to bring the places up to the standard required. The property in question is described as back lean-to buildings and fences and sidewalks in the rear of Nos. 638, 640 and 642 Fort Street, assessed in the names of J. C. Newbury and Miss Cowper, and also the premises at 1112 Broad Street, used as a carpenter shop and lumber yard.

The request of the British Columbia Land & Investment Agency that the buildings belonging to Thomas Catterall on lot 170, block 13, be allowed to remain until his tenure expires in February next, when the agency, as owners, would be quite willing to have the buildings removed, was granted.

The engineer reported that the work of fencing and protecting the gravel pit on Vining Street could be done for about \$150.

Ald. Fell disapproved of the city using the city's money to fence the gravel pit of the owner.

Ald. Gleason agreed with this, and added that one of the owners had expressed willingness to him to do his part of the work.

The matter was settled with the idea that if the property owners refused to do this work the city will go ahead with it at their expense.

NEGOTIATIONS ARE AT AN END

BETWEEN COUNCIL AND E. & N. COMPANY

The City Solicitor's Advice Was Followed at Meeting Held Last Evening.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

At last evening's sitting of the city council, the clerk read a communication from the E. & N. railway, in relation to their application to the railway commissioners with respect to the crossing of Store street, conveying information as to what they were asking for. Accompanying this letter was read from the city solicitor advising that the council in view of the nature of the plans specified by the company, should refuse assent to the negotiation. The matter was referred to the solicitor with power to act. The communications on this subject were as follows:

Text of the Notice.
The Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company hereby applies to the board for an order under sections 221 and 222 of the Railway Act, authorizing the applicant company to construct, maintain and operate a branch line from the applicant company's present terminus on the south side of Store street, in the city of Victoria, British Columbia, to the proposed additional terminal grounds of the said company on the north side of Store street in the said city of Victoria, namely, block D, formerly owned and occupied by the Esquimalt Works, as shown on the plan, profile and book of reference accompanied herewith in duplicate and upon the terms hereinafter mentioned. We are to allow our Dominion to be sacrificed to commercial and corporate greed of expediency? Why should we not agitate for the future of our country? Agitate against a white Canadian? Agitate against the future generations of Canada the blighting prospect of everlasting competition with the out-ports of the Orient?

Who could pretend to say what the outcome would be? We had to trace England's rise to greatness to her position as a great world power, to her present position of naval and commercial supremacy through a long gradual process of development. We saw in our own organization looking up on the horizon of the Pacific, appearing with meteoric suddenness, another great world power, both commercial and naval, a nation, young, vigorous, aggressive, with recuperative powers undimmed by devastating wars, a giant undoubtedly, with possible limitless ambition. Who could tell? That Japan aimed to become the commercial power of the Pacific was unquestioned. That she had also ambitions to sovereignty over the Orient would appear from the recent utterances of Count Okuma, who in a speech at Kobe declared that Japan would surely dispossess the people of India if she waited to afford protection to the millions they regarded as oppressors by Europe. Their ambition may extend also to the Occident, and furthermore, it was undeniable that the present overgrowth of a now over-densely populated country would follow the lines of least resistance.

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the right of the applicant to keep the said tracks with the said cars on meeting or overtaking and other vehicles thereon.

Nothing herein contained shall excuse the observance by the applicant, its officials and servants of any reasonable regulations which may now be existing or may from time to time be passed in exercise of the city's jurisdiction over its streets or over the railway or tramway companies using the same.

Dated the 11th day of December, 1907.

The city solicitor's letter was as follows: His Worship, the Mayor, and Board of Aldermen: Re E. & N. Railway Co. Gentlemen.—The solicitors to the railway company have forwarded us by mail to-day notice of their application to the Board of Railway Commissioners, asking us to accept notice, but we have returned the notice to them informing them of the invariable course of the Board of Railway Commissioners in any originating proceeding, but to require the same to be formally and properly served on the city council, so that they may be seized of the matter and instruct us.

Looking at the notice we observe that the application is framed to ask for leave to construct, maintain and operate a branch line between the present terminus and the terminal grounds in block D. The plan and profile showing the line coming out to Store street opposite the northwest corner of Esquimalt street, and running into block D on Chatham street at the southwest corner of the block. The line then runs out from block D in a northerly direction on to Store street as far as Pembroke, curving into Pembroke street and then joining the B. C. Electric company line.

