

If we are to resist the influx of Asiatics into this country let us take the strong, unassailable grounds of social and economic reasons.

And it is upon these grounds, Sir, that we are appealing to the House at this time.

May I say to the House also this—and I submit it is important: there have been since the dawn of history movements of people from one country to another. I shall not go into detail; I shall simply state the fact so that the House may get the proper perspective. There have been movements of people from place to place, and it is on record that frequently the peoples originally established in a state have been literally thrust out by the incoming or migrating races. The pages of history are replete with cases of that kind. But let the House remember this: until very recently large migrations have been difficult; the lack of available space and the lack of transportation facilities offered a fair protection. But this protection to-day is gone. With our splendid transportation facilities—which in one case enabled us in the space of a few weeks to move literally millions of men across the Atlantic—with the consequent rapid movement of people from one part of the world to another, the presence of these 800,000,000 people as a source of immigration becomes a very serious problem.

Now, I shall deal briefly with one or two economic reasons which are irresistible to those of us who have witnessed their actual operation in this country. Where there is a large portion of the population consisting of orientals the effect of their economic pressure upon the community is startling—indeed terrifying. It inevitably means this—and it is proved by the experience of all the Pacific states and of British Columbia—that wherever the white man is brought into competition with the Asiatic, the standard of living must be reduced or there is no possibility of successful competition. It is a law that you cannot escape any more than you can escape the great laws of nature. It is there; the effect is before our eyes, and we witness it—nay, we experience it day by day and year by year.

An hon. member asked this afternoon why we could not compete. We cannot compete, Sir, for two reasons. First, in regard to the Chinese, we have in Canada to-day and have had for the last thirty years, to my personal knowledge, a veritable slave system. Chinese syndicates bring into Canada large numbers of individuals, pay their \$500 head tax, their passage, their

expenses. These Chinamen so brought into Canada remain the bondmen of that syndicate until they have paid off not only every dollar of that expense money, but usurious interest as well. Sometimes for fifteen or twenty years they remain the bondmen of the heads of those syndicates. When you want to hire Chinamen in British Columbia you do not go to an individual Chinaman and ask him if he wants a job: you go to the head office of some syndicate and there you hire one or a dozen as the case may be. They send them to the job; they collect their wages; they give them their keep. So we are perpetuating in Canada, under cover, it is true, a system of veritable slavery. So we ask the House, those of us representing that province: is Canada to be a nation of bondmen, or is it to be a nation of free men? We stand for Canadianism as we understand it, with all its weaknesses, with all its faults, realizing that in many cases, perhaps, there are difficulties and there are delinquencies. But we say this: We prefer Canadianism, as we understand it, to the asiatic or oriental bondservant system.

Another economic effect which I shall briefly refer to before coming to my main argument is this: for manufactured goods and the produce of the farm the home market is always recognized as the best market. Now in any community in which a large section consists of orientals it is noticeable that that community is a mighty poor market for the manufactured goods and for the white man's food from other sections of the country. All that you have to do is to realize this: that a Chinaman, and to a lesser degree the same is true of other orientals, will live upon a handful of rice day in and day out, mixed perhaps with a little fish. Where does the consumption of Canadian food come in? In regard to manufactured goods, he lives under conditions that no white man will live under, under conditions we positively refuse to ask our white people to live under, and so, I say, you destroy the home market for the supply of the goods of the country.

Let me say a word in regard to revenue. I have not the figures for Canada, but an exhaustive investigation was made in South Africa over a period of ten years, and it was found in Natal that the average annual per capita contribution to the revenue of the country was as follows—and I ask the House to get this in this day when we are looking for revenue and the distribution of taxes over a larger num-