It appears to us that the company are endeavoring to take advantage of the negotiations for the agreement, and they have inserted in their application all the material terms of the agreement negotiated with the city, excepting of course what we will term lease 15' as to running powers, and these must be discovered on a more close consideration. The company evidently intend to put the case to the Railway Commissioners that the corporation have already conceded the right to run on Store street, and to construct the branch, and that the only point of divergence is one in which, as they will contend, the city are making a quite unreasonable stipulation.

Having regard to the adoption by the company of this line of conducting the application, it is desirable that the council should advise us to give the company a notice that all negotiations attending the agreement must be deemed to be at an end, and that the council must be taken to refuse their consent to the proposed branch, construction upon the highways of the city.

SULTAN'S JEWELS PAWNED.
Morocco's Royal in Need of Money Raises \$500,000 in Paris.

Paris, Dec. 17.—Experts having made a report as to the value of the jewels belonging to the Sultan of Morocco, the purpose of raising a loan, the officials of the Mont de Piete have valued over \$500,000 to the Sultan's representatives.

KING LEOPOLD, INJURED.

Brussels, Dec. 17.—It is rumored here that King Leopold received a severe burn on the head while taking a bath at the Hotel de Ville, and that the private physician has been summoned to that city.

The passport system dates back to the time of the Crusaders.

SUICIDE DISCUSSED FROM THE PULPIT

Remarkable Sermon by Eminent London Divine—Speaks of the Worldly "Hell"

Rev. R. J. Campbell, in the course of a remarkable sermon at the City Temple, London, on the subject of "The feeding of the multitude, in which he referred to the recent suicide in the Thames of an author and his artist wife, "who perished for want of bread," asked the congregation if they really believed the New Testament story in its literal sense.

The men who told the story were Orientals, and were not deceived in the least. They used it to illustrate the spiritual value of Jesus to the world. The feeding of the multitude was not the feeding of the body, but the feeding of the soul with the bread of life. It was a felicitous and beautiful symbol, but it had been destroyed and its teaching ruined when they sought to reduce it to the physical plane.

This statement evoked two or three cries of "No," and one member of the congregation indignantly exclaimed, "Certainly not."

Mr. Campbell: Very well, don't interrupt. The preacher proceeded to state that the average representative of the Christian church argued that it was physical food, and "Now," said Mr. Campbell, "see the pretty mess into which they have landed us to-day."

"If Jesus came to minister to us to-day, and did not say who He was, do you think His own church would recognize Him gladly? ('No.')" It would not, I am perfectly sure. It would regard Him as a dangerous revolutionary, engaged in upsetting order in the church and state.

"He would expose the whole system and hollow sham of giving people good advice, or putting sticking-plaster on a running sore which has become a festering ulcer, while we continue to profit by their material disadvantages."

The Worldly "Hell."

Referring to the suicide of Mr. and Mrs. Good, Mr. Campbell said that the council should advise us to give the struggle to live was too much for them.

"Here were two people of refinement and culture," continued Mr. Campbell, "brought up in good circles, able to produce beautiful thoughts and things, and yet they perished. As they had lived, loved and suffered together they thought they would die together, and end it all. I suppose there are some people who would say these two poor things would go to hell. ('No.')" If so, he cannot be sure which was the hell they left. (Applause.) Who makes that hell? I make it. You make it. We all do our little to help to make it—not willingly, but thoughtlessly.

"If we had only known in time there is not a man or woman in this congregation who would not have shared his or her last crust to save this couple from the one which they had heard of. We are all sorry. Yet for every one of the cases we hear of there are 10,000 which are not heard of, and of which we never shall hear."

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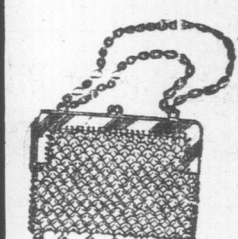
The Weekly Free Press and Prairie Farmer gives a complete record week by week of all happenings in the Western Province. In addition it has special departments for American and British settlers. The Family Herald and Weekly Star supplies the former resident of Eastern Canada with the news of the Eastern portion of the Dominion in detailed form, and the Victoria Times provides the local Western news, which you cannot do without.

..... 1907.

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